

**Minutes of the Carlisle Board of Health
March 11, 2014**

Present: Bill Risso (Chairman), Catherine Galligan, Vallabh Sarma, Donna Margolies, Lee Storrs. Also present: Linda Fantasia, Health Agent, Ginny Lamere (Mosquito)

MINUTES - 2/25/14 tabled to next meeting

BILLS – TCG Engineering (mainly Benfield), Well and Pump Inspector, Wages and Salaries, MassHoarding conference for Fantasia. **It was moved (Galligan) and seconded (Margolies) to approve the bills as presented. Motion passed 5-0-0.**

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Tick Borne Disease Network (TBDN) – Tick collecting and testing will start 4/1/14. The grant funded project will pay for testing of up to 100 ticks per participating community. Senior tax worker Judy Hodges is helping with publicity. The Board said Carlisle may quickly reach the allowed quota. The lab may consider additional submissions for a reduced cost. The project will show which diseases are being transmitted by ticks to humans. Babesiosis is on the rise. If a resident is bitten by a tick carrying more than one disease (co-infection) the symptoms can be severe and prolonged. The lab at UMass is setting up a web portal for registration. The registration portal will close once 100 ticks have been submitted for each community. Residents will register and mail ticks directly to the lab. BOH is willing to assist if a resident does not have internet access. Middlesex Tick Task Force (MTTF) – Regional event 4/30/14 at the Lincoln School Auditorium. Panelists are Dr. Alfred DeMaria, Dr. Steven Rich (UMass Lab for Tick Borne Disease Network), Rick Upham (*Oh Deer* Landscaping). The MTTF survey is available online. The survey is based on the previous local survey done in 2012. The Lyme Disease Subcommittee is working with Carlisle school nurses to send home information about tick testing program if they remove a tick from a student. Committee member Jean Barry is working on tracking local incidences that are not on the state surveillance database so they can be added.

The Board agreed that even with all of the information about preventing tick borne disease that is available, residents need to hear the message repeated frequently and uniquely. Some people still do not believe that the problem affects them. Residents should be warned that not all precautions work all the time. It takes constant surveillance. The TBDN data should help to understand the actual risk better.

Senior Fire Safety Education Program/ Council on Aging April 3rd Lunch – Rob Dennison, Carlisle Fire Dept., will talk about fire safety (smoke and carbon monoxide detectors, fire extinguishers, safe cooking); BOH will have tobacco resource and medical oxygen materials available; there will be a hands on prop “Hazard Kitchen” demonstrating cooking safety tips. Terry Curran, Cathy Galligan and Linda Fantasia will attend.

Capstone Project – One of the 2013 UMMS clerkship participants was hoping to do a Basic Life Support Curriculum as a capstone project. The school provides CPR/ First Aid training to all 6th graders, so the work would be redundant. Another possibility would be to study and research current information on vector control to reduce disease incident. There may be new strategies of which the Board and public are unaware. One effective control is creating a landscaping buffer to keep ticks out of yards. The Board has a landscape brochure but there may be additional suggestions. The Board would be interested in learning more about controlling the vector species, deer and mice, to supplement human behaviors such as doing tick checks or using DEET. Fantasia had watched a video on how to self-treat clothing with Permethrin. It was very interesting but raised the question as to whether it was safe. Galligan would like to see more research on eliminating the diseases rather than placing the burden on self-protections. The Board asked to have the landscaping brochure sent to the Recreation Commission and suggest they attend the event in Lincoln.

Vector Disease Control International – The company would like to meet with the Board to discuss mosquito control. The Board noted that a new mosquito borne illness is affecting travelers to the Caribbean. The mosquitos that carry it are also found on the mainland although there have been no domestic cases so far. Carlisle is not a member of a Mosquito Control Project although the issue has been brought to town meeting on a number of

occasions. All surrounding towns are members. It could be difficult for Carlisle to address an emergency outbreak without mosquito control support. The Board agreed to meet the vendor to learn about their services.

Emergency Dispensing Site (Flu Clinic) – The Board reviewed the After Action Report prepared by Ryann Bresnahan, 4A Regional Planner. The clinic is used to exercise the Board’s mass vaccination plan. Overall the report was favorable. Recommendations included improving the parking, holding the clinic at the primary site (school) and broadening media coverage (languages, disabilities).

Septic Loan Program – town counsel has not yet commented on the program modifications. The Board agreed to publicize the program through the Council on Aging. Seniors are a target audience due to limited financial resources. If a property has a Title 5 inspection, it is usually because it is being sold. The Board does not want the program to be used as a bridge loan for selling a property. The goal is to replace failed or failing systems that owners might ignore because of cost. There is a small amount remaining in the administrative grant which the Board may use for the BOH assistant to help publicize the program if the Finance Department does not intend to use it. Fantasia will check with Assessors for a list of senior abatements since not all seniors register with the Council on Aging. The program will be advertised through the churches which often have programs that target low income families.

Calendar Events

- Region 4A Medical Reserve Corps – National Guard speaker– 3/20/14 (Fantasia, Risso)
- Mass Housing “Hoarding in Affordable Housing” 4/2/14 (Fantasia)
- “Let’s Talk About Ticks – is it an epidemic?” 4/30/14, 7 pm at the Lincoln School
- Medical Reserve Ex Com meeting with Catherine Corkery, new MRC Coordinator – tbd
- Hazardous Waste Collection (May tbd)
- Well Testing (May tbd)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Geothermal Well Fees – Derek Skillings, Skillings and Sons, would like the Board to reconsider the current fee which is \$100 per drilled well. A ground source heat pump system might require a number of wells depending on the usage. Fantasia said it typically requires a single visit from Well Inspector Ralph Metivier. Metivier receives \$75 of the \$100. Galligan noted that the Board has not evaluated the administration costs. Fantasia will check with Metivier on how much of his time is required. Fantasia asked if the Board wanted to see all geothermal well applications, or only open loop ones. The Board is concerned about wells going in without proper permitting. Risso said he would want to review open loop and any applications that involved decommissioning an existing well. This is something that a driller may overlook. Galligan would want to make certain the well had an Underground Injection Control (UIC) registration number from DEP. Fantasia suggested creating an application form that would provide these answers. The Board could then concentrate on open loop wells or any site that was not in full compliance with the state guidelines. The Board will review currently known geothermal wells and compare with DEP’s UIC registrations. Galligan will begin work on a cost analysis for discussion at the 4/8/14 meeting with a goal of setting the fee at the 4/24/14 meeting. Staff will check on fees in other towns.

Benfield Farms – The Board had agreed to issue a Temporary Certificate of Compliance which will expire 4/8/14 for the system. The Board read an email update from Mark Beaudry. He is still waiting for the snow to melt to shoot the final grades. The Temporary Certificate has not been signed by all parties. Beaudry is working on the additional information for the O&M Manual and drafting a response letter to the last technical review.

2014 Annual Goals and 2013 Review – The Board reviewed a summary of the 2013 goals and what they would like to do in 2014. The Board asked to have the information presented in a different format with a timeframe for action items. The four basic goals remain the same: continue review and updating of local regulations; promote a healthy community; continue efforts on emergency response, work to improve customer service, budget management and knowledge of board responsibilities. The Board decided on which of the ongoing activities it will continue. The Board will continue working on TBD prevention and the procedures manual. The Board will do a semi-annual review of it goals in May and October. Pre-meeting conferences between the agent and chairman now

occur regularly. Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) may eventually be the responsibility of the town shelter committee. The Board has an MOU with the school but it is specific to a mass vaccination clinic.

The Board agreed to concentrate on (1) customer service and (2) increasing Board knowledge as the overarching goals for 2014.

Currently visitors are asked to sign in but the information has not been collated. Galligan suggested collecting the sheets from the last six months and identifying the high volume users. The Board could then survey these visitors to see what could be done to improve their experience at town hall. Fantasia said improved IT and telephone services would help. The phones do not have caller ID and the process for retrieving messages requires a number of steps. Another printer would help since there is sometimes a wait line. The Board asked about additional hours. Fantasia said the Selectmen were looking into this and it was a recommendation of the Collins Study but nothing has been decided. Many residents complain that they cannot get to town hall during the hours of 9-4 without taking off work.

The Board would like to set up a regular informational night to learn more about office practices and duties. It is important for the Board to know how to carry out the staff duties during an emergency. An example might be issuing a ticket under Non-criminal disposition. The Board is authorized to enforce certain regulations through the court, similar to how traffic tickets are issued. The Board has not issued any tickets but would like to make sure they are available. The operations manual is still being added to. Fantasia will prepare a draft of the goals for further review. The goals will be tied to the fiscal year and reviewed quarterly.

NEW BUSINESS

IT Survey – the Board received copies of comments submitted by Fantasia and Lyman.

Hazardous Waste Collection – date to be determined.

New Member – Risso thanked Storrs for offering to run for the three year term. He was nominated at the town caucus on 3/10/14. His engineering expertise will be a help to the Board in reviewing the larger developments.

There was no further business. Meeting voted to adjourn at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda M. Fantasia, Recorder