

BOARD OF HEALTH
Minutes for Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 7:00 PM
Remote Participation

- 7:00 Community Input
- 7:05 COVID-19 – Community Status; Clinic Planning (McGean)
- 7:15 Private Hauler Licensing
- Transfer Station Advisory Committee (Tom Billotta)
- 7:30 Fern’s Country Store – New Source Approval Update (request to continue)
- 7:45 CAQ Final report (tentative)
- Benfield Farms FAST System (Carlos Quintal)
- 8:00 Recreation Commission – Dog Park Planning (request to continue)
- 8:15 PH Continued 114 Rutland Street – septic system upgrade.
- request to continue Public Hearing

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- FY24 Budget Preparation – Finance Committee Meeting 1/10/23 4:50 PM
- PFAS – GMPHC project proposal (tabled)
- Minutes 12/7/22
- Administrative Report

NEW BUSINESS

The meeting agenda lists all topics reasonably anticipated by the Board of Health at the time of posting. Additional topics not anticipated may be discussed at the meeting under the agenda item New Business.

Attendance members: Tony Mariano Chairman, Jean Barry, Patrick Collins, David Erickson, Cathy Galligan

Attendance nonmembers: Fantasia Health Agent, Tricia McGean RN, Barney Arnold, Larry Bearfield, Tom Bilotta (Transfer Station Action Committee), Sam Cochrane (Carlisle Mosquito), Rob Frado, Carlos Quintal, Robert Peary (Transfer Station Action Committee), Kris Gines

1. Community Input

Tony Mariano called the meeting to order at 7:00PM. There was no community input.

2. COVID-19 - Community Status; Clinic Planning (McGean)

McGean reports that Carlisle had 13 confirmed Covid cases in the last 14 days. Since the beginning of the Flu season (September 1, 2022) Carlisle has had 21 confirmed cases of Flu. Cataldo will run a Flu/Covid vaccination clinic on 1/9/2023 in the School Cafeteria, one of the nurses from the Great Meadows Collaborative will be present to assist.

There was some discussion on the new Covid XBB Strain; McGean noted that once again we are seeing household spread and Barry thinks the new strain is similar to older strains but that it is more transmissible. McGean also said that flu may actually be leveling off although

anyone who is unvaccinated should get a flu shot. Kids who have not been vaccinated should be vaccinated by their pediatrician.

McGean will put up a vaccine schedule on the web site--if you have had Covid--wait 90 days for a vaccination, if you have had the bivalent booster you do not need to get it again. Monovalent boosters are no longer available.

3. Private Hauler Licensing

Tom Bilotta, Chair of the Transfer Station Action Committee (TSAC), says that about 5% of Carlisle Residents use traditional commercial waste services while about 10% (200 households) use local private haulers. Traditional curb side pickup is usually single stream recycling, whereas Carlisle separates the recycle streams meaning there is little recycling by private haulers. The per household tonnage of that 200 households using private haulers is about 2.5 times that of families not using private haulers. Two key issues with the private haulers are non-compliance with the state law stipulating no recyclables in municipal waste and truck size. For Carlisle's Transfer Station permit, state law prohibits vehicles larger than pickup truck whereas the private haulers are using larger trucks. Bilotta noted that 500 vehicles using the Transfer Station exceed the permitted size capacity. Carlisle is not inspected by DEP but would like to come into compliance by July 2022. There are currently 3 local private haulers and we need to put regulations in place that are consistent with state law, vehicle size being a major issue. Each bag cannot be inspected but about 50% (by volume) of each truck load should be recycling, whereas currently it is only about 3% (which is almost entirely cardboard). The TSAC would like to assign a working group with someone from the BOH. Mariano said that this sounds like a waste management issue but Bilotta said the BOH is the overseeing authority. Fantasia said the BOH is responsible for permitting, but the Select Board gave Gary Davis/DPW compliance enforcement authority with the assistance of the Police Department. There is currently no enforcement of compliance with state regulations. Bilotta said that they talked to the private haulers last year and they claimed to be recycling but in fact few of them even made an effort with mixed paper. Currently, dump trucks come packed with trash with little recycling. The attendant could reject that load, but has not been doing that. At this time there is no incentive for private haulers to do recycling. There was some discussion of potential things to do, including charging haulers a fee. It was pointed out that in fact the sticker fee was implemented to pay for hazardous waste day and that the cost of the transfer station is about \$135/household. Linda cautioned that she would be signing the permit acting as agent for the Board so the system needs the rigor befitting state regulatory requirements. She has begun contacting other health agents about their practices and learned that – among other things – towns do a formal assessment of the haulers, including for example, physical inspection of the trucks for integrity. It seems that there is some desire to eliminate private haulers so that people either bring their own trash to the transfer station or else use commercial haulers who do not use the transfer station; it is, however, recognized that some of the private haulers have been providing this service for several years and ideally we would at a minimum provide them with some warning before eliminating private haulers. Mariano will find 1 or 2 BOH members to work with the TSAC to resolve the issue of licensing private haulers and bringing them into compliance with state guidelines.

4. CAQ Final Report (Carlos Quintal)

Quintal reiterated that back in Feb/March of 2021 he undertook starting up the Benfield pretreatment process, with the goal of bringing the effluent into permit compliance. April 18 was the starting day and they changed the recycle line back to the primary tank to get the desired results. With the modified recycle line and Mal adding 1 bag/week of bicarbonate (every Friday), the system alkalinity came into the desired range and has been kept where needed. Because of the low flow, it took a while to fill the tank so that the blower could be turned on. After some experimentation, it appeared that recycling with the pump on for 5 minutes and off for 20 minutes, and 1 bag of bicarbonate/week seems to work well. Quintal sees no reason the system should not be stable under these parameters unless the flow changes substantially. The influent pumps have not been fixed but they are not needed, although they would need to be fixed if the flow were to increase. Quintal feels that it is time to turn operation over to the operator and that he does not need to continue to be involved. The operator should be testing at least monthly to ensure that any potential problems would be spotted quickly.

Mariano asked whether we have met the compliance parameters and whether Quintal wrote up recommendations for inclusion in the maintenance/operation manual.

Quintal said he believes that we are in compliance: nitrogen is down, BOD is down, and it has been like this for 3 months so he thinks it is stable as long as it is tested monthly--quarterly is too long.

Galligan said she has not seen the numbers for effluent BOD, suspended solids, and total nitrogen. Quintal said he can send the lab results. Mariano would like an itemized list of things to do as well as the lab results. Quintal is reluctant to provide names of operators, there are some he would favor but that is NOAH's decision.

Fantasia believes NOAH has identified Eco Dynamics to succeed WTS as the system operator. Quintal had been using Kent Oldfield during the stabilization period but whoever is operating the system should be able to make it work.

Frado summarized that optimization was reached by managing alkalinity and recycle rate, specifically, 1 bag/week and 5min on/20min off for the recycle pump.

Fantasia was asked to follow up with Carlos to ensure that all details are covered as he transitions out.

5. Public Hearing Continued 114 Rutland Street - septic system upgrade.

The project for 114 Rutland Street is not prepared so this will be revisited in a future meeting.

6. Fern's Country Store - New Source Approval Update (request to continue)

Herweck was scheduled to be present with his engineer. Kristin Divris, DEP, also planned to attend. In response to an inquiry from the Health Dept. confirming Herweck's attendance on 1/4/23, Herwick sent an email indicating he was out of town until 1/10/23. Fantasia notified Divris of the cancellation. This prompted BOH discussion about the concerning pattern of missed BOH requirements and failure to submit a renewal application for the food service permit (expired as of 12/31/22). Fantasia indicated that there are two major issues pertaining to the food permit for this site: water quality and potential for a risk of E.coli breakthrough, and water capacity as evidenced by running out of water when the well was worked on. The food service permit is contingent on an approved water source, reflecting both quality and quantity. Collins noted that Herweck was to present a timetable of deliverables at this meeting. The discussion continued, highlighting the obligation to protect the public and Herweck's pattern of missed meetings, missed deadlines, lack of substantive information, and

inordinately slow progress on the well. Fantasia will send him a letter that renewal of his food license is in question and he is expected to attend the meeting on 1/24/2023.

7. FY24

Galligan shared the FY24 budget and Fantasia may have sent out a supplementary document which details all line items, including assumptions for non-personnel costs. We were requested to come in with a level budget (last year we were able to get more hours for Gines). Galligan and Fantasia reviewed the budget in detail with our new FinCom liaison, Heidi Sjoberg, and will present the budget to the full FinCom on 1/10/23.

8. PFAS

Fantasia said that the epidemiologist for Great Meadows is interested in working with the information Carlisle has on hand; there will be a meeting Friday morning.

9. Minutes for 12/7/22

The BOH wished to ensure that Collin's comments on Fern's water source were in the minutes so the minutes will be reviewed at the next meeting.

10. Administrative reports—see below.

11. Adjourn

Barry moved to adjourn, Galligan seconded, and we adjourned at 21:14, next meetings 1/18/2023 and 1/24/23

Respectfully submitted,
David Erickson,
Recorder

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

January 4, 2023

PFAS Project – BOH to submit a formal request to the GMPHC to do a study of our local PFAS results and current recommendations. Ann Bauer, the epidemiologist, is interested. GMPHC is developing a request form for projects.

Master Plan Implementation - Receive feedback from Boards and Committees by January 20th

What we are asking of you:

“We, in a small working group, assigned Master Plan recommendations to staff members and committees. The goal here is to “assign” the item and create accountability for its progress. The assigned parties would begin or continue work on these recommendations and report back regularly to our working group for public discussion with the Select Board. This ensures accountability for your excellent Master Plan and keeps the ball moving”.

Please review the assignments and make suggestions to include:

- 1.) The relevance of the item assigned to you.
- 2.) Items not assigned to you that you feel ownership for
- 3.) Resources needed to take on these recommendations.
- 4.) Potential obstacles
- 5.) Success stories or work completed!

Garrison Place FAST System – I am following up with SWSS on December testing (quarterly) which was not in compliance. SWSS wanted the lab to re-run the tests. I do not have any information.

Ongoing Projects

PFAS Resources

Bi-annual well testing

Licensing Private Haulers

Sanitary Sewer Overflows procedures