

July 8, 2021  
Sterling Board of Health Meeting  
Butterick Building, Lower Level Conference Room  
1 Park Street, Sterling, MA 01564

Meeting Minutes

6:00 PM                      Chairwoman Cathie Martin called the meeting to order.

**Roll Call:**                      Anne Marie Catalano, Member - present  
Allen Hoffman, Member - present  
Cathie Martin, Chairwoman - present  
David Favreau, Health Agent - present  
Elaine Heller, Administrative Assistant - present

**Attendees:**                      Ed Furman, Paul Cathcart, Richard Maki, Kimberly Sykes, Rosemary Fitzgerald,  
Jack Maloney, Lynne Garafalo, Jason Ouellette, Andrew Bluestein, Laura Ricci

The Zoom meeting was recorded.

**General Business Updates:**

**Approve Any Available Minutes:**

Allen Hoffman researched the legality of approving minutes with a new member recently elected to the Board of Health. According to a Parliamentary Procedure Guide, "the association as an organization has a continuing legal existence, even if specific members come and go over time. Accordingly, the new board can approve the minutes of the old board".

After review, a motion to approve minutes of the May 13, 2021 meeting was made by Hoffman, seconded by Catalano. Unanimous vote.

After review, a motion to approve revised minutes of the June 10, 2021 meeting was made by Hoffman and seconded by Catalano. Unanimous vote.

**Correspondence:**

Health Agent Favreau received phone correspondence regarding conditions at 6 Goulding Road.

The Board received a letter of recognition from the MA State Representative regarding new member, Anne Marie Catalano.

**Health Agent Report:** The Board has received complaints regarding 6 Goulding Road. Mr. Favreau spoke with the property owner who will do cleanup and maintenance. Ms. Martin noted the home is secure and property taxes paid. There are no broken windows, etc. The Health Agent will follow up with the property owner, who has posted "no trespass" signs.

**Signatures Required:** None

**Other Items:**

- Sterling DPW Compost Facility: The consideration for a compost facility is still conceptual, a work in process. The Health Agent has been in contact with the DPW Superintendent and will email him to advise the BOH wants to be made aware of the progression of this proposal. Members expressed interest in attending a DPW meeting when this topic is on the agenda.

- Discuss Coronavirus: According to Chairwoman Martin, the Coronavirus is waning in Sterling, with 70% of residents vaccinated.
- DPH State Updates: The state is monitoring mosquitos for West Nile Virus and EEE. At this time, Sterling remains low risk.

### **Appointments and Agenda Items:**

#### **27 North Row Road Variance Request:**

**Sterling Subsurface Sewage Disposal Regulations:** Reg. IV.a., Leach beds to be 1000 square feet minimum, with 12" of stone beneath the pipes (624 sq. ft. Presby sand bed provided with no stone beneath pipes).

Reg. IV.f., Leaching facilities 0-1,499 GPD shall be constructed with the following minimum 4-foot separation distance to estimated seasonal high groundwater (3 feet separating is proposed).

**Local Upgrade Request:** 310 CMR 15.405 (1)(h): Approving Authority may reduce the required 4-foot offset from the E.S.H.W.T. to the bottom of the proposed S.A.S. (Provided - 3')

Jack Maloney of Dillis and Roy represented the homeowner on this variance request on a failed septic system. After review of the plans, Hoffman made a motion to accept the plans and Martin seconded. All in favor, motion carried.

#### **37 Main Street Variance Request:**

**Sterling Subsurface Sewage Disposal Regulations:** Reg. IV. a., Leach beds to be 1000 square feet minimum, with 12" of stone beneath the pipes (1080 sq. ft. Provided with 6" stone beneath pipes).

Reg. IV. d., Septic tanks and pump chambers: all septic tanks and pump chambers shall be monolithic precast concrete units (multi-section tank provided).

**Local Upgrade Request:** 310 CMR 15.405(1)(i): A sieve analysis may be performed if a percolation test cannot be performed as determined by the approving authority.

310 CMR 15.405(1)(a): Reduction of the system location setbacks for a property line - 10 foot. (Provided: 5').

Jack Maloney, Dillis and Roy, represented the owner of this property and presented the plans. After review, Hoffman made a motion to approve the plans. Catalano seconded. Unanimous vote.

#### **Review Proposed Collection Bin Regulations:**

Mr. Hoffman provided an update to Board members: he volunteered to do draft regulations and prepared them for the February 20, 2020 meeting. Then COVID-19 became a crisis and the regulations were set aside.

Members reviewed the proposed regulations. After research of a bin charge by other towns, discussion of fees will be determined at the next meeting.

#### **Review of Future Agenda Items and Meeting Date:**

Agenda items include: reorganization of the Board; an update by Barry Lein on the Region 21 Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition; David Favreau's performance review; collection bin regs.

#### **Adjourn:**

A motion to adjourn was made by Catalano and seconded by Hoffman. Unanimous vote and the meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM.

