



**Acton Board of Health**  
Meeting Minutes  
October 19, 2020  
7:30 P.M.  
VIRTUAL PARTICIPANTS VIA ZOOM

**Present:**

Virtual Members Present: William McInnis -Chairman, Mark Conoby, Michael Kreuze, Dr. William Taylor and Joanne Bissetta.

Virtual Associate Members Present: Dr. Thomas Jacoby and Dr. Rekha Singh

Virtual Staff Present: Sheryl Ball-Health Director

Virtual Present: Peg Mikkola, David Chandler, Rui Li and Wei Li.

**1. Opening**

Chair - William McInnis opened the meeting at 7:32 P.M. A script was read that was provided by the Town stating why the meetings are virtual during this crisis.

**2. Regular Business**

**Director Operational Updates –**

Ms. Ball stated that Bromate was found in the reservoir at Nagog Pond and the Town of Concord has sent out a notice to their customers which include some residents of Great Road. The levels were slightly elevated and this water is typically used in the summer months only and has since been taken offline. The Concord Water District is currently looking at a long term solution.

Ms. Ball also mentioned that we are seeing some trends with positive cases of COVID-19 within our hockey organization. The Board asked what needs to be done about this. Ms. Ball stated that we would continue to watch and if needed will ask hockey to join a future meeting for discussion.

Ms. Ball stated she received a request from a resident that would like to come before the Board to discuss the health effects of 5G. The Board asked the Health Division to schedule for a future meeting.

Ms. Ball provided the Board with an update to Remote Learning approvals. Ms. Ball stated that so far there are two approvals for Teamworks and Acton Recreation. No other applications have been submitted.



### **Nursing Service Director Updates-**

Ms. York stated that Acton currently has 218 positive cases, 2 in active isolation, 195 recovered and 21 fatalities. Ms. York mentioned that according to the COVID-19 state metrics, Acton is currently identified as shaded green. Ms. York mentioned that she is seeing trends within this schools and hockey. Ms. York stated that every Thursday, we meet with the schools to discuss COVID concerns and stated that they are doing a great job with helping us do contact tracing and that they are more conservative than the DESE guidance. Ms. York stated that we are also seeing a bit of lag time with cases being identified through Maven, the State tracking system. Ms. York is concerned with clusters that she is seeing and advised residents to remain vigilant, wash their hands, social distance, wear face coverings and stay home when they are sick. The Board asked about the State Travel order and Ms. York stated it was still in effect. Ms. York also expressed frustrations with some sports organizations that are not notifying us when they have a positive case as we are currently being notified by parents. The Board advised staff to reach out to local hockey rinks and ask for a list of users so we have that contact information. The Board also asked how our congregate care facilities were doing and Ms. York stated they are doing ok. The Board also asked about Flu Clinics and Ms. York stated that she is currently doing indoor ones for seniors with appointments only. She is in the process of scheduling a drive thru clinic at the DPW garage.

### **Next BOH Meetings**

Ms. Ball stated the next BOH meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 2, 2020.

### **514 Main Street – Failing Septic**

Ms. Ball stated that the Board heard this issue a few months ago and agreed to grant the owners an extension to hopefully recover a failing septic system. Since that meeting, the system has continued to break out onto the ground even after water saving devices and plumbing leaks were fixed. Since those devices have been installed, the water use has dropped significantly but the use is still too high. The Health Division sent notices to the owners but were unanswered but later discovered that the emails were not being received. David Chandler, Sewer Works and Evan Carloni conducted an inspection today which revealed that sand apparently has entered into the Cultec Chambers which is impeding infiltration. A camera was also placed down the lines but couldn't get far because of the sand. Ms. Ball stated that there has been literature that shows that they chambers do settle and since this system is relatively new, suggested that the Board allow the installer to pull up the chambers, lay down a geogrid (which will prevent future settling) and reinstall chambers. The current BOH order stated that a plan needs to be completed by October 28, 2020. The owners asked the Board for an extension to that but Ms. Ball stated that there is a significant environmental impact on this site and didn't recommend an extension. Ms. Ball stated that knowing it takes time to order components and the installers work schedule that she would recommend that the Health Division receive a plan of action no later than October 28, 2020 and the work would need to be completed no later than November 28, 2020 with pumping as needed throughout to prevent



any discharge onto the surface. The owners agreed to this timeline. The Board was in consensus to allow this work to be done and with the proposed timeline.

#### **Article 9 – Geothermal Wells**

The Health Division updated the proposed revisions to Article 9 to add a section in this regulation to address geothermal wells. The Board reviewed those changes and suggested that the title of the article be changed as well. Ms. Ball stated that she will schedule a public hearing to discuss these changes. The Board was in consensus.

#### **3. Minutes:**

On a motion made by Ms. Bissetta, seconded by Mr. Conoby, the Board voted to approve the minutes dated October 5, 2020 as amended. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

#### **4. Adjournment**

On a motion made by Ms. Bissetta, seconded by Dr. Taylor, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn at 8:36 PM. The Chair took roll call and all were in favor.

#### **Documents and Exhibits Used During this Meeting;**

- Town of Acton script for boards and committees opening meeting
- Board of Health agenda
- 514 Main Street, order letter, fine letter and recommendations from Health Division
- Draft of Article 9
- Minutes from October 5, 2020

Respectfully Submitted,

Sheryl Ball  
Acton Board of Health

William McInnis- Chairman,  
Acton Board of Health