

TONY JUDGE - Chair  
CHRISTINE McKIERNAN, M.D., Vice-Chair  
KAREN WALSH PIO, Clerk  
JESSICA COLLINS  
STEPHEN FRANTZ

SHARON HART, Director of Public Health

**NOTICE**

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
&  
AGENDA**

**January 10, 2023**

**6:00 p.m.**

**NOTE: Not all the topics listed in this notice may actually be reached for discussion. In addition, the topics listed are those which the Chair reasonably expects will be discussed as of the date of this notice.**

**To: Board of Health Members**

**From: Sharon D. Hart, Director of Public Health**

**Re: A Board of Health Meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the South Hadley Library.**

- 1: Chair to Call the Meeting to Order**
- 2: Acceptance of the Minutes of the November 22, 2022 meeting.**
- 3: Announcements and Open Forum (10 Minutes)**
- 4: Director's Update**
- 5: New Business:**
  - (a): South Hadley Human Rights Commission Appointment**
  - (b): Health Department Website Update**
  - (c): Update - South Hadley Drug & Alcohol Prevention Coalition (Karen)**

**(d): Master Plan Update**

**(e): Health Equity Policy Framework**

**6: Old Business:**

**(a): Glyphosate and Glufosinate Regulation – Board to sign Regulation**

**(b): Minimum Standards for the Keeping of Animals Regulation – Board to sign Regulation**

**7: Set Next Meeting Date – (TBD) at 6:00 p.m. at South Hadley Library**

**8: Adjourn Meeting**

\*\*\* Please note: Meetings are recorded\*\*\*

Summary	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022	December 2022
<b>Complaints Received</b>					
housing complaint	13	5	12	11	15
food complaint	6	10	7	2	5
COVID inquiry/reporting	2	1	1	0	0
animal control	9	4	9	3	2
dumpster permit	6	1	2	2	0
hauler permit	1	1	1	0	0
septic permit	1	2	5	3	3
property care complaint	1	3	0	2	1
miscellaneous	3	13	11	7	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Notices Issued</b>					
housing orders		1	0	1	0
condemnations	1	1	0	1	0
property care notices	1		0	0	0
compliance	2	1	3	1	0
educational/best practice material				2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Inspections Conducted</b>					
food inspections	4	1	6	0	0
lodging/housing inspections	4	3	1	0	4
site observations	2	2	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Miscellaneous</b>					
records requests		6	9	18	9
food plan reviews		1	1	1	2
<b>Total</b>		<b>7</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>11</b>

TONY JUDGE, Chair  
CHRISTINE MCKIERNAN, MD, Vice-Chair  
KAREN WALSH PIO, LICSW, LADC 1, Clerk  
JESSICA COLLINS  
STEPHEN FRANTZ

SHARON D. HART, Public Health Director

## Board of Health Minutes

November 22, 2022

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Present: Tony Judge, Chair; Jessica Collins, Board of Health Member; Karen Walsh Pio, Board of Health Clerk; Sharon Hart, Public Health Director; Jennifer Jernigan, Assistant Public Health Director; Monasia Ceasar, Health Compliance Specialist

*The Board of Health Meeting was called to order at 6:06 p.m. by Chair Judge.*

### 1. Acceptance of the Minutes of the October 18, 2022, Meeting:

Chair Judge introduced the minutes from the 10/18/22 meeting and questioned if there were any comments or changes to be made. No changes were brought forth to the Board. Collins made a motion to accept the meeting minutes and Judge seconded it. A rollcall was taken, Collins and Judge approved the minutes. Walsh Pio abstained as she was not present at the meeting and could not verify the accuracy of the minutes.

### 2. Announcements and Open Forum:

Chair Judge questioned if there were any notions wished to be considered by the Board. Ceasar provided an overview of a guidance she curated regarding the differences between COVID-19, RSV, and the flu. The guidance highlighted symptom on set periods and common symptoms experienced. Ceasar mentioned the guidance was also posted on the Department website.

### 3. Director's Update:

Director Hart highlighted some of the updates mentioned on the November Director's Report provided in the meeting packet. Some of the updates included the safety event hosted at the Pickleball court in celebration of the installation of AED devices and turf area (funded by the PHE grant). Hart noted that the contract for Phoenix Labs to conduct water testing for copper and lead on Town buildings has been put together and sent out. The annual testing is mandated by a Town bylaw based upon funding availability. To ensure accurate results, the water sample must be taken at first draw assuming regular use is occurring. Proper scheduling will have to be done to accommodate this as some Town buildings have seasonal operations. In summary to the November Director's report, Hart also mentioned she provided an update to TRIAD regarding emergency preparedness for upcoming winter storms, provided

a summary on drug take back day, lock boxes made available to residents, and highlighted the effectiveness of utilizing the road signs to convey messages to the public.

**Discussion about Town water quality pursued:**

Judge questioned if there was a major difference in water quality between the two Districts. Hart noted that they are fairly similar with a slight difference in chlorine levels. The water is tested in accordance with DEP regulations and advisories. There has been no detection of PFAS in the water granting the Town a three-year exemption from testing.

**Discussion about Emergency Management pursued:**

Director Hart mentioned she had suggested hosting local exercises at the Town's tier 2 organization to the HREPC group. Fire District 1 would be invited to E-ink to conduct emergency drills that could be observed. Judge questioned if there is a clear plan available in the case of an emergency. Hart replied that the drills would provide an opportunity to verify the status of the plan and allow space for improvement if needed. Town Counsel may have to provide confirmation if such plans can be shared with the public. Questions regarding evacuation plans and the potential for groundwater contamination were raised. Hart outlined the hierarchy of emergency management and noted that the state would be called in to provide the necessary support in case of an emergency. DEP would oversee the concerns regarding suspicions of groundwater contamination. Hart mentioned the possibility of having the Fire Department join a future meeting to discuss their involvement with emergency management and local tier two organizations.

**Discussion about Vape Detection at High School pursued:**

Director Hart shared that the Department purchased additional vape detectors for the High School. To aid students, the Department has begun exploring the option of completing a vaping cessation certificate program. The public health nurse, grant coordinator, and director will be taking the course in hopes of implementing cessation programs for the students in the future.

**Discussion about Previous Vaccine Clinic pursued:**

Walsh Pio questioned why COVID vaccinations were unavailable at the vaccine clinic hosted in October. Hart confirmed that the Department was notified at the time of the clinic that they would be unavailable. The vendor was instructed by the state to remove the existing vaccines from the shelves as bivalent COVID shots had become available in limited quantity.

sources to the aquifer and determine its percentage of contribution. Hart added that various chemicals will be used to test the age of the water. Anne Capra from the Planning Department will be putting together a contract and timeline for the study. Funding for the study has been approved and is set to take about 2 years to complete.

**Discussion about gasoline tank removal at 458 Amherst Rd pursued:**

Collins questioned if the oil wells and gasoline tank were removed from 458 Amherst Rd, previously known as Gagne's Market. Hart replied that containers have been removed but that she would verify if any oil spills had been reported.

**(D) Review and discussion of the revised Regulation for the Minimum Standards for the Keeping of Animals**

Chair Judge introduced the revised animal keeping regulation as the next topic for consideration. Collins questioned why a revision to the regulation was necessary. Hart added that the original regulation was vague. Hart outlined the Board of Health's role in regard to inspecting the health of the animals and means in which they are kept. Zoning and Planning oversee the number and species of animals permitted. Collins summarized that the changes proposed include clarification and reorganization. Walsh Pio made a motion to accept and approve the regulation and Collins seconded. A rollcall was taken, all members were in favor.

**(E) Landfill Second Quarter 2022 Report**

Chair Judge introduced the further explanation of the landfill second quarter 2022 report as the next topic for consideration. Hart noted that she will request that Frantz compile all of his questions to be directly forwarded to the engineer for follow up.

**(F) Water Testing Contract**

This topic was previously discussed. The contract is made and waiting to be signed.

**Discussion regarding Complaint Summary pursued:**

Collins requested clarification on the complaint spreadsheet provided in the agenda packet. Jernigan clarified that the housing complaints can vary from rental standards to property care regulation violations. Hart noted that the Board of Health must keep a log of all complaints received per state mandate. Collins also inquired about the animal control calls. Hart mentioned that Animal Control falls under the Select Board, but the Health Department helps to oversee it.

**Discussion about Website improvements pursued:**

Judge questioned if it was known how many visits the Town Public Health webpage receives and opened the floor up to suggestions on how to improve engagement. Hart mentioned it is one of her goals to improve and streamline web activities. Ceasar has put forth a diligent effort into reorganizing and updating the website regularly with current events and information. The Department is limited to the changes it can make to the website, as no changes to design, layout, or special features can be added. Judge expressed the importance of effective website design and communication and suggested the possibility of outsourcing the project.

**4. New Business:****(A) Review and Discussion of Glyphosate and Glufosinate Regulation**

Chair Judge introduced the proposed glyphosate and glufosinate regulation as the next topic to be considered by the Board. Director Hart shared that Frantz had provided some changes to the existing regulation in e360. Hart took the information given by Frantz and revised the existing regulation accordingly. Walsh Pio made a motion to pass the regulation as written and Judge seconded it. A rollcall was taken. All present members were in favor. Collins suggested sharing this regulation with Mt. Holyoke as she lives near there and has concern about pesticide usage on campus. Hart shared that once approved by Town Counsel, she can share it with Mt. Holyoke. Eversource is typically made aware as well.

**(B) Update- South Hadley Drug & Alcohol Prevention Coalition**

Chair Judge introduced the Drug and Alcohol Coalition update as the next agenda item. Walsh Pio shared there has not been a meeting since October and the next meeting is set to take place on December 14<sup>th</sup> at the High School. Walsh Pio highlighted the success of the drug take back day, the vape detector installations at the High School, concerns of parent enabling behaviors, and incidents of illegal sale of vapes in Town. Walsh Pio also noted she will be joining a Committee on the Cannabis Control Commission targeting the control of marijuana billboards in the area and the Town regulation banning the sale of THC will not be trumped by the state with the emergence of marijuana cafes and cannabis delivery services.

**(C) Aquifer Study**

Chair Judge introduced the aquifer study as the next topic of discussion. Judge shared he attended a zoom meeting that provided a follow up on the study. It was noted that the study will investigate

**(G) Emergency Order to Vacate 38 Bridge St First Floor- Ratify**

Hart shared that two emergency orders to vacate had been issued due to sanitary concerns and needed to be ratified. Collins made the motion to ratify the order for 38 Bridge St and Walsh Pio seconded. A roll call was taken, and all members were in favor.

**(H) Emergency Order to Vacate 10 Helms St- Ratify**

Collins made the motion to ratify the order for 10 Helms St and Walsh Pio seconded. A roll call was taken, and all members were in favor.

**5. Old Business:****(A) Nearmap**

Chair Judge presented Nearmap as the next topic for discussion. Judge shared he had consulted with Director Hart on this matter and was under the impression that access is not permitted to Boards and Committees. Hart shared that Town Administration is working with Town Counsel to create a policy for Department usage.

**Discussion about Youth Health Survey pursued:**

Collins mentioned she was shocked to learn that schools were unable to participate in the youth health surveys last year per the direction of the previous school Superintendent and questioned if students would be surveyed this year. Walsh Pio shared that students are expected to complete the youth health survey this spring with the approval of the acting Superintendent.

**Discussion of grant purchased items pursued:**

Director Hart shared that in response to requests received for equipment to assist those with hearing and visual impairments visiting Town buildings, amplifiers and magnifying stations have been purchased with the grant funding. The equipment will be made available in Town Buildings with protocol and signage posted for usage. Hart presented the equipment for viewing to the Board members.

*Draft* – Board of Health  
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**6. Set Next Meeting Date- (TBD) @ 6:00 p.m.:**

Jernigan shared that the Trustees room at the library has been reserved for the year to host Board of Health meetings on the second Tuesday of every month. It was suggested that the December meeting be skipped and a proposal for a January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting was made. All present members were in consensus with the next meeting date being January 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the library.

**5. Adjourn the meeting:**

Chair Judge mentioned he would accept a motion to adjourn the meeting. Collins made the motion and Walsh Pio seconded it. All members were in consensus.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully,

Monasia Ceasar

**ATTACHMENT A**

**RECORD LOCATION**

BOH Meeting Minutes 10.18.22	BOH File
Director's Report	BOH File
Proposed Regulation Glufosinate and Glyphosate	BOH File
Existing Regulation Livestock	BOH File
Proposed Regulation Livestock	BOH File
Questions on SH Landfill Second Quarter Report 2022	BOH File

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