

## BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES – August 13, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Robert Kellard, at the Senior Center Conference Room at 7:00 P.M. with the reading of the public notice, posted by the Town Clerk. Also in attendance were: Martha Swindell, Member; Edmund Kowalski, Member, Peter Mirandi, Director of Public Health; Mark Carleo, Public Health Inspector; Marian Myers, Epidemiologist; Jean Marcotti, Animal Care Specialist and Tracy Camarro, Public Health Nurse.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Board unanimously approved the minutes of June 4, 2009

### MOSQUITO CONTROL

Valerie Kenney of Braman Street was present to discuss the Board's policy on nuisance control of mosquitoes and emphatically voice her opposition to it. She was unable to make the previous meeting with her neighborhood residents and the Board of Health where the Board was requested to re-instate its nuisance spraying program. After reviewing the materials used during Ultra Low Volume truck spraying she is sure that it is ineffective. Additionally, the labels all bear warnings stating that they are environmentally hazardous and dangerous for children. Kowalski asked if ditch maintenance has been conducted at the meadow lately. Mirandi was not aware of any such work but can look into the possibility of having the area surveyed for the next season. The Board thanked Ms. Kenney for her input and agreed with her sentiments.

### ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH

#### LICENSING & PERMITS

Carleo reported the following permits have been issued since the June meeting:

Type	Monthly Since Last Meeting (6/04/09)	YTD Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
Body Art (Indv.)	0	1
Body Art (Est.)	0	1
Disposal Works	0	0
Food Est.	3	223
Funeral Dir.	0	0
Mass Est	0	0
Motels	0	0
Pools	23	33
Rec Camps	0	4
Septage Haulers	0	3
Tanning Est.	0	1
Man Housing	0	0
Wells	0	0
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Total	26	266

## PUBLIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH VIOLATIONS/NUISANCE INVESTIGATIONS

Carleo reported the following investigations have been conducted since the April 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting:

Type	Monthly Since Last Meeting (6/04/09)	YTD Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
Air Quality	1	2
Animal Control	1	3
Bathing	0	10
Food Safety	2	20
General Env. Health	5	5
Housing	15	130
Hazardous Waste	2	5
Institutional Sanitation	1	3
Pest Control	4	14
Solid Waste	8	19
Waste Water	1	4
Water	0	0
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Total	40	215

## PUBLIC HEALTH NURSES REPORT

Tracy continues to follow up on a difficult TB case. The patient is routinely hospitalized and it can be difficult in keeping in contact with her. Additionally she has a Hepatitis B case of a pregnant woman and has been having difficulty following up. She has finished working with an Albany School of Pharmacy Intern who conducted an interaction check on medications for seniors at her office. Blood Pressure appointments are up as well. Fitness classes on Tuesday and Thursday are still full. 1350 doses of influenza vaccine are expected which is down 100 from last year after the state observed waste of vaccine throughout the state. Danvers however accounted for every dose. H1N1 is being followed closely and the Board will receive routine updates and invitations to conference calls hosted by MDPH.

## EMERGENCY BEAVER PERMIT

Kim Obremski of 10 Valley Road was present to discuss a re-occurring beaver issue in her neighborhood. Mirandi asked for a description of the problem and process she followed to alleviate the problem. Obremski stated she hasn't had a problem in the six years she's lived there. She knew the groundwater was high but a basement technologies pump was installed and French drains. The sewage pump chamber had failed in 06 and had to be moved in to the basement. Last year when the electricity went out, the sump pumps shut off and water entered the dwelling. A battery back-up was installed to prevent this from occurring again. This year beavers built a dam in the wetland at the year of the property. The flooding had the pumps working constantly. Later, the beavers built an additional dam that finally caused water to come thru the basement floor. Mold and mildew have begun growing in the basement. Her son has allergy conditions which have been very seriously aggravated by the conditions in the dwelling. Due to those conditions, and after several inspections, Carleo; whom Obremski referred to as her "guardian angel," issued an emergency permit to trap the beavers and the Conservation Commission issued an emergency certification to breach the dam. A licensed trapper was hired who evaluated the flows of the wetland, the conditions of the dam and set traps accordingly. She asked that someone, the town, neighbors or the farm needs to put together a maintenance plan. Mirandi agreed with her idea and would hope that she would be available for a task force.

## **PUBLIC HEARING: 61 NICHOLS STREET**

Jill Thorpe, owner of 61 Nichols Street was present for a hearing regarding the condemnation of 61 Nichols Street in which a chemical processing operation was being conducted. EPA was conducting an investigation at the dwelling and notified fire officials, who notified building and health. Carleo and Mirandi responded. Combustible materials were noted in the garage, shed and a box truck in the driveway. Mirandi had been to this dwelling in 1998 with Peter Bryson, Building Inspector. The owner of the business Jackson Silva was permitted by DEP, SESD and was not in violation of the building code. The dwelling was condemned on July 22, 2009 after consultation with DPH and Town Counsel. Mirandi has stated the condemnation will be lifted when the LSP notifies us that no health hazard exists. Dr. Kellard asked if an LSP has an update on the activities to investigate or clean the property. Thorpe provided a binder to the Board containing information about the business and chemicals used. A document from ENPRO stated that the risk to human health has been abated. The document was signed by the LSP, Ph.D. and Senior Chemist. Dr. Kellard asked that we review the document for authenticity and accuracy and respond within 24 hours. Mirandi agreed to the Chairman's request and directed Carleo to respond.

## **EPIDEMIOLOGIST REPORT**

Epidemiologist Meyers gave the monthly disease investigation report:

	Since Last Meeting (06/04/09)	Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
Aeromonas Hydrophilia	0	0
Babesiosis	0	0
Campylobacter Enteritis	1	3
Chicken Pox	0	0
Clostridium	0	0
Cryptosporidium	0	2
Dengue Fever	0	0
EColi 0157:H7	0	0
Ehrlichiosis	0	1
Erlichia Chaff.	0	0
Enterovirus	0	0
Giardiasis	0	4
Group A Strept	0	0
Group B Strept	0	2
Hepatitis A	0	1
Hepatitis B	0	4
Hepatitis C	0	6
Influenza	1	1
Latent TB Infection	0	0
Legionellosis	0	0
Lyme Disease	0	33
M.R.S.A.	0	0
Aseptic Meningitis	0	0
Bacterial Meningitis	0	0
Nisseria Meningitis	0	0
Pertussis	0	0
Pneumonia	0	1
Salmonellosis	0	14
Shigellosis	0	0
Streptococcus pneumonia	1	12
Toxoplasma IGG	0	1
Tuberculosis	0	6
Tuberculosis follow up	0	0

West Nile Virus	0	0
Yersinia Enterocolytica	0	0
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TOTAL =	3	100

The Massachusetts Virtual Epidemiological Network (MAVEN) is online and Marian is thrilled. It makes Janell Corning, Senior Secretary's task of record keeping much simpler. Tracy will be trained for TB follow ups and MAVEN reporting later this year. She provided her report.

## **RABIES REPORT**

Mirandi provided an update on the dog incident concerning Susan Nestor of Lantern Lane. Since last month, the Board of Selectmen heard the case and allowed the Nestor's a month to resolve the issue with controlling their dog. No further action is required at this time. Mirandi also reported the following bites since the May 7 meeting:

	Since Last Meeting (06/04/09)	Year to Date (Beginning July 1, 2008)
Dogs	0	4
Cats	0	0
Wild Animals	0	0
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TOTAL =	0	4

## **PEST CONTROL**

Mirandi informed the Board that the Goose control contract has expired and bids are currently being accepted.

## **TOBACCO CONTROL**

Carleo informed the Board that Concord Gas has failed its most recent compliance check and was fined.

## **EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS**

Although the information changes often, Mirandi updated the Board on preparations for H1N1 influenza. Mirandi and his staff attended a recent meeting on vaccination and response. Those most at risk and requiring vaccination are pregnant women. Additionally, recent guidance advises against closing schools. Isolation wards in schools and vaccine clinics in schools may become the norm.

## **CONTINUED DISCUSSION: AIR QUALITY**

Mirandi asked how the Board wished to proceed with its discussions of the Salem Power Plant. Dr. Kellard does not agree with Mirandi's exploration of the Power Plant as a source of pollution when no viable or near-future alternative exists. Mirandi countered by stating that he is not seeking a shut-down of the Salem power plant, but simply wants the residents to understand that the cigar smoke that wafts through a small portion of the downtown is likely not even measurable compared to the tonnage of particulates spewing from the smoke stacks of the plant or even the automobiles driving through the square. Additionally, this method of putting into perspective the numerous threats to health faced in

daily life could help people understand how to live a healthier life by reducing their use and exposure to toxins.

With no further business, the Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:00PM.

Respectfully submitted for your approval,

Mark L. Carleo, CEHT  
Board of Health Clerk