



# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

## Meeting: Franklin County Cooperative Public Health Service Oversight Board

<b>Date:</b> Thursday November 17	<b>Location:</b> OLVER TRANSIT CENTER, 12 Olive St. Grnfl	<b>Facilitator:</b> Rob Lingle, Co-Chair
<b>Time:</b> 5:00- 7:00 PM	<b>Room:</b> Upstairs	

<b>Present:</b>	Marti Ferguson, Buckland	<b>Regrets:</b>
Doug Telling, Charlemont	Deb Coutinho, Shelburne	Meg Burch, Conway
Rob Lingle, Charlemont	<b>Staff:</b>	Kathie Benson, Leyden
Maggie Rice, Rowe	Phoebe Walker, FRCOG	Randy Crochier, Agent
Dave Nash, Monroe	Glen Ayers, Health Agent	Kip Komosa, Deerfield
Cass Nawrocki, Hawley	Lisa White, Public Health Nurse	Betsy Kovacs, Heath

Agenda Item	Activity
Minutes	Minutes were accepted for September and October meetings
Staff update - Nurse	<p>Lisa passed out information on the just-completed flu clinic series, showing 867 vaccinations given so far, as compared to 919 last year. She thinks the lack of nasal spray reduced the number of children attending this year, which may account for the lower numbers, as well as bad weather during a few of the clinics. She will continue to offer vaccines during her regular clinics for the next month or so. She suggested using local cable more next year. Phoebe reminded board members that now that we receive administration funding for the vaccines, there are both public health AND financial benefits to the district of getting people to attend the clinics.</p> <p>Lisa also distributed a list of the new services she will be researching with support from the FRCOG's DLTA grant funding over the next few months.</p>
Staff Update: Health Agents	Glen gave an update on the permit renewal process. He also presented a draft policy on payment of Title 5 fees, to be considered between now and January, and voted on at the January meeting. The policy would require that whoever schedules a perc test witness is responsible for paying the fee that day. Anyone not paying will not be allowed to schedule future witnessings until payment is made. Members were supportive of the proposed policy.
FRCOG update:	Phoebe kicked off the FY18 Budget Discussion with an overview of how the budget is arrived at, what principles we aim to use when creating the budget, and a primer on how the assessment formula works to assign costs between towns. She reminded members that the district is mid-way through a five year process of becoming both self-sufficient and fair in how we assess costs. We have successfully weaned ourselves from the large implementation grants we got initially, and are now working on making sure that each town is charged the fair amount for their use of the program. As towns started the district with very different levels of spending on public health

and were held harmless the first year, we are still in an uneven place. Phoebe reported that Charlemont, Heath, Hawley, and (very nearly) Gill are all at the right place according to the formula. The other towns still need to pay more to pay a fair share, and Rowe is still in the process of having a year together to figure out their work load and permit revenue. Phoebe presented a very draft budget for FY18, since there are no health insurance and no COLA numbers yet. Due to grant funding for Lisa that reduced the budget this year not being locked in for next year, the budget without significant increases to revenues would be about \$9K short. FRCOG will update this as soon as there are real numbers in hand. Board members reviewed Phoebe’s presentation and provided feedback on the draft budget and the approaches for next year.

Fees: Rob suggested increasing fees. Dave suggested we be conservative and keep the fees at the same rate and the expected fee revenue at the same amount. Glen reported that some inspections take a lot more time than others, and those fees might make sense to revisit to make sure we are covering our costs – food, camp inspections. He also suggested we add Trash Hauler as a license, which is an option our towns have not exercised so far. A motion passed to instruct staff to come back with an analysis of which fees are not covering their costs, and what changes should be made if any.

The group also checked in on the planning for our 12/15 Annual Meeting – and a reminder to invite the rest of your BOH and folks from your COA, Select Board, etc..

Member updates

**Monroe:** Dave reported that the state EOEA has come through with a huge grant to make up the final chunk of money needed to take down the Ramage Mill and put a park in its place! This funding adds to the \$30K from TransCanada, and \$100K from FRCOG’s Brownfields program. **Buckland:** Marti reported that wood burning in the village is still a problem, and likely always will be. The cold weather ended the bee issues she shared last meeting. **Charlemont:** Rob reported that he still felt that Charlemont had work to do to address abandoned properties in town. He has recently learned that the town is not participating in CDBG applications, which could be used to address this problem, and does not understand why not. **Hawley:** Cass reported that the BOH has decided to start procedeeings to demolish the house across from town hall. **Rowe:** Maggie reported that their clerk has resigned, much to their sadness. The Board has been very busy trying to address the landslide that occurred at their transfer station/refuse garden, and have just signed a contract for the repair. Maggie asked for five more Lyme signs for the parks and trails department. Phoebe will provide them. **Shelburne** had a great Mohawk EDS drill/ flu clinic, with wonderful participation from the Boy Scouts.

Finally, the group discussed briefly what we do and do not know about the marijuana legalization question and what BOH responsibilities will be (permitting, inspection, etc.). More on this as it becomes clear!

December 15: CPHS ANNUAL MEETING  
 January 12: Municipal Steps to Improve Health  
 February 16: Climate Change and Franklin County  
 April sometime: MAHB BOH Certification