



# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

## Meeting: Cooperative Public Health Service Oversight Board

<b>Date:</b>	Thursday, May 25, 2017	<b>Location</b>	Buckland Town Hall	<b>Facilitator</b>	Kathie Benson, Co-Chair
<b>Time</b>	5:00- 7:00 PM	<b>Room:</b>	Upstairs Meeting Room	<b># to call with problems:</b>	413-834-0420

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Marti Ferguson, Buckland	<b>ABSENT:</b>	
Doug Telling, Charlemont		Deerfield	
Maggie Rice, Rowe	<b>GUESTS:</b>	Gill	
Kathie Benson, Leyden	Erica Pledade, Mass DPH		
Betsy Kovacs, Heath	<b>STAFF:</b>		
Cass Nawrocki, Hawley	Phoebe Walker, FRCOG	<b>REGRETS:</b>	
Meg Burch, Conway	Lisa White, Public Health Nurse	Randy Crochier, Staff	
Dave Nash, Monroe	Glen Ayers, Regional Health Agent	Deb Coutinho, Shelburne	

Item	Action
Intros and Minutes	We welcomed our guest, Erica Piedade, the new Director of Local Public Health Initiatives at Mass DPH's Office of Local and Regional Health, and approved the February and March meetings with one change – adding Cass to February attendees.
Staff Update: Health Agents	Glen briefly described the recent training that he and Randy attended as part of their work to become certified, standardized food safety inspectors. In other news, Title 5 season is here! Glen is out in the field much of every day. Board members were reminded to spread the word widely about the <b>Woodstove Changeout Program</b> .
Staff Update: Nurse	<p>Lisa gave an <b>update on vaccine</b> – she has pre-booked 600 regular adult flu doses, and a small number of the high-dose vaccines, which are only recommended for those whose doctors have ordered them. She will be able to order more as the season goes on. She also reported on a very successful joint effort with the Heath and Rowe Town Nurses to plan a Shingles Clinic that served 40 people from those two towns. Rowe Town Nurse Sheila Litchfield obtained the vaccine from unused Community Health Center doses through DPH – and was the only local nurse in the state to take DPH up on the offer! The will be doing a second round (pre-registrations only) on June 7 at the Federated Church in Charlemont.</p> <p>Those of us in attendance gave an <b>update on the two recent planning for health aging</b> events (Marti, Kathie, Lisa, Phoebe, Betsy). CPHS staff, Life Path (the area agency on aging) and the Shelburne Falls Senior Center worked together on the project, and the group identified a number of follow up items, including a need for more and better coordinated communication about resources, an interest in housing and supporting elders to stay at home. Marti and Betsy felt confident that the good energy in the room would result in new work getting done. Kathie reported that she had registered for a conference on at-home networks in MA like the Village to Village Network.</p> <p>Lisa gave a <b>tick update</b>, including a report from the deer tick tests this year in member towns.</p>

	<p>48.5% of CPHS ticks have tested positive for Lyme, and additional 7% for Babesiosis, and 8% for Anaplasmosis. All these rates are higher than the statewide rates. Thus far we are not seeing the Powassan Virus in our ticks. Dog ticks do not carry any of these diseases, only Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever, and none of those have been found in our region. Lisa stressed that PREVENTION IS KEY. DEET on the skin, Permethrin on clothes and shoes. There was a discussion about the CDC guidelines vs. ILADS guidelines for when to treat tick bites with what antibiotic, and the variation in treatment proscribed from provider to provider. Members were all asked to re-stock their town halls, libraries, schools, and transfer stations with tick education materials, which Lisa brought to the meeting. Contact her at <a href="mailto:lwhite@frcog.org">lwhite@frcog.org</a> if you missed the meeting and want some.</p> <p>Finally, Lisa handed out opioid overdose information for our towns. We have had eight recorded opioid related deaths in the CPHS region in the last few years, out of 46 in the county. Our County is the highest in the state for % of population with Schedule II Opioid prescriptions according to Mass DPH’s prescription monitoring program, MassPAT. This resulted in a conversation about why <b>almost none of the CPHS town police departments carry Narcan</b> (except Gill and Deerfield) despite this being a major public health crisis. Board members will go back to their towns and ask, and Phoebe will send out information about how police departments can sign up. We are also concerned that only Deerfield and Greenfield have 24/7 Drug Take Back boxes, with the entire west county area dependent on the Buckland Police being open to use the one site in the region.</p>
<p>Visitor: Erica Piedade, DPH</p>	<p>Phoebe introduced Erica, who is replacing Soloe Dennis at the Office of Local and Regional Health. She is based in Northampton and has been tasked with understanding and support rural Boards of Health across the state. Erica talked about her background, and her commitment to helping BOHs meet their mandated responsibilities and help them achieve the ten essential public health services, and her interest in workforce development. She invited people to contact her with any questions or concerns or needs for resources at DPH. She also passed out a helpful guide to DPH staff as well as a list of currently topical Local Public Health Institute trainings available online. She asked if anyone was using any of the LPHI’s 46 online training modules. No one at the meeting had. Broadband speed was one reason given, lack of relevance and lack of awareness were others.</p>
<p>Operating Procedures</p>	<p>Kathie asked members to identify any changes needed to the Operating Procedures. Only one typo was corrected, and the procedures were reaffirmed unanimously.</p>
<p>FRCOG Update:</p>	<p>Phoebe has been appointed by the Governor to a Special Commission on Local Health, and will represent our district at those meetings, beginning at the end of June.</p> <p>Phoebe reviewed the <b>budget reports</b>, which show the CPHS in healthy financial situation as the year closes. We are on track to use slightly less than intended of our planned use of reserve, and our permit revenue is hitting the target. All towns reported no problem with the approval for membership assessments at town meeting. Kathie noted her thanks for explaining the budget assessment formula clearly so she could answer questions at town meeting. There is \$16,000 in our vaccine account, which is enough to start the purchasing for the year’s vaccine described above.</p> <p>Phoebe gave a sneak peak at next fall’s local official workshop series, including sessions of</p>

	<p>interest to BOH members on short term rentals, legal marijuana, and disaster preparedness. Requests were made for a workshop on Tiny Houses and on a coordinated approach to addressing abandoned and distressed properties. Erica mentioned that the Division of Community Sanitation could help with that one.</p>
<p>Member updates</p>	<p>Betsy shared that <b>Heath</b> has had a busy spring. They have a Tobacco 21 hearing scheduled soon, and are bringing their well testing regs into sync with the rest of the district towns. In other regulator news, the BOH recently banned bare feet in town buildings. They recently held a joint meeting with their Planning Board to talk about a number of unregistered vehicles and temporary occupancy issues. The town is also very sad to report that their elementary school is closing at the end of June due to very low enrollment. Finally, the BOH successfully identified and licensed two of the three short term rentals (ie Airbnb) in town. The third stopped renting. Kathie reported a spate of permit avoidance in <b>Leyden</b> that she has nipped in the bud, and thanked Glen for the information on potluck safety as well (check out <a href="http://foodsafety.gov">foodsafety.gov</a> for more info). <b>Hawley</b> and Charlemont are still facing challenges with their ambulance system, according to Cass. Maggie reported that in <b>Rowe</b> the Board has been dealing with some complaints about Airbnb rentals for large events, tenting groups without sanitation, etc.. Their mudslide at the transfer station is all fixed, a great relief. And the Board has made some changes to the job description of the Town Nurse, which has resulted in an increase in the number of younger people being seen during office hours and fewer home visits. In <b>Conway</b>, Meg said the BOH is also looking into Airbnb rentals to bring them into compliance as licensed B&amp;Bs. Four have been identified and the Board is following up. The BOH has lost a member, and this has reduced their capacity to get things done. Meg is hoping to bring the Tobacco regulations to the Board in an upcoming meeting. Marti shared that the <b>Buckland</b> BOH has been getting a number of outdoor campfire complaints in the village area, and is also exploring exactly what they can do, if anything, about the organophosphates being sprayed by the railroad company along the river. Marti is interested in having the town join the tick testing program. According to Doug, the <b>Charlemont</b> BOH has suddenly had a spate of housing complaints, zoning enforcement issues, and abandoned property concerns. Finally, in <b>Monroe</b>, Dave reported that the Ramage mill wooden section is coming down as we speak! Great relief.</p>
<p>Upcoming Meetings and trainings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 8 – Public Records Law training at FRCOG 7-9.</li> <li>• ICS Training in Deerfield 6/12&amp;13 <a href="http://www.deerfieldma.us/home/news/ics-100-nims-700-training">http://www.deerfieldma.us/home/news/ics-100-nims-700-training</a></li> <li>• MAPHCO Annual Dinner scheduled for 6/21 4:30-8:30</li> <li>• Next CPHS Oversight Board meeting: Greenfield, July 27, 5-7 PM. Agenda: Community Health Improvement Plan, Well water testing results in our district, and more!</li> </ul>

This meeting is wheelchair accessible. Please call Phoebe with any requests for accessibility.

**Light Dinner will be served – call Phoebe with any dietary restrictions!**

