



# Franklin Regional Council of Governments

## Meeting: Cooperative Public Health Service Oversight Board

<b>Date:</b> Thursday, November 30, 2017	<b>Location:</b> Olver Transit Center	<b>Facilitator:</b> Rob Lingle, Co-Chair
<b>Time:</b> 5:00- 7:00 PM	<b>Room:</b> First Floor Meeting Room	<b># to call with problems:</b> 413-834-0420

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

Agenda Item	Person
Minutes	Minutes of September meeting approved with one change to Leyden update.
Short Term Rentals	Phoebe and Glen distributed a draft checklist for BOHs to use with short term residential hosts, as well as a zoning overview of lodging requirements in each town. On the checklist, members suggested changing the language for those on private wells. The Board then had a discussion of current practice and next steps in each town and whether it is possible to have a uniform approach across the towns, to level the playing field among hosts. Most towns are doing outreach to the Short Term Rental hosts in a similar way, or are planning to do it in a similar way when they start checking on them soon. There is some variation, with Rowe requiring a Special Permit from the PB for any B and B or STR, and taxing them differently than residential space. Shelburne interprets the legal language slightly differently, and does not permit stand-alone, non-owner occupied STRs, and does charge for both a food and lodging permit for those they do permit. Conway does not have lodging permit now, and is interested in adding that so that when then Food Code changes and exempts B&Bs, they will still have the capacity to permit them. Phoebe will follow up with Marie.
Staff Update: Nurse	Lisa- Flu clinics ended well, and she has 60 or so doses left so invited people to tell her about upcoming events. She also reviewed for the Board a few troubling communicable disease trends in our region: MAVEN is showing greatly increased numbers of Anaplasmosis diagnoses, and there is a current Pertussis outbreak at Frontier Regional School. She described what she does for the Pertussis, and group discussed ideas about why the Anaplasmosis could be so much worse this year (other than the obvious big increase in ticks this year). Lisa also worked with Deb Coutinho and the Senior Center in Shelburne Falls to hold a Walkability Assessment Training, and will report later on the results of the assessments the trainees conducted.

<p>Staff Update: Health Agents</p>	<p>Randy reported on a very successful last ServeSafe class, with everyone passing the test. Board agreed that we have exhausted the member town need for these for a while, and will perhaps hold one again next summer. Randy also suggested a shorter, lower-cost re-certification proctored test option for the spring, if there is need. Glen reported that Hawley had submitted a letter to DPH on the proposed alternative minimum housing standards additions to the Housing Code. Members asked for a copy – Phoebe will send it out.</p> <p>Glen and others reported on the recent Lyme Symposium at UMass. A lot of resentment at the lack of action at the state level on this disease., as compared to the reported \$1.5m spent per person who dies of a mosquito-borne disease in MA each year. Betsy asked that we put this on the December agenda.</p> <p>Glen also reported that he is PLANNING TO RETIRE ON JULY 1<sup>ST</sup>!!! Much sadness. Phoebe went over a rough timeline for replacing Glen (well, filling his position, anyway). Rob, Kathie, and Betsy offered to be on the preliminary hiring committee.</p>
<p>FRCOG Update</p>	<p>Phoebe asked for a vote to authorize the spending of up to \$10,000 in reserve funds to allow for the new health agent to overlap with Glen for the month of June, with the understanding that as little as possible will be spent. Betsy made the motion, and Rob seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.</p> <p>Phoebe then reviewed the budget planning process for FY19. There was discussion of perhaps revisiting the part of the principles that holds busy towns harmless – with the busier towns acknowledging that they perhaps ought to pay more. Agreed to revisit this at some point.</p> <p>To give Phoebe information to go on in budget development, the Board agreed to anticipate no more fee revenue than we did this year (\$34K), and to leave the assessment total flat, with a few thousand to be found in grants by the end of next year. Cass moved that the Board endorse the first draft of the budget presented that night. Motion seconded by Kathie, passed unanimously.</p> <p>Both Heath and Charlemont reported on serious budget crunches in their towns, and asked for budget assessments to be flat or lower than this year. Betsy offered to help identify foundation grants to support programming.</p>
<p>Member updates</p>	<p>Sadly, we ran out of time for member updates. We did briefly discuss interest in tick test program next year – all current towns are interested in continuing their participation, and Phoebe clarified that since there is not unanimous participation in the program among members, UMass bills each town separately, though we do all get a group discount by bundling our orders to a minimum of 100 per year. Cass asked for a report from UMass on the district’s towns.</p>
<p>Upcoming Meetings/ New Business</p>	<p>Discussed whether Thursday December 28 Board meeting date reasonable. Agreed to keep it on the books. If no major changes to budget, will use it to work on hiring plan for health agent.</p> <p>In light of Glen’s leaving, we kept all monthly meetings on the books for 2018 (except August)</p> <p>Request to bring soil testing to a future discussion</p>