



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Meeting: Cooperative Public Health Service Oversight Board

Date:	Thursday, October 24, 2019	Location	Olver Transit Center	Facilitator	Marti Taft-Ferguson, Co-Chair
Time	5:00- 7:00 PM	Room:	First Floor Allen Meeting Room	# to call with problems:	413-834-0420

Present	Doug Telling/Charlemont	Staff:
Betsy Kovacs/Heath	Beth Kuzdeba/Leyden	Phoebe Walker/FRCOG
Terry Estes/Buckland		Lisa White/Public Health Nurse
Marti Taft-Ferguson/Buckland		Randy Crochier/Health Agent
Mike Friedlander/Colrain		
Cass Nawrocki/Hawley	Regrets:	Absent:
Marjo Iken/Conway	Bryan Smith, Erving Town Admin	Monroe
Maggie Rice/Rowe	Trevor McDaniel, Deerfield	Gill

Intros	Our icebreaker was: What is the oldest piece of clothing you still own and wear? Serious respect to our two co-chairs, who were both wearing the aforementioned item! Lots of fond connections in the group to dad and grandad's barn coats...
Minutes	September meeting were approved as written, with abstentions from those who were not at the September meeting.
Public Health Nursing Report	<p>Lisa reported that flu clinics have been highly successful thus far. We are having some trouble getting high-dose vaccine, so it is restricted to only the senior clinics. She asked for help in getting the word out that regular quadrivalent flu vaccine is recommended for elders, and explained how the high dose works, and that it is not the only option for adults over 65, just recommended for some older adults based on their specific needs.</p> <p>Lisa also reviewed the progress being made on planning the Age-Friendly Planning workshop slated for 12/10. This will include speakers from the Massachusetts Healthy Aging Collaborative and Life Path, among others, and will be a great opportunity to learn more about how we could embrace this work in the district, and what the benefits would be.</p> <p>After discussion of the added work involved in the addition of three new towns in the last twelve months (Colrain, Erving, and Bernardston – bringing us to over 50% of the towns in the County), and a review of the cost to increase her time, the Board took a vote on moving Public Health Nurse role to full time. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
Health Agent Report	Randy reported on his transition to full time – At the end of week three, he is taking over the software work from Paul and Title 5 work from Nicole Zabko as she phases out for the winter to focus on her family HVAC business. He shared that Title 5 inspections and percs that have been scheduled but have not yet happened will now be labeled “pending” in the software, so BOHs (and he!) can easily tell which are already in process and which need attention. Final interviews for Part Time Agent are done – Randy thanked Mike for his participation on the committee. An offer has been made and he reported that an announcement would be made shortly.

	<p>Randy handed out a list of permitted food establishments and asked if he was missing any.</p> <p>As discussed and voted on last month, Bernardston has joined the CPHS as of 11/1! They will be joining the Food Safety, Community Sanitation, and Public Health Nursing programs. Dave Powers, BOH Chair, will continue to cover all septic and private well work for the BOH. Randy reported that he is already busy with temporary and regular food inspections in the town. Members expressed happiness at filling in the hole in our map, making the district contiguous.</p> <p>Vaping, CBD Edible Update: In response to two recent state edicts, neither of these products are legal to sell in MA right now. Randy reported all vape products and CBD edibles off shelves when he checked and double-checked a week or two later. One establishment is still selling CBD Edibles, citing a finding by their lawyer that the products they have are not food, but rather supplements. Randy will follow up and get lawyer’s memo and share info with that BOH.</p>
Office of Local and Regional Grant	<p>Phoebe gave a presentation about the findings of the Special Commission on Local and Regional Health, and the related regionalization grants that are now available through the DPH Office of Local and Regional Health. Board discussed various options for what would meet our needs and meet the requirement of the funders that the funds be used to increase the level of cooperation of existing districts (or expand them to new towns). Ideas discussed were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Creating a local Board of Health Certification process. There was strong interest in getting better educated about the responsibilities of the BOH role – both what BOHs should do and what they can do. This certification would include an annual beginner class that we would hope to get every single BOH member to before they had been in the role for a year, as well as continuing education workshops that include state law updates. Suggestions were made to collaborate with MAHB, and to review the Berkshire County BOH Certification, which has been approved by DPH. People suggested weeknights as the best time, and the potential for some kind of video streaming capacity as well. (2) Creating a more unified approach to dealing with decrepit and abandoned housing to get it back on the tax rolls. This would be a regional approach to implementing the Abandoned and Distressed Building Toolkit published by the FRCOG last year. (3) Regional Age-Friendly Planning Effort (4) Increasing Access to Primary Care for residents. <p>The Board voted by town on which priorities we would support in a grant application. #1 came in first place, with #2 in second place. Cass moved and Doug seconded that the Board approve a grant application covering either just one or the two top priorities, leaving the discretion to Phoebe when putting together the budget. Passed unanimously. Marti offered to review the grant during writing.</p>
FRCOG Report	<p>Phoebe reviewed CPHS Budget Reports – there were no questions. Phoebe reported that the data we were waiting for before continuing discussion of permitting Short Term Rental establishments is now available from the registry. Marjo requested that the Shared Service towns be given access to the data as well. Motion made by Cass and seconded by Doug to approve a request for the data for all CPHS towns to DOR. Passed unanimously. Phoebe will send documentation of the vote and share the data when it comes back. Towns will then review how that looks compared to what Airbnb shows for their towns, prior to our discussion about enforcement at a future meeting. In the meantime, the permits remain available online.</p> <p>Operating Procedures—we reviewed our operating procedures. Recommendations were made to; (1) add remote participation as an option and (2) change the quorum to six, as we are having a very hard time getting representation from Deerfield, Erving, Monroe, and Gill. This means that if even one person from the other towns is not available, the quorum is in peril. Much discussion of whether lowering the quorum was a good idea. Agreed to put it out to the general membership, as required by the procedures, and vote at our next meeting.</p>



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