



Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Meeting: Cooperative Public Health Service Oversight Board

Date: 6/24/21

online meeting

Chair: Doug Telling, Co-Chair

Time 5-7:00 PM

to call 413-834-0420

Members present:

Northfield: Ali Wahlstrom

Ashfield: None

Bernardston: Jean Page

Buckland: Marti Taft-Ferguson

Colrain: Nina Martin-Anzuoni

Charlemont: Doug Telling

Conway: Devon Whitney-Deal, Tilda Hunting Shores Ness

Deerfield: Trevor McDaniel, Carolyn

Hawley: Cass Nawrocki (last mtg), Abigail Drew

Erving: Cyd Scott

Heath: None

Rowe: Maggie Rice

Shelburne: Fritz Vohr

Leyden: Beth Kuzdeba

Staff: Randy Crochier, Health Agent, Lisa Danek Burke, Health Agent, Phoebe Walker, FRCOG, Jeanette Voas, CHW, Melanie Zamojski, Public Health Nurse

Absent: Gill, Monroe

Regrets: Karen Boudreau/Northfield, Lisa White/Public Health Nurse

Ice Breaker and Introductions The group bid a fond farewell to Cass Nawrocki, Hawley’s rep to the Board, upon her retirement from town service, and welcomed new Hawley Town Coordinator Abby Drew. We shared our favorite pet story as an ice breaker.

Approve Minutes for March and May meetings. Approved the minutes from March 28, 2021 and May 27, 2021

Public Health Nursing Report (Lisa on vacation): Melanie Z. discussed Anaplasmosis, causes, symptoms. We noticed an uptick beginning last fall. The nurses are reaching out to District cases to get more information about onset, severity, etc. Jeanette V. will be working on an Anaplasmosis fact sheet for LBOH use.

County Health Rankings Presentation: Phoebe shared information gathered by the Community Health Improvement Plan Network about health status in our region, as part of

kicking off our thinking about changes to our nursing services, health education and outreach, etc. (see slide show on calendar page for this meeting).

Community Health Worker plan for the summer: Jeanette Voas, valued member of our contact tracing team, is taking the Community Health Worker class and needs to do a summer practicum. In response to Board member input, she is proposing public education on tickborne and mosquito borne disease prevention. Jeanette proposes to go out into communities and connect with local boards to work on outreach information, possibly set up tables in communities to do outreach, and consider doing tick lessons at camps or summer programs. Jeanette will create a calendar of when she is available to go into the communities for these activities. A request was made to dovetail this work with community outreach related to the town's mosquito opt out plans. Phoebe requested each member send their mosquito opt out plan to her to share with Jeanette V.

Health Agents Report:

- Health Agent updates - Fieldwork continues at an accelerated pace. More than 60 applications since last CPHS mtg, including nineteen (19) Title 5 Inspections, ten (10) Soil Evaluation/ Perc. Tests, seven (7) septic designs, wells, food, rec. camps and campgrounds.
- ServSafe Training - A ServSafe training was offered to the public via three evening Zoom sessions and an in-person training on 6/24 for Allergens Awareness & First Aid/Narcan/Choke Saver trainings and the ServSafe exam. Twenty four people were trained.
- New Inspection Software - WinWam has been ordered and is currently being installed. Facility information is being migrated from our existing permitting software database. Separate from the permit software, this will be used by the Health Agents for inspections, including, food, pools, bathing beaches, and recreational camps for children. We look forward to sharing data gathered with this program with the Board. It will also generate the reports that are sent to BOHs and attached to permits in the permitting software. Randy announced that in late July he would be hosting a workshop for BOH members/clerks/town administrators on how to use the permitting software to see what is happening in your town.

FRCOG Fiscal Report: Phoebe shared information about the recently received Public Health Excellence (PHE) grant, a new opportunity for epidemiological, nursing, and CHW funding.

- Under the PHE Grant, our District has proposed to increase housing work, create a combined Health Director/Agent, hire a second full time public health nurse, reorganize EDS plan involvement, increase age friendly work, and increase part time HA by 0.33 FTE to full time. Hiring for the second Public Health Nurse is underway, with a second day of interviews coming Monday. The position description for the HealthDirector/Agent is

under development. Under this grant, once required, we would need to meet the workforce credential req'mts in all towns; consider enhancements to our governance structure (e.g., modify or improve structure); and submit reqd. reporting to DPH.

- There is a [new grant opportunity](#) for local support for COVID-19 case investigation & tracing, with allowable expenses for: epidemiologists (to analyze data and/or contact tracing), public health nurses (if your town does not have one, and hires 3 epis first) and community health workers to connect people to supportive services. Grant applications are due by July 1. Carolyn N shared that she is working with Montague, Sunderland, and Greenfield to submit an application. Members had a robust discussion of whether we should apply, with the final consensus that having an epidemiologist half time to analyze all the data we are gathering about our communities to help us better understand community needs would be good. A motion was made by Nina M, and seconded by Marti TF, to apply for this grant for the epidemiologist at a minimum. Passed unanimously.

Questions/Discussion: July meeting will be in person at FRCOG/FRTC, for those who would like, with remote participation also available. Dinner will be served.

Hyperlinks to documents shared at this meeting:

- **[CPHS Oversight Board Minutes 2021.5.27](#)**
- **[CPHSOvBrd Agenda_2021.06.24](#)**
- **[RFR 223127 Local health support for COVID-19 case investigation and contact tracing](#)**
- **[2021 rankings slideshow](#)**
- **[GRANT OVERVIEWS](#)**
- **[Anaplasmosis cases in CPHS District Jan to June 21](#)**
- **[Lyme Disease Cases in CPHS district Jan to June 21](#)**
- **<https://www.mass.gov/service-details/anaplasmosis-hga>**
- **[MDPH-syndromic-tickborne-external-report-April-2021](#)**
- **[Tick Smart Lesson Video](#)**