



CPHS Oversight Board Meeting Minutes – Sept. 28, 2023 Mohawk Trail School Library

Public Health

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Cooperative Public Health Service

Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Member Attendance:

Ashfield	Caroline White	Hawley-	Hussain Hamdan
Bernardston-	absent	Heath-	Sheila Litchfield
Buckland-	Carmela Lanza-Weil	Leyden-	Beth Kuzdeba
Charlemont-	Doug Telling, Mae Tanner	Monroe-	absent
Colrain-	Nina Martin-Anzuoni	Northfield-	Ali Wahlstom
Conway-	Kat Llamas, Jackie Choate	Rowe-	Herb Butkze, Kathleen Atwood
Erving-	absent	Shelburne-	absent
Gill-	absent		

Staff Attendance: Randy Crochier, Liz Jacobson-Carroll, Maureen O'Reilly, Kurt Schellenberg, Phoebe Walker, Jasmine Ward, Lisa White

Agenda Item(s)

- Introductions & Town Updates

Staff members – including new inspector Jasmine Ward -- introduced themselves and summarized their roles. Various members described ways that town libraries have enhanced the work of BOHs by: facilitating introductions between new residents/patrons and BOH (Rowe); displaying and distributing flyers; and assisting in the coordinating of services to homebound residents. Further, libraries are increasingly hosting periodic clinics and workshops, often serving as a CPHS/BOH home-base during annual or special town-wide events.

- Approve Meeting Minutes

With a motion by Telling seconded by Martin-Anzuoni, the minutes of the July 27, 2023 meeting were approved unanimously.

- Updating BOH Handbooks & Oversight Board Contact List

Jacobson-Carroll distributed updated BOH handbooks to members from several towns, referencing revised contents. She distributed updated CPHS OB contact lists, and attendees provided corrections/additions in real time.

- Public Health Nurse Update

L. White reminded attendees of the availability of Meg Ryan to offer SHINE counseling at town libraries, especially during the Medicare open-enrollment period. She spoke of the CDC's Bridge program to promote access to flu and COVID vaccination by un/under-insured populations. She and Ryan, in addition

to serving residents through their own small clinics and home visits, assist people with online registration for appointments at the larger state-funded clinics taking place across the county this fall. She summarized CDC guidance regarding the latest COVID shot, and shared information on infection levels and monitoring in the area. White announced that FRCOG is now independently licensed by the state to distribute naloxone, so no longer needs the assistance of the Opioid Task Force to do so.

- Fall Flu and COVID Vaccine Clinics

O'Reilly emphasized the differences between the small clinics organized and run by CPHS public health nurses (who will administer the vaccines), and the larger ones that FRCOG has organized with various community hosts like schools and senior center, but which are run by Cataldo Ambulance (who will administer the vaccines). She stressed the necessity of pre-registration for the latter, in particular, as the availability of walk-in appointments will be more limited at this series of clinics than at those of the past.

- Board of Health Policy Discussion – Local Body Art Regulations

Crochier explained that local BOHs have the ability to issue regulations regarding public health concerns that the State has not addressed, and to issue regulations that are more stringent than the minimum standards regulated by the State. For example, MA has not issued private well regulations, but CPHS has done so. And MA has not issued body art regulations, but BOHs are beginning to do so. He emphasized that the best time for BOHs to develop any regulation is *before* it is needed, and spoke of the benefits of the Oversight Board developing templates so that individual BOHs can adopt similar regulations. There was discussion of the process by which towns would do so.

Dupras and Ward provided additional context in which the oversight board may develop a body art regulations template. Their presentation included an overview of what body art is defined as, and referenced: the National Environmental Health Association template; the fact that many MA towns have passed regulations; the holding of a public hearing as a “best practice”; required newspaper postings; common practitioner and facility requirements; and the use of variances. There was discussion of the content and availability of a “skin course”, and what constitutes an apprenticeship. Crochier explained that most body art practitioners are in favor of regulation.

- Opioid Settlement Discussion

Walker explained her proposal for towns to pool settlement funds toward sub-regional projects. A regional school district could use pooled funds to develop curriculum or provide mental health counseling, for example. Multiple towns could contribute to the cost of installing naloxboxes at particular locations frequented by residents of all of them. There was discussion of funding being dispersed to select boards, the importance of BOH and BOS communication, and the allowable uses of the funds (for the purpose of preventing and alleviating suffering). Walker will begin planning how to gather impact information from the public.

Walker reviewed statistics regarding completion of the MA Community Health Equity Survey, and asked attendees to encourage additional residents to complete it.

- Next Meetings:

- October 26 in-person at Transit Center
- November 30 on Zoom – current plan: in-person meetings during daylight savings, online in the winter.

- December budget meeting requires a robust quorum – meet on the 21st (third Thursday) online.
Hold January 18th (also third Thursday, due to FRCOG Council budget vote on 1/25)

On a motion by Telling, seconded by Martin-Anzuoni, and approved unanimously, the meeting adjourned at 7:04 PM.

Documents Viewed or Referenced:

CPHSOvBrd Agenda_2023.09.28

CPHS OB Meeting Minutes_2023.09.87 DRAFT

CPHS Oversight Board Handbook, revised for Fall 2023

CHES Monitoring Report_Franklin Co_9.25.23 rev

North-County-Vaccination-Clinics-Flyer-September-2023

West-County-Vaccination-Clinics-Flyer-September-2023-v2

Body Art PP for CPHS mtg

LPHI JobAid_BodyArt