



CPHS Oversight Board

Online Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2023

Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Cooperative Public Health Service
Franklin Regional Council of Governments

Member Attendance:

Ashfield	Caroline White	Gill-	Ray Purington
Bernardston-	Barbara Killeen, Trish Earl	Hawley-	Hussain Hamdan
Buckland-	Carmela Lanza-Weil	Heath-	Elissa Viarengo, Susan Gruen
Charlemont-	Mae Tanner, Doug Telling	Leyden-	Beth Kuzdeba
Colrain-	absent	Monroe-	absent
Conway-	Kat Llamas, Emily Sweet	Northfield-	absent
Erving-	Jackie Choate	Rowe-	Herb Butzke
	absent	Shelburne-	Fritz Vohr

CPHS Staff Attendance: Randy Crochier, Meg Ryan, Kurt Schellenberg, Lisa White

Other Public Health Staff Attendance: Claudia Sarti (EFHD and Ashfield), Carl Nelke (Conway and Ashfield)

FRCOG staff attendance: Phoebe Walker

DPH and BME also attended with five or six people.

Agenda Item(s)

Report by DPH and BME Associates of the CPHS Capacity Assessment Resource Toolkit (CART).

Walker presented briefly on the context of the capacity assessment as part of the modernization of the local public health system in MA, and as a requirement of the Public Health Excellence grant program. All towns in Franklin County are participating in meeting like this.

Members then listened to a presentation about the results of the three-phase capacity assessment that was conducted this fall through surveys and document requests to BOH members, health agents, and nurses in all 15 towns. There was discussion about the following aspects of the report:

- Vohr: lots of data, well presented but overwhelming all at once.
- Lanza-Weil: Inappropriateness of using per capita expenses in a small rural area. BME agreed that this is not a helpful measure in towns like ours and said they would look into population density, road mileage, etc. as better measures.
- Telling: The fact that many of the laws on the books that were used to create the rubric are outdated and need cleaning up. Walker agreed and said the SAPHE 2.0 bill is first step, and reminded people to advocate for it.

- White and Gruen: more clarity on what is required of local board of health members vs. staff and what barriers members face to attaining training. Walker responded to White that for now, Foundations of LPH course and ICS/NIMs, as well as the racial equity training that DPH is hosting are all that is required.

Finally, the group convened separately without DPH to debrief the presentation. Members requested a “translation” presentation to make it clearer what the report said and what options are for responding to any of the challenges identified in it. Walker/Crochier will prepare for next meeting.

Documents Viewed or Referenced:

- CPHSOvBrd Agenda_2023.3.27
- CART Report
- Context Slides.

DRAFT