

**BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTE SUMMARY**

June 11, 2014
3:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Jeff Burrows
Paul Carlson
Dr. Wayne Chilcote
Renaë Harding
Dr. Michael Turner

STAFF PRESENT:

Chris Taggart, Minutes
John Palacio RCEH
Dan Hooten RCEH
Carol Calderwood
Judy Griffin, PHN

Staff absent:

Guests Present: Joni and JT Montgomery.

May 14, 2014 draft minutes:

Paul made a motion to approve the May 14, 2014 minutes as read. Renaë seconded the motion. All voted “aye”. (5-0)

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Health Officer: Carol Calderwood

All is pretty quiet. The monitoring of the flu is over, no tick fever and all is going very well.

Public Health Nurse: Judy Griffin

Handed out a report from LuAnn with water safety project and monthly stats. She thanked the Board of Health for their support of applying for the grant, which her office did receive. They will receive \$15,000 and then an additional \$10,000 at the end of the fiscal year. She will be attending a grant class in the fall to learn more.

Judy then spoke about the Public Health Water Safety Project. Last year there was a fatality on the river, near the Supply Ditch comes off the river near Corvallis. This incident brought up a lot of public concerns as many people have almost been hurt in this same area. One of the safety issues include that there was no signage allowing people to get through there. The Public Health office paid for the EMT signage to be put up. Her office also conducted a life jacket campaign and a water safety class was held on May 01, 2014. There were 10 free life jackets issued via Bob Wards. Her office is really trying to get the word out about water safety.

Judy then stated that Jean Mathews is working on a recreational grant for walking paths and bike ways. There was a meeting last Friday and the proposed designs include paths down at River Park which will

encourage people to get out and walk and ride. Also trying to work with Doctors to prescribe physical fitness prescriptions, so to speak.

Mick asked if there is any word on the cock roach issue. Judy said she has not heard anything at all, and hopefully it is taken care of. Carol will call and verify.

Mick asked about the women's health clinic. Judy said it is open every Friday and the first Mondays of each month. All employees are volunteers. Mick asked what about non volunteer services and supplies. Judy was not sure but she sure can find out. Thinks it's a sliding scale.

Mick asked if the Public Health office is still seeing people due to the closure of Florence doctor's office. Carol explained that it is going well and yes she is still seeing some people. The fall out was not as severe as they anticipated. Discussions ensued.

RCEH: John Palacio

John handed out his May monthly stats sheet. The numbers have gone up a lot since the previous month. The office is steadily busy. Subdivisions are ramping up a bit and groundwater monitoring's are about cut in half due to water levels. Sonia, the new office manager, will be attending Helena tomorrow to learn about the Radon program. Dan is attending a sanitarian's conference to learn about zoning, covenants, etc.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on 875 Bowman Road: Dan Hooten

Dan said he inspected the site yesterday and the water was 2 inches below the lid. Jeff asked if there is any evidence of overflow. Dan said he has not seen nor can he locate evidence of overflow. He does have old pictures which does shows an overflow. He thinks the occupants are really watching their water usage to keep water levels in the tank low.

Wayne asked if Dan thinks the tank is intact. Dan said he thinks the tank is an open bottom tank and has a seepage bottom.

Jeff said he continually asks the County Attorney's office asked about this situation. The owner is in the Navy and is not servable, but it does not sound like that was going to be an issue pertaining to schedule the hearing. Ravalli County is still waiting to hear back from Beaverhead County Attorney at this time to schedule the hearing.

Wayne asked if it would be appropriate for one of the County Attorney's to confirm if the owner is in fact at sea.

Jeff read a copy of the email handed to him by JT Montgomery, received from Bill Fulbright, dated June 05, 2014

Joni Montgomery said this is not a safe situation and why can't the house be condemned. The house does not have a functioning system and is inhabitable.

Judy handed out the state statute 50-2-116, pertaining to the Board of Health's duties.

Mick said the County Attorney's office is the enforcement office.

Renaë asked why the County employee who lives there is not being held accountable for the situation. Dan explained that the law requires that the County to go after the property owner. Jeff read the actual complaint filed with the County Attorney's office.

Mick asked if there is anything the Board of Health can do to speed this process up. Dan said if the Board made some sort of resolution pertaining to the regulations in wastewater treatment, stating that the person residing at the site is responsible, that could be an option, but does take time and County Attorney review as well.

Paul asked Dan if there has been evidence presented that effluent has been outside the tank. Dan said he has pictures from within the last 2 years but nothing within last 6 months. John said they could provide some sort of mechanism be placed over the tank lid to prevent tampering.

Judy handed out state statute of the local public health officer 50-2-118, which allows Carol to take some sort of action.

The Board asked that Jeff get clarification on the following:

1. June 05, 2014 B. Fulbright email: two owners or one owner.
2. Verify actual ownership of the property.
3. Ask about placing some sort of non-tampering mechanism on the tank lid.
4. Obtain the point of contact with Beaverhead County.

Jeff will try and obtain the requested information before the next meeting and would email out answers when they are received.

Renaë asked if they, the occupants, are reducing the amount of water they are using, what about the septicity within the tank itself, the nitrates and BOD's, which would be needed in order to properly process the solids.

Wayne asked if it is feasible to monitor the nitrates or bacteria within the tank. Renaë explained the effluent could be tested as is any public or semi-public lagoon type system, which testing is required by law.

Dan explained that since the time of the original complaint, the occupants are making accommodations in order to keep the septic system in compliant working condition. Jeff asked is this a public health and safety issue or not. Dan said no not at this time and referring back to Renaë's question, BOD's and nitrates are needed and if the system was in complete failure there would be a flume of pollution to the ground which also is against the law.

Chris will email Board a copy of the filed complaint.

NEW BUSINESS:

§ 50-2-116 Powers and Duties of local Boards of Health – Public Health Nurse (Judy)

Judy just wanted to hand this information out after the last Board meeting. She also referred to the 2004 Local Boards of Health Policies and Practices In Montana and the Nation. Chris will scan this document and email out to Board members.

She asked if someone from the State could come and do a presentation to this Board. Jeff agreed that that is a good idea and will ask MACO if they have someone to come make a presentation to this Board.

Chris to email out by-laws to Board members, place them on the website and report back next month.

OTHER BUSINESS: none.

PUBLIC COMMENT: none.

NEXT MEETING: July 09, 2014

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Paul made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:23 PM. Renae seconded the motion. All voted "aye". (5-0)