



Board of Health Meeting

Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Remote Only

Agenda

Pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, the meeting and public hearing will be conducted with remote opportunities for participation. Remote participation and access methods include:

ACCESS INFORMATION:

- A. This meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 7:00PM. Location: Remote Only
 - B. The meeting will be televised through WCATV (Watertown Cable Access Television): <http://vodwcatv.org/CablecastPublicSite/watch-now?site=3>
 - C. Public may comment through email: amyers@watertown-ma.gov
 - D. Join Zoom Meeting
<https://watertown-ma.zoom.us/j/83188312663>
Meeting ID: 831 8831 2663
 - E. Please Visit the Board of Health Website here: <https://www.watertown-ma.gov/176/Board-of-Health>
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- 1. Call to Order
- 2. Acceptance of Minutes
 - A. Review of Draft Minutes of January 15th, 2025 & February 12th, 2025
- 3. Public Comment (open to public offer input on public health matters)
- 4. Vote to appoint new Regional Tobacco Inspector- Reilly Ellis
- 5. Vote on Dangerous Dog Determination and if deemed dangerous, place restrictions
- 6. Request for Hearing- 25 Beechwood Rd.
 - a. Open Hearing
 - b. Hearing
 - c. Close Hearing
- 7. Department Updates
 - a. General Updates
 - b. Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Update
- 8. Items that could not be anticipated before meeting/future meetings

9. Next meeting
10. Adjournment

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
REMOTE ONLY
MINUTES
Wednesday January 15, 2025 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Richard Arnold, Chairperson, Kim Netter

Staff: Abbey Myers, Acting Director of Health, Maureen Foley, Clerk Officer
In attendance

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Arnold called the meeting to order 7:04 pm

Minutes

Minutes were approved for November 20, 2024
(Arnold, Netter) (2,0)
Roll Call

Public Comment

No Public Comments

Department Update

1. Drafted Body Works Regulations and they are being reviewed by WPD. Then they will be moved on to legal. Health Department plans on having a Public Hearing in May 2025.
2. Y/E Wrap Up:
 - A. Full Staff
 - B. Complaints in Open Gov.
 1. 143 Rodents, 76 Housing, 49 Nuisance, 11 Noise, 9 Animal Control, 6 Food
 - C. Complaints on See Click Fix
 1. 49 Environmental, 34 Animal, 123 Noise, 6 Food, 108 Rodent, 23 Housing, 28 Nuisance
 - D. Permits Issued:
 1. 201 Food, 50 Biosafety, 12 Body Art
 2. All Food Establishments have been inspected
 - E. 13 Flu Clinics plus home visits.
 - F. Animal Control:
 1. 1 rabies clinic
 2. 3 cruelty cases
 3. Community outreach
 4. 45 domestic animals in ACOs control
 5. 66 injured wildlife
 - G. Community outreach to educate the public
 1. Rodents
 2. Insect transmitted viruses and diseases

- H. Dumpster Regulations – reviewed
- I. Environmental Sampling
- J. New member of the BOH has not been confirmed as of this point in time but should be attending February's meeting.
- K. Its Richard Arnolds last meeting and Abbey Myers thanked him for his service all these years. Kim Netter stated she was happy to serve on the BOH with him for the last year.

Next Meeting

February 19, 2025

Adjourn:

Adjourned the meeting at 7:34 PM
(Arnold, Netter) (2,0)
Roll Call

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
REMOTE ONLY
MINUTES
Wednesday February 12, 2025 at 7:00 pm
Dangerous Dog Hearing

PRESENT: Dr. Dominic Amirtharaj, Kim Netter

Staff: Abbey Myers, Acting Director of Health, Maureen Foley, Clerk Officer

In attendance: Dan Delpapa, Elaine Maffeo, Mitchell Maffeo

CALL TO ORDER: Abbey Myers called the meeting to order 7:03 pm

Dangerous Dog Hearing

Name of dog is Penny, Female Lab mix, 24 Bradford Road

Ms. Myers stated the owner of Penny, Lauren Sampson was contacted three times via mail and constable about this hearing. The bite incident happened on January 14, 2025 when Penny broke off from her tether. Bernard was bitten on the rear quarter of his body and received surgery. The owner of Bernard, Elaine Maffeo was also hurt.

Ms. Myers shared a power point presentation explaining the qualifications of how a dangerous dog is determined. The known facts about the two dogs interaction and possible outcomes determined by the BOH.

Dr. Amirtharaj asked about the durability of the tether. Per Ms. Myers, there is no information about tether.

Ms. Maffeo gave her testimony; She stated the dog attach was unprovoked and Penny attached to Bernard. Lauren Sampson took a couple of minutes to release her dog from Bernard. Ms. Maffeo stated Ms. Sampson did not have full control of her dog. Ms. Maffeo stated this event was very traumatizing and she was happy her small child was not on the walk with her. Penny has access to the driveway and that is where she came from. She stated Lauren Sampson was not sympathetic. Mr. Maffeo stated his wife walks Bernard daily on Bradford.

Ms. Netter asked if Bernard and Penny have interacted with each other in the past. Ms. Maffeo stated the dogs have not seen each other before. Bernards vet stated Penny's last vet was in Texas.

Ms. Maffeo asked if the dog is deemed dangerous, is the owner of the unit and the dog owner informed? Ms. Myers stated if the owner of Penny does not comply with the orders determined by the BOH, then the case goes to court.

Ms. Myers stated the Animal Control officer spoke with Ms. Sampson and stated she was defiant but agreed to a 10-day quarantine. There is no history of Penny in Massachusetts.

The BOH will make a determination at next week's scheduled meeting on February 19, 2025.

The hearing is closed at 7:37 PM

Next Meeting

February 19, 2025

Adjourn:

Adjourned the meeting at 7:37 PM