

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
REMOTE ONLY
MINUTES
Wednesday October 22, 2025 at 7:00 pm**

PRESENT: Dr. Dominic Amirtharaj, Jessica Malenfant

Staff: Abbey Myers, Director of Public Health, Reilly Ellis, Regional Tobacco Collaborative Coordinator

In attendance: Camil Sayegh, Alberta Zoummar, Kevin DePalma, Divya Krishnamurthy, Ruiben Feng, Kevin Quigley, Mizanur Rahman

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Amirtharaj called the meeting to order 7:05 pm

Minutes

Minutes for August 20th, 2025 were tabled until next meeting. Minutes for September 17th, 2025, were approved.

Dr. Dr. Amirtharaj gave motion to approve minutes for September 17th, 2025.

(Amirtharaj, Malenfant) (2,0)

Roll Call

Public Comment

No public comment

Review of Permit applications for:

Psivant Therapeutics Inc. – 66 Galen St.

Camil Sayegh, Chief Science Officer, VP Bio Discovery gave a presentation about the lab's activities and safety precautions. Dr. Amirtharaj confirmed they submitted their missing documentation.

Dr. Amirtharaj gave motion to approve.

(Amirtharaj, Malenfant) (2,0)

Roll Call

ChemPartners- 480 Arsenal Suite 160

Kevin DePalma, Senior Research Associate, gave a short presentation of the lab's activities. ChemPartner is a CRO. The vivarium will be operable by the end of the year. It is managed and maintained by CRADL. Dr. Amirtharaj confirmed they submitted their missing documentation.

Dr. Amirtharaj gave motion to approve.

(Amirtharaj, Malenfant) (2,0)

Roll Call

Tobacco Hearing

Reilly Ellis, Regional Tobacco Collaborative Coordinator, stated on Monday September 29th, Independence Z sold Zyn to an underage buyer. It was stated that the salesperson did not ask the buyers age or ask for identification.

Alberta Zoummar, owner of Independence Z, is not disputing the sale to a minor. She is disputing the \$1000.00 fine and 3-day suspension. Reilly Ellis stated that the BOH has limited power in this situation as it was a state violation. Independence Z has now put software on their computers where it pops up asking to scan ID for tobacco and nicotine.

Determination on Tobacco Violation

The Board determined that a violation did occur and the violation was upheld.

Dr. Amirtharaj gave motion to uphold violation.

(Amirtharaj, Malenfant) (2,0)

Roll Call

Review of Tobacco Regulations

Abbey Myers went over the FY 2025 Sample Regulation Restricting the Sale of Nicotine Products checklist for policy decisions. Reilly Ellis was on hand to answer any technical questions. Discussion on potentially taking part in Nicotine Free Generation. Board went over checklist and Abbey will use checklist to draft regulations.

Staffing and Department Updates

- Department had conducted 2nd round interviews for Health Officer position. Awaiting approval from City Manager.
- Regional mosquito testing concluded in early October. Watertown is seeing a decrease in mosquito activity.
- The start of the renewal period, staff is reviewing renewals for food, tobacco, and other permits that are coming in.
- Created a group for bodywork inspections, hoping to have inspections soon.
- Potential training to send staff member for biosafety.
- Last CPR class for the year is full.
- Next sharps collection day is December 6th 2025.

Remaining Flu Clinics located at the Watertown Free Public Library

- Tuesday, October 28th from 3-5:30
- Saturday November 8th from 10-1
- Saturday November 15th from 10-1

Next Meeting

Scheduled for November 19, 2025

Adjournment

Adjourned at 8:12 PM