

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

MINUTES

The Watertown Board of Health has scheduled a REMOTE ZOOM meeting on
Wednesday June 9, 2021 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Dr. John Straus, Chairperson and Richard Arnold,

Staff: Larry Ramdin, Director of Public Health,

In attendance Heather McManus, BioSafety Committee, George Kenty, Esteban Terzo, Tom Fenton, Jim Lanter

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Straus called the meeting to order 7:03 pm

Minutes

Minutes were approved for May 19, 2021 meeting,
Motions granted (Arnold Straus) 2-0.
All in favor.

Public Comment

No Public Comment

Watertown Biosafety Committee (WBSC)

Heather McManus, Chair, WBSC Biosafety Committee (WBSC), indicated that the WBSC reviewed the application for a permit and approval of the application with conditions. WBSC Chair indicated all conditions have been met and recommended approval of **Arkuda Therapeutics Permit Application**. Jim Lanter, Senior Director of Therapeutics gave a short synopsis of Arkuda's activities.

Heather McManus, Chair, WBSC Biosafety Committee, indicated that the WBSC reviewed the application for a permit and approval of the application with conditions. WBSC Chair indicated all conditions have been met and recommended approval of **Riparian Pharmaceuticals Permit Application**. Dr. McManus gave a short synopsis of Riparian's activities.

Heather McManus, Chair, WBSC Biosafety Committee, indicated that the WBSC reviewed the application for a permit and approval of the application with conditions. WBSC Chair indicated all conditions have been met and recommended approval of **Eloxx Pharmaceuticals Permit Application**. Esteban Terzo gave a short synopsis of Eloxx's activities.

Heather McManus, Chair, WBSC Biosafety Committee, indicated that the WBSC reviewed the application for a permit and approval of the application with conditions. WBSC Chair indicated all conditions have been met and recommended approval of **Xibus Systems Inc Permit Application**. Mattias Oberli PhD, Director of Chemistry and Biology gave a short synopsis of Xibus's activities.

The BOH was informed that all conditions have been met and Dr. McManus recommended approval of the application.

Heather McManus, Chair, WBSC Biosafety Committee, indicated that the WBSC reviewed the application for a permit and approval of the application with conditions. WBSC Chair indicated all conditions have been met and recommended approval of **Enanta Pharmaceuticals Permit Application**. Dr. McManus gave a short synopsis of Enanta's activities. All the recommendations have been met.

Richard Arnold made a motion to accept the recommendations of five (5) applications. Motions granted (Arnold, Straus) 3-0. All in favor.

Heather McManus, Chair, WBSC Biosafety Committee, indicated and reviewed the application for registration and recommended registration of **Explora BioLabs**. Tom Fenton gave a short synopsis of Explora's activities. Explora provides lab and vivarium space with use of mice and rats to clients. As a condition to the acceptance of the biosafety permit; recommend permit approval with the condition that Explora shall ensure that individual clients establish IBC's, and shall provide information on the make-up, qualifications of, and minutes of IBC meetings to the Health Department for transmission for review and approval by the WBSC. All the recommendations have been met.

Richard Arnold made a motion to accept the recommendation of **Explora BioLabs** application. Motions granted (Arnold, Straus) 3-0. All in favor.

COVID 19 Updates

Watertown has had zero cases of COVID in the last week. Per the state, if a person is exposed to a person with COVID while outside, there is no quarantining or contact tracing. Town Hall will be opening to the public in the month of June. An unvaccinated resident or customer must wear a mask in the building.

Public meeting laws are in the State legislature in terms of in person or continue to have remote meeting.

Staffing and Department Update

We have received two (2) applications for Chief Environmental Health Officer. The position is posted in several online platforms.

Larry stated he wants to hold a thank you event for all the nurses, master's students and contract tracers who volunteered with the clinics and other duties through the pandemic.

Public Comment

A resident asked if there were increases to next year's budget for the Health Department. Larry stated many of the expenses and contracts have increased for the next year. The budget has been increased by 2%.

Next Meeting

Scheduled for Wednesday July 21, 2021 remotely

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Larry Ramdin, Director of Public Health