



Watertown City Council

**Board of Health Meeting
Wednesday, June 21, 2023 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, June 21, 2023 at 7:00 PM. Location: Remote Only
- B. The Public may join the virtual meeting online: :
<https://watertownma.zoom.us/j/83188312663>
- C. Public may join the virtual meeting audio only by phone: (877) 853-5257 or (888) 475-4499 (Toll Free) and enter Webinar ID: : 831 8831 2663
- D. Public may comment through email: iramdin@watertown-ma.gov
- 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. April 19, 2023
 - B. May 3, 2023
 - 3. Public Comment
 - 4. WBSC Permitting Recommendations and Information on Review Process
 - A. Digital Biology Inc. – 313 Pleasant Street
 - B. AvenCell Therapeutics – 500 Forge Road
 - C. Corner Therapeutics – 300 North Beacon Street #202 & 204
 - D. Orna Therapeutics – 500 Forge Road
 - 5. Health Department Permitted
 - A. Leyden Labs – 201 Dexter Avenue added more lab space temporarily.
No vote required Advisory Only
 - 6. Staffing and Department Updates

A. Activity and Staffing Updates

7. Items that could not be anticipated before meeting
8. Adjournment

ELECTED OFFICIALS

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

MINUTES

**The Watertown Board of Health has scheduled a REMOTE ZOOM meeting on
Wednesday April 19, 2023 at 7:00 pm**

PRESENT: Barbara Beck, Richard Arnold and Dr. Dominic Amirtharaj

Staff: Larry Ramdin, Director of Health

In attendance: Corey Martin, Julie Morrison, Stacey Gearin, Eric White

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

Minutes

Minutes were approved for March 16, 2023 meeting,

Motions granted (Amirtharaj, Arnold) 3-0.

All in favor.

Roll Call

Public Comment

No Public Comments

WBSC Permitting Recommendations

Satellite Biosciences, Inc. – 580 Pleasant Street

Stacey Gearin, Lab Manager gave a short presentation of the company's activities.

The Board of Health asked questions about Satellite's processes and materials and were satisfied with the responses.

C2i Genomics – 313 Pleasant Street 4 East

Eric White, Vice President of Lab Operations gave a short presentation of the company's activities.

The Board of Health asked questions about C2i's processes and materials and were satisfied with the responses.

Dr. Amirtharaj and second by Mr. Arnold, made a motion to approve the applications on recommendation of WBSC

(Amirtharaj Arnold) 3-0.

All in favor.

Roll Call

WBSC was permitted, presentation to Board of Health

ALS Therapy Development Institute – 155 Arlington Street

added more lab space temporarily. No vote required Advisory Only

Tobacco regulations update

The Health Director discussed the state's inconsistencies between the state regulations and the Watertown BOH regulations. State regulations requires tobacco sales suspension of 1-30 days with the first illegal sale to a minor. The BOH is requested to set tobacco sales suspensions consistent with other communities in the tobacco coalition. The BOH had a discussion and will make a decision at a later date.

COVID Related Matters

Federal Government COVID rules expire on May 11, 2023. There are new guidelines for COVID 19 Bivalent vaccines for those 65 years and older. BOH requested COVID updates be removed from future agendas.

Staffing and Department Updates

The Health Director listed the staffs latest certifications.

Items that could not be anticipated before the meeting

The staff are inspecting dumpsters for violations. The state has issued a new Housing code as of April 1, 2023.

A Dangerous Dog Hearing needs to be scheduled for the week of April 30, 2023.

Adjourn:

Adjourned the meeting at 8:38 PM

Motions granted (Beck, Amirtharaj) 2-0.

All in favor.

Roll Call

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

MINUTES

The Watertown Board of Health has scheduled a REMOTE ZOOM meeting on
Wednesday May 3, 2023 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Richard Arnold and Dr. Dominic Amirtharaj

Staff: Larry Ramdin, Director of Health, Maureen Foley, Clerk, Samantha Gatchell, ACO

In attendance: Cathy Green, Samantha Barber, Christian Wedekind, Joshua Flax, Sadie MacIver, Jonathan Mitchell, Leila MacIver, Andrew Civetti, Codey Gillum, Lisa Feltner, Jacky Van Leeuen

CALL TO ORDER: Dr. Amirtharaj called the meeting to order 7:11 pm

Dangerous Dog Hearing

Name of dog is Rhea, White & Brown Bully Type Breed, 7 Oliver Road #1

Samantha Gatchell, ACO gave a presentation to the Board. Leila MacIver, owner of Rhea made a presentation to the Board on behalf of Rhea. Dr. Amirtharaj asked a question related to a dog park incident recently. Mr. Arnold asked about a veterinarian report but there were no details in the report, it was generic. Samantha Barber, owner of the dog on the leash gave a presentation of her experience that afternoon.

The Board stated they could make a decision at this meeting or wait until the next meeting to possibly deem the Dog Dangerous or not and the recommendations to keep residents and their pets safe. Leila MacIver stated she feels her dog is not dangerous. Sadie MacIver, Vet Tech stated she has a BS in Animal Science and has studied Canine Behavior. A dog can be provoked that humans do not recognize but unprovoked is uncommon. Samantha Gatchell, ACO stated Samantha Barber's dog has Leash Frustration and is receiving training from a behaviorist.

Mr. Arnold and second by Dr. Amirtharaj, made a motion to deem Rhea as a Dangerous Dog and must be muzzled and on a short leash (3') outside of the dwelling. Rhea can be unmuzzled in the fenced in backyard but must remain on the short leash. Rhea must be under the owner's control when outside of the dwelling.

(Arnold, Amirtharaj) 2-0.

All in favor.

Roll Call

Samantha Gatchell, ACO stated if there is a transfer of ownership, the new owner must understand Rhea is a Dangerous Dog.

Adjourn:

Adjourned the meeting at 7:51 PM

Environmental Health Program Activities April 2023

- L. Ramdin, A. Myers, L. Olsen , A. Khan attended the New England Food Show.
- Abbey Myers attended the NACCHO Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, Georgia.
- Increase social media presence, posting information on food, environmental health, rodents, and ACO related topics.
- Hoarding Task Force meeting attended by Health Department Staff.
- Continued weekly dumpster inspections have started, inspecting all food establishments as well as problem locations.
- Weekly surveillance of problem properties and or areas throughout town.
- Monitoring of rodent control plans for ongoing construction.
- Continued baiting throughout the City, including sewers.
- Pre-operational inspection of Olespana
- Seasonal pre-operational of Celebrity Pizza
- ACO Gatchell passed her Animal Control Academy midterm.
- ACO Gatchell rescued and transported wounded wildlife.

Activity	April Totals	Year to Date Totals
Food Inspections	14	35
Food Re-inspections	3	7
Mobile Food Vehicle Inspections	1	1
Temporary Food Inspections	0	0
Housing Inspections	5	23
Housing Re-inspections	5	11
Lead Determinations	0	1
Swimming Pool/Whirlpool Inspections*	0	8

Tanning Establishment Inspections		
Body Art Establishment Inspections	0	0
General Nuisance Inspections	5	22
Rodent Complaints	12	37
Administrative Order Letters	18	52
Administrative Hearings	0	0
Tickets	0	5
Court hearings/filings	0	1
Totals	63	203

Environmental Health Team report prepared by Abbey Myers, Chief Environmental Health Officer

Environmental Health Program Activities May 2023

- A. Myers completed ICS 400.
- A. Khan completed her Certified Food Protection Manager's certification.
- L. Ramdin, A. Myers, L. Olsen and A. Khan attended the MEHA Annual Seminar
- Staff attended 2 nights of Cambridge's Biosafety Forum.
- A. Myers, L. Olsen and A. Khan attended CPR Certification by S. Shen.
- S. Shen taught 2 CPR classes to the Public.
- Booked Rabies Clinic for June 24th, 2023, from 8:30-11:30 am.
- Increase social media presence, posting information on food, environmental health, rodents, and ACO related topics.
- Continued weekly dumpster inspections have started, inspecting food establishments as well as problem locations.
- Weekly surveillance of problem properties and or areas throughout town.
- Monitoring of rodent control plans for ongoing construction.
- Continued baiting throughout the City, including sewers.
- ACO Gatchell rescued and transported wounded wildlife.

Activity	April Totals	Year to Date Totals
Food Inspections	7	42
Food Re-inspections	3	10
Mobile Food Vehicle Inspections	2	3
Temporary Food Inspections	0	0
Housing Inspections	3	26
Housing Re-inspections	0	11
Lead Determinations	0	1
Swimming Pool/Whirlpool Inspections*	14	22

Tanning Establishment Inspections		
Body Art Establishment Inspections	6	6
General Nuisance Inspections	24	46
Rodent Complaints	11	48
Administrative Order Letters	12	64
Administrative Hearings	0	0
Tickets	0	5
Court hearings/filings	3	4
Totals	79	282

Environmental Health Team report prepared by Abbey Myers, Chief Environmental Health Officer