

## **Egremont Board of Health**

**Thursday July 13, 2017, 10:00 am, Egremont Town Hall**

**Board Members Present:** Charles Ogden, Dr. William Rose, Ellen Maggio

**Also Attending:** Jayne Smith/Health Agent, Zoe Hirsch, Chet Delany, Joyce Frater, George McGurn (part of meeting), Neil Fox (part of meeting).

**Recording:** Juliette Haas, Director

1) Chairman Ogden called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. The minutes from the June 29, 2017 meeting were reviewed, corrected and accepted.

2) **Anti Fracking Letter** Board is interested in signing a letter issued by MHOA in opposition of fracking and construction of gas pipelines in the state but wanted to know that since the deadline had passed if it is still an option. Juliette will check and report back at next meeting.

2) **Prospect Lake Campground/50 Prospect Lake Road/Continuing Odor Complaints A** summary of campground's 10 year old DEP mandated septic system was given as well as history of ongoing odor complaints from neighbor Zoe Hirsch at 46 Prospect Lake Road. When odor complaints in the past have been received they were forwarded to system operator Bill Ingram. Bill has informed the BoH that water sampling lab reports for the months of May and June demonstrated elevated BOD levels which could be a contributing factor to the odors. Bill has requested that his client, campground owner Jim Palmatier, hire an outside consultant to find the causes of the malfunction and odors. MassDEP, the permitting authority for the septic system, has been made aware of this problem and is monitoring the situation. Ms. Hirsch stated the odor problem has been ongoing since she moved into her home four years ago. She described the recent odor as an "extreme burn". She stated that in past years the odors came and went, but since the campground opened for the season this year there has been no relief. The consultant is touring the facility today with Bill Ingram and whether the owner will hire them has yet to be determined. Lake water samples have been submitted weekly to EBoH weekly showing e. coli levels well below the maximum advisable limits for swimming. Some of the questions that arose from the meeting were: is the system undersized?, what is causing the elevated BOD levels?, what is cause of odor?, does the system design include waste from a holding tank?, what is the current number of campsites and does it correspond with the system design and load? what day of the week are the water samples for swimming being taken? All present at the meeting were informed that the EBoH is investigating the situation and is working with MassDEP and the operator Bill Ingram.

3) Motion to continue the meeting to tomorrow at 10:00 am for further discussion and get any updates on the topic was made and seconded. Vote 3-0.

4) **WNV and EEE Weekly Surveillance Maps** Currently, most of state is in the "low risk" category for the West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis.

5) **4th Quarter Public Health Nurse Reports** Reports were handed out the board for their review.

6) **Styrofoam Use in Egremont Food Establishments** Item postponed until next meeting.

7) Meeting recessed at 11:15 am. Will re-convene Friday July 14, 2017 at 10:00 am.

**Egremont Board of Health**

**Reconvene meeting of July 13, 2017**

**Friday July 14, 2017, 10:00am, Egremont Town Hall**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Charles Ogden, Dr. William Rose, Ellen Maggio

**Others in Attendance:** Jayne Smith/Health Agent, Zoe Hirsch, Joyce Frater, Chet Delaney

**Recording:** Juliette Haas/Director

1) Charles Ogden reconvened meeting at 10:00 am.

2) Juliette read email received by Bill Ingram stating that a meeting consisting of himself, campground owner Jim Palmatier and a team from the consultant firm of Dick Prickett Consulting did take place yesterday at the campground. A proposal from the firm will be submitted to Mr. Palmatier awaiting his review and signature. An action to combat the immediate odor issue was to apply a product called "De-Sulph-A-Nator". If this product is to be used, all present felt guidance and approval should be given after a DEP and operator review. Juliette will convey this to those two parties and to speak or meet with the campground owner personally to make him aware of the board's involvement and concern. All parties will be kept informed of any new developments on the situation via email. Ms. Hirsch was encouraged to keep the BoH informed of any continuing odor complaints.

3) Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.

*Approved 7/27/2017  
JS Haas*