

Egremont Board of Health

Thursday, February 9, 2023, 10:00 am

Egremont Town Hall

Members Present: Charles Ogden, Chairman, Dr. William Rose (via Zoom), Ellen Maggio

Recording: Juliette Haas, Director

- 1) Chairman Ogden called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. He introduced members and staff present either in person or on Zoom and noted that the meeting was being recorded. The recording will be available on the town website. Motion made and seconded to adopt the meeting minutes from January 19, 2023 with modifications. **Vote taken: 3-0. Minutes adopted as modified.**

- 2) **COVID/Flu/RSV**

Berkshire County is currently in CDC green/low risk for COVID
Statewide 14-day % positivity/COVID: 9.37% (down from 13.32% from previous meeting)
Berkshire County 14-day % positivity/COVID: 9.05% (down from 10.8% from previous meeting)
Federal and state data is from reported PCR tests only. It does not include positive cases determined by home test kits. For this reason, member Rose feels BioDot data received from samples from the Pittsfield Wastewater Facility is more accurate in detecting local infection rates.
COVID home testing kits and masks are now being distributed at Town Hall and the Egremont Library. There are currently 6 cartons of home test kits remaining.
When the state rescinds the COVID Emergency Orders in late March, the board may consider purchasing COVID material (home test kits, masks, etc.) using funds from the EBOH budget.

- 3) **PFAS water sampling** The recent water sampling tests of the North Fire House, South Fire House and Highway Garage wells detected no amount of PFAS6 compounds. The Town Hall PFAS levels is probably an isolated occurrence which may have resulted from a practice that occurred before the town bought the building in the 1970s. Director Haas brought to the Board's attention the close distance between the Town Hall well and the town owned land which is being studied as an affordable housing site. If the town is to pursue this, Director Haas felt it would be prudent to drill a test well and perform PFAS testing beforehand.

- 4) **Short Term Rentals** A mailing list of approximately 60 Egremont short term rental properties has been created. The board drafted a letter which will be sent to those properties which speaks to local and state trash removal and recycling laws, hours of operation of the Transfer Station and will include a recycling educational flyer.

- 5) **Prospect Lake Campground** The owner of the property recently requested permit applications for the 2023 season. Director Haas relayed to the owner that since the site is currently under construction there is nothing yet to inspect and permit. In the past the BOH issued permits for a semi-public beach, solid waste hauler and campground at this location. In the future, they will still require a semi-public beach and solid waste hauler permit, but their food and campground permit will involve a higher level of inspection. Chairman Ogden requested Director Haas report at the next meeting when the last BOH permits were issued for this property.

- 6) **Portnoff/136 Egremont Plain Road** The board reviewed and approved the septic plans presented by Kelly, Granger, Parsons and Associates for an upgrade to the leach field. The 3-bedroom system had a

perc rate of 3 minutes per inch(mpi). Since estimated seasonal high groundwater (eshg) is at 86" no requests for a Local Upgrade Approval (LUA) were requested.

- 7) **Egremont Village Inn/The Barn** After a food service plan was submitted by Nick Keene, Director Haas issued a temporary food permit for the month of February which includes TO GO food service from the kitchen in the main house while The Barn kitchen is under construction. Mr. Keene was informed that before their annual food permit is issued the BOH must inspect and pass the new kitchen.
- 8) Meeting adjourned at 11:02 am. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 23rd at 11:00 AM

Juliette Haas
Approved
2/23/2023