

Acton Board of Health

Room 126, Acton Town Hall  
Acton, MA 01720

May 23, 2016

Members Present: Michael Kreuze -Chairman, William McInnis,  
Mark Conoby and Joanne Bissetta and

Staff Present: Sheryl Ball- Health Director

Other Present: Matthew Dow, Timothy Deschamps, Peggy Mikkola, Dan and Julie Rabideau

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m.

**Matthew Dow – Health Agent Appointment**

The Health has hired Matthew Dow to replace the vacant inspector position and seeks to appoint Mr. Dow as a Health Agent. Mr. Dow currently works for the Quabbin Regional Health Department and has many years of experience. The Board briefly discussed Mr. Dow's certifications. On a motion made by Mr. Conoby, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board appointed Mr. Dow as a Health Agent contingent on the duration of his employment with the Town of Acton.

**Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project Update – Timothy Deschamps**

Mr. Deschamps from Central Massachusetts Mosquito Control Project (CCMCP) was present before the Board to discuss the mosquito control measures in place as well as update the Board on new regulations and requirements. Mr. Deschamps stated that about 1 % of all residents are currently on the do not spray list. Mr. Deschamps stated that Acton is very active with numerous calls for spray with approximately 4,000 calls for treatment. Mr. Deschamps outlined a timeline of treatment as follows:

- Late March - larvicide program in wetlands and catch basins
- Spring/Summer – assessing and spraying as requested
- Fall - ditch cleaning
- Continuously submit mosquitoes to the DPH for disease testing

The Board discussed Mosquito Borne viruses as well as Tick borne diseases with Mr. Deschamps. Mr. Deschamps stated that CMMCP can offer additional services to help combat these diseases. Mr. Deschamps further stated that they attend Massachusetts Department of Public Health meetings to discuss these diseases and that the testing program will help identify problems pretty quickly. Mr. Deschamps also stated that they offer aerial wetland larvicide programs for approximately \$19/acre and offered to submit a quote to the Health Department for review. The Board thanked Mr. Deschamps for his update.

**Emergency Beaver Trapping Permit – Acton Water District**

A request has been made for an emergency permit for beaver trapping due to beaver activities on Acton Water District property in close proximity to the Clapp/Whitcomb well site located at 693/694 Mass. Ave. The Health Department has confirmed that in accordance with the Rules and Regulations that a threat to

Human Health and Safety will occur due to beaver or muskrat occupancy within proximity of a public water supply.

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board unanimously voted to approve a 10 day emergency permit, to the Acton Water District or its agent the right to use restricted traps and breach dams or dikes.

### **Variance – 17 Notre Dame Road**

The Health Department received a Building Permit application for a deck which proposed two helical metal posts within 10 feet of a leaching area from the property located at 17 Notre Dame Road. The owners are requesting a variance from Article 11-6.1.3 to allow the proposed setback to be 5'4" from the edge of the post to the leaching field. The Health Department recommends approval of the variance with the following conditions:

- Leaching area must be staked out prior to installation of footings
- Homeowner must acknowledge that the installation will be done at their own risk
- No heavy machinery shall be driven over any component of the septic system

On a motion made by Ms. Bissetta, seconded by Mr. McInnis, the Board unanimously approved a variance from Article 11-6.1.3 for the property located at 17 Notre Dame Road with the above noted conditions.

### **Minutes**

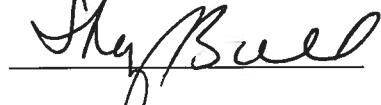
On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from February 22, 2016.

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Ms. Bissetta, the Board unanimously voted to approve the minutes from May 9, 2016.

### **Adjournment**

On a motion made by Mr. McInnis, seconded by Mr. Conoby, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sheryl Ball  
Acton Board of Health



Michael Kreuze -Chairman  
Acton Board of Health