

APPROVED

COHASSET BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES

DATE: WEDNESDAY APRIL 7, 2021

TIME: 6:30 P.M.

PLACE: ONLINE VIA ZOOM

Board Members Present:

Robin Lawrence, DDS, MPH, Chairman

Lynn Doxey, MPH, Vice Chair, Absent

Michael Pollastri, PhD

Recording Secretary:

Amy Davis

Public Health Director:

Pam Fahey, MPH, SE

Field Engineer

Jason Federico

Public Health Nurse:

Mary Goodwin, RN

6:30 P.M. Meeting called to order.

6:31 P.M. 48 Aaron River Road Septic Upgrade, Morse Engineering, I/A Technology, MicroFAST Treatment System, Nitrogen Sensitive Area

In attendance for this hearing: Paul Gunn, Morse Engineering

Material used for this agenda item:

- Application for Disposal System Construction Permit dated 3/16/2021.
- Septic System Design Plan, Morse Engineering, dated 3/16/2021, revised 4/5/2021 & 4/7/2021.
- Form 11 Soil Suitability Assessment for On-Site Sewage Disposal dated 2/24/2021.
- Percolation Test dated 2/24/2021.

Paul Gunn, Morse Engineering, reviewed the septic system design plan for 48 Aaron River Road with the Board. The property is a half-acre lot with a four-bedroom dwelling that abuts the Aaron River Reservoir. The existing septic system failed a Title 5 Inspection on 2/4/2021. Mr. Gunn is proposing to construct a four-bedroom capacity septic system consisting of a MicroFAST 0.5 DE-NITE Treatment System, a 1500 Gallon tank pump chamber, and 324 linear feet of Geo-Flow drip tubing. The proposed system will be in a nitrogen sensitive area and requires an innovative alternative system.

Public Comments:

Melody Maurer and Robert Deutsch, 70 Aaron River Road, have concerns regarding the proposed system. Mr. Deutsch would like to know what happens to the old system and does it pose any type of threat? Also, what happens to the proposed system if there is a power outage?

Mr. Federico explained the proposed system is sitting almost on top of the existing system. The installer will remove any components from the existing system that will be in the way of the proposed system. If the existing components are not in the way the installer will crush and fill the components with sand. Mr. Federico stated there would be no contamination from the existing system. Regarding a power outage when the proposed systems pump is on it runs the chamber down. There is a certain amount of storage in the chamber if the pump stopped running.

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MOTION: Dr. Lawrence moved to approve the septic upgrade at 48 Aaron River Road
SECONDED BY: Dr. Pollastri
VOTE: 2-0 MOTION CARRIED

6:45 P.M. **Set Next Meeting Date for April 28, 2021 at 6:30 P.M.**

6:57 P.M. **Chairperson's Report**

Dr. Lawrence sent out spread sheets to Ms. Fahey, Ms. Goodwin, and the Board members for discussion. Dr. Lawrence would like to have data available for staff regarding COVID vaccination Clinics, Flu Clinics, Food Vendors, etc. in case a resident called looking for information. This would also help with the annual report.

Pamela Fahey, Board of Health Director, has been sending he Board the following weekly reports:

Public Health Director Weekly Report

Week Ending April 2, 2021

COVID-19:

- Monday morning call with senior emergency management (EM) leadership. DPH call – Discussed that the UK variant is widespread in Massachusetts and one outbreak of Brazilian variant has been reported in Barnstable County. UK up to 50% more transmissible and Brazilian variant may be slightly more resistant to the vaccine. As the percentage of genetic sequencing of samples increases it will likely be revealed that these variants are more widespread. Federal strategy for vaccine is to prioritize pharmacies and Federally Qualified Health Centers in low-income cities.
- Reviewed COVID safety plans for:
 - A post-high school event at Sandy Beach on June 1st
 - Boy Scouts event
 - Youth Ambassador meetings
 - Discussed the conditions for a COVID safety plan for Cohasset theater group. They will issue a plan for review next week.
 - Let a family know that they could not have a wedding in their backyard for an event with greater than 25 people. Similar message for a family seeking a memorial service in their backyard. The town will not grant variances to the Massachusetts State Emergency Orders and guidance documents.
 - Spoke with a woman concerning a red-carpet event prior to the prom. She will prepare a COVID safety plan, however, the high school first needs to determine if and when a prom will take place. Prom guidance was released this week that limits indoor events to 100 people and CHS was expecting an attendance of 125.
 - Went up to Cohasset Fitness to speak to the manager. Told them that it is not acceptable to alert people on social media that they do not require masks since they are hidden on the second floor. Everyone inside needs to wear masks and left him with a copy of the guidance document.
 - Sent 2021 State COVID beach guidance to Sandy beach contacts.
- **NON-COVID-19:**
 - Met with Jason Federico and Kevin MacKinnon to discuss how to get Shawn Hardy moving on the Cook Estate project. A Weston & Sampson project manager with a relationship with Shawn reached

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out. Shawn fortunately sought help from Green Environmental and submitted a proposal for a hydro/geo site investigation. Kevin reviewed the plan and submitted comments so they can begin next week.

- Sent letter to Dan Coughlin on behalf of Evoke Wellness letting them know that the BOH approved their request to evaluate using the tight tank for reuse of irrigation water. They will inspect the tank annually in April and then submit the results to the BOH and request an extension annually, if needed, until they determine if the tank will be reused.
- Updated list of private wells in town.
- Permitted Mom-On-the-Go food truck prior to an event at Town Hall.
- BOH Meeting; reviewed irrigation well application for 191 Atlantic Avenue and reuse of tight tank at Evoke Wellness.
- Discussed 12 Lamberts Lane with Bob Egan since neighbors asked that I meet them to do an exterior inspection. A housing inspection report from me would likely accomplish little since a 3-year court case was settled finding that the occupant needs to vacate. The occupant, however, has not vacated and the lawyer that tried the case is going to court on Friday to file contempt of court.

Mary Goodwin, Public Health Nurse, has been sending the Board the following weekly reports:

PUBLIC HEALTH NURSE REPORT WEEK ENDING 4/2/21

Total Number of confirmed COVID 19 cases: 397

Total number of Probable cases: 78

Deaths: 4

Contacts traced: 370.

The Town's total two-week caseload is: 24.

The Town's two-week positive test rate is: 2.72% (1066 total tests)

The Town's current color code is yellow.

Investigation and Surveillance: Ongoing case investigations are initiated within 24 hours of notification of a confirmed case. Contact is made with all probable cases within 24 hours if possible. At this point Mary Whitley is available and has received Maven training. She is assisting with case follow up and doing most of the cases at this point.

Calls/Meetings: Weekly calls have been changed to every other Monday at 8:00 am – the Team consists of the Town Manager, Fire Chief, Police Chief, Emergency Manager, Health Agent, Public Health Nurse, HR Director, IT and Facilities Manager. The agenda is set by the Fire Chief and includes old business, new business and messaging. On Thursday, the call also includes School Superintendent, Elder Affairs, Procurement, and Recreation Department.

DPH call – every Tuesday and Friday

Mass DPH Maven updates – this call has been reduced to weekly on Tuesdays. Fridays have been added for questions only.

Vaccine Update:

Brown Bear Daycare – Received a call on Monday, 3/29 from the Director at Brown Bear Daycare informing me that an employee tested positive for Covid 19 and had worked during her infectious period. 22 close contacts were identified and quarantined. Cluster was sent to CTC for follow up.

Spoke with EEC Licensor – she will call facility to review reopening plans and arrange to do a virtual site visit.

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Osgood School with a confirmed case of Covid 19 who attended school while infectious. Worked with Kelli Gildea to identify close contacts. 23 students and staff were identified and quarantined.

Deer Hill School also with a confirmed case of Covid 19 who attended school while infectious. Worked with Katie Bulman – 18 students and staff placed in quarantine.

Community Tracing Collaborative (CTC)

The CTC managed by Partner's in Health is now fully operational and accepting cases. CTC has cut back on their work force as the numbers decline in the State. They will be working closely with colleges, universities, boarding schools, and local schools. CTC now reports that they are able to contact about 80% of cases within 24 hours.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Goodwin

MOTION BY:
SECONDED BY:
VOTE:

Dr. Pollastri moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 P.M.
Ms. Doxey
3-0 MOTION CARRIED