

**Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2012**

Members Present:

Tom Kinzer, Co-Chair
Bea Brunkhorst, Co-Chair,
arrived at 7:10 PM (after Minutes review)
Kevin Wormstead
Lea Susan Ojamaa
Mary Seymour

Staff Present:

Heidi Porter, Director
Mary Firestone, Recording Secretary
Joseph Knott, Health Inspector

Also attending:

D. J. Wilson, Attorney, Tobacco Control Director,
Massachusetts Municipal Association

Action Items:

1. Ms. Porter will request the minutes of the Wayland Board of Health meeting where mosquito control at the Great Meadows Wildlife Preserve was discussed.
2. A public hearing on the changes in the tobacco regulations; tobacco vendors will be sent the revised regulation and provided with a notice of the public hearing.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M. Mr. Kinzer chaired.

Minutes:

Ms. Seymour moved to accept the minutes of the January 9 meeting as amended. Mr. Wormstead seconded the motion. Vote count: 4-0

Ms. Ojamaa moved to accept the minutes of the January 9 executive session as written. Ms. Seymour seconded the motion. Vote count: 4-0

Mr. Wormstead moved to accept the minutes of the January 11 meeting as written. Ms. Seymour seconded the motion. Vote count: 4-0

Discussion of Proposed Revision to Youth Access Tobacco Regulations to include a ban on sale of tobacco in pharmacies:

Mr. Kinzer welcomed Mr. Wilson. Ms. Porter introduced the revised draft of the proposed new tobacco regulations and invited Mr. Wilson to comment. Mr. Wilson said that Nicotine Delivery Products (i.e. electronic cigarettes) are not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). Electronic cigarettes are plastic tubes containing a nicotine solution but no tobacco, so they are not covered by current tobacco regulations. If any products become FDA-approved, they will fall out of the tobacco regulations. The FDA has taken the issue to court, but the importers of e-cigarettes won the first round. If the Board wishes, Mr. Wilson will provide a copy of the e-cigarette signage used in Boston. He noted that tobacco sales permits will not be renewed or transferred to a new owner of the venue if fines from previous actions remain unpaid. On the issue of tobacco sales in health and educational institutions, he said, "if you provide medical advice, you can't sell tobacco", e.g., a convenience store which is a tenant of an educational institution. Mr. Wilson reviewed the regulation changes as customized by the Board. He provided a list of sellers throughout Massachusetts and explained legal actions that have occurred or may occur.

Ms. Porter said that the Board will have a public hearing on the changing of the tobacco regulations; tobacco vendors will be informed of the hearing. She mentioned the need to come to a consensus on additional signage.

Electronic cigarettes were discussed. They cannot be used wherever smoking is prohibited. Emissions from the e-cigarettes are unknown. The fluid used could be a commercial product or something someone cooked up at home. Since the Vapor (person who uses e-cigarettes) doesn't get the same sensation as from tobacco cigarettes, they can get much more nicotine from e-cigarettes. Cartridges are available in various levels, but much is unknown about the solutions and exposures.

Ms. Porter and Board members reviewed possible changes. They determined that a public hearing will take place at the March 5 meeting.

Mr. Wormstead moved to approve the changes in the tobacco regulations as shown in the draft. Ms. Ojamaa seconded the motion. Vote: 5-0

Mr. Wilson left the meeting.

Presentation of Health Inspector Report:

Joseph Knott, Bedford Health Inspector, distributed copies of (a) a list of program areas and accomplishments and (b) environmental activity reports. He explained the reports and answered questions from the Board. He inspects, among other things, 100 food services (42 restaurants, corporate cafeterias, etc.). He said that he wanted to highlight school food service, a topic which has received much attention in the media nationally. The Board thanked Mr. Knott for his report.

Old and New Business:

Update on BOH liaison assignments:

Ms. Seymour said that the school Wellness Committee will meet on February 28 and again in April. Ms. Porter said that she will cover that meeting if a new Board member is not available.

Mr. Wormstead said that on January 12 he attended a meeting of the Youth and Family Services Committee. The committee has a CHNA grant jointly with the Board of Health. A liaison officer from Hanscom Air Base attended to discuss issues of interest to the committee.

Mr. Kinzer said that he and Ms. Porter attended a meeting of the Bedford Community Partnership. A positive review of the school budget makes it possible to continue the Apple iPad program, which allows the purchase of fewer textbooks. The Partnership is trying to schedule the 2012 Bedford Unplugged event, possible on Wednesday, November 14.

Mr. Kinzer, Dr. Brunkhorst, and Ms. Porter attended a meeting in Wayland to hear from the manager of the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge on the issue of mosquito abatement. [Wayland and Bedford have been the source of most of the mosquito complaints received by David Henley, Superintendent of the East Middlesex Mosquito Control Project.] Before spraying can take place in the Refuge, there must be an 'event' according to state standards; science-based data must be available. Mr. Henley reported that he will share trap data, but money is needed for traps. By the time data is available, a public health emergency may already be underway. Mr. Kinzer said that the meeting opened the channels of communication between the refuge manager and Mr. Henley. Ms. Porter will get the minutes of the Wayland meeting.

Ms. Porter and Dr. Brunkhorst visited Joule, a firm new to Bedford, which works with recombinant DNA to produce biofuels. They were asked to sign a non-disclosure; however, Ms. Porter consulted the Town Counsel, who advised against signing it in its originally written form.

Ms. Porter said that the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation will be opening a laboratory in Bedford to produce a new drug; their application has not yet been received.

Director's Report:

Ms. Porter said that Judi Jelloe and Joe Knott are producing articles to inform the public via newspaper, Bedford Byline, and Bedford Cable Access Television.

A new project is underway to make File of Life data available to emergency responders, possibly with electronic updates; the project will include outreach to churches, school newsletters, etc.

Mr. Kinzer reported on the first meeting of the Bedford Citizens Corps, which will combine the efforts of the Citizens Emergency Response Team, the Medical Reserve Corps, and the Bedford Behavioral Health Unit. Trainings are scheduled for alternate Wednesdays in February and March.

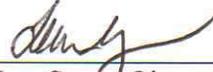
Ms. Porter is working on the development of medical sharps collection events.

Ms. Ojamaa moved to adjourn the meeting; Ms. Seymour seconded the motion. Vote count: 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27 P.M.

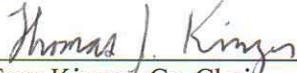
Future meetings of the Board will take place on March 5, April 2, and May 7, 2012.



Bea Brunkhorst, Co-Chair



Lea Susan Ojamaa



Tom Kinzer, Co-Chair



Mary Seymour



Kevin Wormstead