

Board of Health Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2021

Teleconference: 6:30 PM

Present: Holliston Board of Health (BoH): Laura Nolan (*Chair*)
Thomas Ellis (*Vice-Chair*)
Josh Mann (*member*)

Scott Moles, *Health Director and Agent*
Ann Adams, *Health Department Clerk*
Lisa Deering, *Health Department Clerk*

Fire Chief Michael Cassidy, Emergency Management Director

Laura Nolan, BoH Chair opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Scott Moles, Health Director, read the Remote Participation Statement.

Board of Health Roll Call: Laura Nolan-Present, Thomas Ellis-Present, Josh Mann-Present

Public Comment: None

School Sports COVID-19 Testing: Holliston Public School Superintendent, Dr. Susan Kustka explained to the Board the status of the Schools, and their thoughts on doing pooled COVID-19 testing of high-risk sports teams to optimize School safety. High-risk sports are contact sports like football, hockey, basketball and soccer; not non-contact sports like golf, tennis or swimming.

At this point Dr. Kustka is not looking for the Board to vote on a pooled testing policy, but wants them to understand the current situation and the criteria that would initiate a request for their vote. If there were an uptick in COVID-19 cases at the Schools related to sports, she would request the Board to weigh in on this testing plan.

Dr. Kustka explained pooled testing as it would relate to School sports. The Schools are already doing pooled testing at the Middle School. Currently there is only 33% participation in this testing. There would need to be 50 to 60% participation for good results, and best if there was 80% participation.

Sports adult spectator protocols were discussed. Dr. Kustka thanked the Board for their consideration and said she would keep them posted as the Schools continue to reopen. The Board thanked Dr. Kustka for her presentation.

COVID-19 update:

- Total cumulative COVID-19 cases in Town = 686
- Current active COVID-19 cases = 45
- Holliston continues to be a Yellow (moderate risk) town on the State's COVID-19 risk map.
- 70 Cole Court residents received COVID-19 vaccination recently at an on-site clinic.
- Mike Cassidy reported approximately 90% of the 75+ year old Holliston residents, and 66% of the 65 to 74 year old Holliston residents have been vaccinated; with a special thanks to Linda

Marshall and the Council on Aging. Senior Town residents can call the Senior Center for assistance with booking appointments and transportation to the appointments.

- Town-wide, about 25% of residents have had at least one for both doses of COVID-19 vaccine. This is comparable to the vaccination rate State-wide.
- Mike Cassidy said the State will be adding town-specific data to their reports, so he will be able to include that in his reports to the Select Board that's published in HollistonReporter.
- Josh asked if there was much push-back of residents not wanting vaccine. Mike Cassidy said he's not heard much push-back, and the demand for vaccine exceeds the supply by about 4x.
- DPH has approved the regional COVID-19 vaccination clinic. Holliston is part this 8 town collaborative. Scott has been working with Kristin Black, Northborough Health Director on this collaborative clinic. The clinic would be located in Westboro. It will be several weeks before they know specifics about the vaccine supply. At that time, the participating towns will have a window of registration for their town residents to get appointments before the appointment scheduling is open up State-wide. Scott will be working with Mike Cassidy to be sure we get as many Holliston registered and vaccinated as possible.

Animal Inspector: The Board discussed the nominations for the Inspector of Animals: Dona Walsh, Animal Control Officer and Scott Moles, Holliston Health Director/Agent.

Laura made a motion to nominate Dona Walsh and Scott Moles as Inspector of Animals.

Thomas seconded. Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

BoH Meeting Minutes: Laura made a motion to approve the March 2, 2021 BoH Minutes.

Thomas seconded. Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Bills:	Salmon VNA, COVID-19, paid by Region 4ab	\$7,135.50
	Salmon VNA, non-COVID-19, paid by BoH	\$134.00
	Total	\$7,269.50

Laura made a motion to approve the Salmon VNA bill for \$7,269.50.

Thomas seconded. Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

Open BoH position: There is still no candidate for the BoH position coming open. Signed nomination papers must be returned to the Town Clerk by April 6th for the candidate to be on the election ballot.

Board Comment: None

Next BoH Meetings: Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 7:00 PM, via Zoom Teleconference.

Laura made a motion at 7:10 PM to adjourn the BoH meeting to join the Finance Committee meeting already in progress, and will not be return to this meeting. Thomas seconded.

Roll call: Laura Aye, Thomas-Aye, Josh-Aye. Passed

The Finance Committee and the Board of Health discussed the Board of Health FY22 budget. The BoH left the Finance Committee meeting at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully:

Ann Adams, Health Department Clerk

Approval Date: 4-6-21