

**Town of Peru  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
3 East Main Rd  
Peru, MA 01235**

**Minutes from Board of Health Meeting 12/9/2019**

- 1. Meeting called to order 4:07 PM**
- 2. Roll Call: Nanette Mone, Darryl Darby, Peggy White, Jayne Smith as well as community members Vance and Pat Talbot.**
- 3. State Recording status: Peggy White**
- 4. Minutes from the previous BOH meeting 11/18/19 were reviewed and approved after a motion, second and all in favor.**
- 5. New Business**

a) 12 Bonny Lane, a perc test was attempted but the soil was very wet. A sample was sent to the lab at UMass to determine the texture of the soil and those results are pending. The soil sample sets the size and the water level determines the height of the system. Hill Engineering has been contracted for the system. Jayne has requested as the soil was so wet that Jayne was at the property 20 minutes maximum and is asking the board for approval to charge for Title V inspection fee vs the 2 hours usually required for a perc test. Motion made and seconded to allow the fee to be charged for Title V inspection. The last pumping record was presented for 11/22/19, septic design contract from 12/2/19. It was discussed that due diligence has been demonstrated by the Talbots and and motion was made and seconded and all in favor to allow an extension until 7-1-20 for completion of the system in unable to be completed sooner. They will continue to pump as outlined in previous meetings.

b) Information on new Health Agent: Jayne states that no final decision has been made but options are Ed Fahey who lives close by or the newly hired agent Brian Coatney. Jayne will be training the new agent and has offered that the BOH members can come in to meet the new agent during her training sessions.

c) Duties of the Board of Health Copies were reviewed of the BOH duties as outlined by the Commonwealth Dept of Public Health, the BOH organizational Guide and the Berkshire Public Health Alliance for Peru and the 10 Essential Services of the Board of Health. Jayne states that the board actually gives authority to the sworn in Health Agent to perform his/her duties and that authority comes from the state. For smooth running it was discussed that the board members should be aware of the duties performed by the Health Inspector as the board is giving her power to perform these duties and in the event an agent is unavailable board members may be called to answer questions and check on the status of pending files (ie) where a certain file is in the process, fees paid and permits issued. From the ten essential services duties include both nursing public health duties overlap with public health impact with sanitation issues, septic, wells and garbage and (ie) hogweed impacting well being of community. These duties were reviewed as there was a question by a Select Board member, Verne Leach and the town clerk, Kim Leach regarding BOH members performing administrative duties that the Health Agent is contracted to perform and if necessary the Health Agent fees should be raised to make it possible for the agent to complete these tasks. For smooth running of the BOH duties it is the responsibility and obligation of the board members to take a role when necessary. Jayne reviewed what other towns boards duties include, Windsor and Peru the Health Agent does all of the work, Richmond, Egremont, Becket and Washington all have paid town

employees perform administrative duties including answering the phone, getting permits ready, receiving and processing payments for fees and permits. It has been very helpful with these towns who have paid employees available and paid to perform these duties. The Alliance is paying the Agent for (ie) 10 hours for a Perc test but the town collects the fees. When the online permitting process is initiated at a fee of \$300/year per town many of these duties will be diminished. Peru will be contacted by either Mark Malloy or Emily Kirby who are heading up the project. After discussion Jayne suggests that at our next meeting Laura Kitross and the new agent be present to discuss the role of BOH members in performing administrative duties, how should fees be collected and to discuss the contract. Jayne stated that the previous contract did state that Kay Miller when she served as the BOH chair did issue permits. The BOH members will review the contract and duties of BOH for the next meeting.

e) Keys: the post office key will be left with the key to the file and Caleb will make a copy of the key to Jayne's office and the keys will be kept in the Town clerk's office. Jayne's set will be passed on the new agent.

f) Recap of open items Jayne to forward summary of pending properties history, action items and next anticipated steps. Also Jayne plans to put her "subject file" (ie) beavers, septic, demolition, all subjects of interest with regulations, applications and valuable information on a thumb drive for BOH members to have access. Will be left in the BOH pending file folder.

6. Old Business

a) 12 Bonnie Lane as above

b) 9 North Road plan to have the letter of concern regarding need for frequent pumping to be on the Action List for the new Health Agent.

c) Hog weed both Nanette and Jane have not heard from Cheryl Sbarra, will plan to postpone hog weed item until the Spring.

d) Glamping is in Jayne's subject file, will fall under temporary housing permit which outlines how waste and water issues will be outlined. 3 or more sites on a parcel of land fall under the regulations and permitting of Recreational Family Campground. Less than 3 fall under temporary housing permit.

e) Annual evaluation of Transfer Station with no problems or deviations.

7. A few moments were taken to wish Jayne well in her future and to thank her for all her work she has done for Peru and the towns in her purview.

8. The Next Meeting will be 1/27/20 with plan to have Laura Kitross and the new Health Agent present. Next meeting agenda will include review of the Alliance Contract and duties of the BOH.

9. After a motion and second the meeting was adjourned at 5:39PM.

Minutes respectfully were submitted as a draft by Peggy White 12/13/19

Approved 1-27-2020

Peggy White

Nanette Mone

Darryl Darby

