

**Town of Peru  
Town Hall Meeting Room  
3 East Main Road  
Peru, Ma 01235**

**Minutes from Board of Health Meeting 1/27/2020**

1. Meeting called to order 4:08 PM
2. Roll Call: Nanette Mone, Darryl Darby, Peggy White, Laura Kitross and Leslie Drager.
3. State Recording Statue :Peggy White
4. Minutes from the previous meeting 12/9/19 were reviewed and approved after a motion,second and all voted in favor.
5. Laura Kitross has Jayne's keys. Laura will give the keys to Ed Fahey who is covering as the Health Inspector. He will need to officially sign in to key book and be sworn in with Kim Leach, Town Clerk.
6. New Health Agent will need to be appointed by the Select Board as well as the BOH. The procedure for appointment was clarified by Laura Kitross . Any one who performs work for the BOH must be appointed by the BOH as they are acting on the behalf of the BOH performing the BOH duties. Other towns do have the Health Agent sworn in and appointed as well by Select Board but primary appointment is to Berkshire Public Health Alliance by the BOH. Laura has copy of the Massachusetts General Law and previous legal consult regarding this. Liability is the concern, if there is any issue with work performed by any one of the inspectors performing duties of the Health Agent, legally it must be known that he or she is working on the behalf of the Board of Health appointment and must come from the BOH. But as per Peru Town Bylaw as clarified by Verne Leach, Select Board Member, the Health Agent must also be primarily appointed by the Select Board. Key point is the BOH must appoint the Berkshire Public Alliance as there is not one but 6 inspectors that could be performing the duties and field work of the Agent acting on behalf of the Alliance. At the present time the town has no official main Health Inspector but most likely Ed Fahey will be covering the town of Peru, best to have the Alliance appointed at this time. Once there is one main Health Inspector that individual can be appointed and sworn in as well. Verne will discuss at the Select Board meeting and add to agenda for next week to appoint the Berkshire Public Health Alliance to act as the Agent of the Board of Health and plan to appoint the individual mainly in charge of Peru when that individual is chosen. A motion was made to appoint The Berkshire Public Health Alliance to act as the Agent of the Board of Health, the motion was seconded and 2 voted yes, one abstained, the motion was passed. A formal letter of resignation for Jayne Smith is needed for the Select Board which Laura will provide. Laura also wanted to formally notify the BOH that the new Health Agent is not coming and job for Health Inspector will be posted as of 1/28/20. There is a new 2 year grant from the State Dept of Public Health to encourage shared services for a part time position to perform administrative duties as most small towns do not have the administrative help and these duties have fallen on to the Health Inspectors which raise the cost of performing their role. The grant would cover administrative duties including ie filing, follow up phone messages, review mail, issuing permits, fees, coordinating scheduling. Also for towns who have online permitting and make sure the online permitting is processed. The grant will also allow the purchase of scheduling software to streamline the scheduling process and explore online permitting with a goal of centralizing the online permitting by FY 2022 into the Alliance. The issue of whether the fees will be kept by the Alliance and reducing the cost to the towns of the inspectional services or the town to keep the fees to be determined partly will be due to the number of towns interested in centralizing the services. How files page

would be handled is to be determined. The Alliance may hold the plans and files. Online permitting is available and the set up is free through a FDA grant and the first year is paid for. More funds for this program are being applied for which may reduce costs. Motion made, seconded and all in favor to adopt the online permitting for the Town of Peru. Mark Malloy will be coordinating the process and the final cost to the town will be presented to the Select Board.

7. Leslie Drager is present to discuss the role and duties of the Public Health Nursing. The role of the nurse also acts on the behalf of the BOH. She coordinates flu vaccine. She is mandated by law to receive reports for about 90 different infectious diseases if anyone who, lives in Peru and follow up as needed. Follow up may include contacting the physician, the person or who might have been exposed. In the case of a new outbreak like the coronavirus or a measles case the BOH would be notified and she would make sure actions are taken such as vaccinations. Leslie reported flu cases are high, with new A and B strains, generally Hep C is on the rise which involve investigation by the nurse. Any rabies cases need follow up to assure vaccination, and any questions of public health concerns. She provides quarterly Reports including infectious disease numbers and an educational piece. The public health nurse is able to do Wellness Programs and is interested in hosting a Matter of Balance class here in Peru to build core strength, flexibility and fall prevention. Hinsdale and Peru COA have combined and if Peru asked to share with Hinsdale and Dalton here in the Community room. Plan to have 2 sessions a week for 4 weeks this Spring needs 8 participants. Leslie will contact Peggy to help with promotion. Leslie's contact information: 1-413-822-6236 and email

[alliancenurse@berkshireplanning.org](mailto:alliancenurse@berkshireplanning.org) Quotes and contract will be sent by Laura in the next 2 weeks. The Public Health Nursing through the Alliance is contracted with 10 municipalities.

8. Update on Town Hall Septic by Bruce Cullett who attended the meeting for the update: There was a partial collapse of the concrete tank with a sink hole forming. Plan is to fill in the old tank to keep the garage structure stable. A new 1500 gallon concrete tank is ordered. The septic field will remain intact and the tank repair to be done as an inhouse job. Ed Fahey will contact Bruce Cullett for inspection. The water in town hall is currently off in the interim. The original system was most likely installed in 1960 with the building addition.

9. Update from Ed Fahey for January jobs and follow up old business: **89 Hickingbotham Rd** is completed and paid. Received in the mail **109 Middlefield Rd** regarding installation and a check that needs to be processed. **29 Middlefield Rd** the TV has been inspected 1/24/2020 which failed, the house is vacant. A letter is needed to confirm grant funding from the CDC which will be drafted by Ed. 3 more pumping records have been received for **12 Bonny Lane** and still waiting for soil testing results. **7 Bonny Lane** will need to check to see if all fees paid before submitting certificate of compliance, will need to check if fees paid. **96 E. Main Rd** Ed was waiting for a well driller sign off and a passing water test. The iron and turbidity were high and in order to issue COC need as built and sign off Ed to follow up. **261 E Windsor Rd** due for a new system, Title V was performed 11/2017, Sinopoli never submitted to be a licensed installer. Needs to have SCP paperwork located and follow up. **9 North Rd** frequent pumping, BOH requested the need for a letter to be sent this Spring. Last pumped 6/28/19, due in January. If not pumped will need a letter sent sooner. **2 Weeks Rd** plan approved and DSCP can be issued once licensed installer ready to pull permit. **142 South Rd** DSCP plan approved, needs to be filed in new file.

10. The next meeting will be scheduled pending availability of Ed Fahey either 2/10, 2/18 or 2/19. Items for the next agenda: duties of BOH, payment from 7 Bonny Lane, 9 North Rd due for pumping and need for letter to be sent.

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11. Caleb Mitchell stepped into the meeting and requested the Annual Report 7/1/18 to 6/30/19 due end of February. Laura to compile the report, Nanette and Peggy to help if needed.
7. Motion was made, seconded and all in favor to adjourn the meeting. Meeting Adjourned at 5:47PM.

Minutes respectfully were submitted as a draft by Peggy White 1/29/2020

Approved 2/18/2020

Nanette Mone

Peggy White

Darryl Darby

