

**TOWN OF FRANKLIN**  
**Board of Health Minutes for September 11, 2019**

**Present at meeting:**

Bridget Sweet, Chairman  
Donald Ranieri, Vice Chairman  
Ciera Maffei, Clerk, Absent

David McKearney, Health Director  
Virginia McNeil, Health Agent

**Guests:**

Jamie Hellen, Town Administrator

The Board members reviewed the meeting minutes from their August 7, 2019 meeting. Mr. Ranieri made a motion to accept the minutes; the motion was seconded by Ms. Sweet. The vote was unanimous to accept the minutes.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- None

**NEW BUSINESS**

- **Discussion of Mosquito-Borne Diseases (Eastern Equine Encephalitis)**

The Health Director briefed the Board relative to the Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) risk in surrounding counties and towns and explained Franklin's current threat level. The Health Director stressed that we are at a moderate threat level and have been consistently following Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH) policy and recommendations for communities at a moderate threat level. The current recommendations for the moderate level include increased outreach including communication and education of how to protect oneself from biting mosquitoes. Cancelling and restricting the evening outdoor activities is not currently recommended by MDPH in communities with a moderate threat level. The Health Director informed the Board that he would recommend cancelling outdoor activities if our threat level was to be elevated to high or critical.

The Town Administrator expressed that residents take personal responsibility to safeguard themselves and their family from mosquitoes. The Town Administrator has authorized the Recreation Director to purchase bug spray to be provided at the field during sporting events. The Town Administrator gave his permission to the Recreation Director to allow additional spraying of non-school fields, specifically, Beaver, Dacey and King Street. This spraying was conducted on September 9, 2019 by Norfolk County Mosquito Control.

The Board Chair, Ms. Sweet, agreed that since we are at moderate risk, the town should follow the MDPH guidelines. If the risk changes to high or critical, then she would be in favor of cancelling evening activities.

The Vice Chair, Mr. Ranieri, agreed with following State protocol, but also strongly recommended that the Board of Health take additional measures to safeguard the public by canceling evening outdoor sporting activities until the first hard frost.

The Board Chair closed the discussion.

- **Local Upgrade Approval, 93 Country Club Drive, To allow 4.2 feet cover over SAS, reduction in separation to groundwater to 3.76 feet.** The Board Chair recommended approving the local upgrade approval as written. Mr. Ranieri made a motion, seconded by Ms. Sweet and the Board voted unanimously to approve.

### **HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Health Director and Health Agent provided details to the Board regarding activities of the Health Department during the month of August.

Mr. Ranieri made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Sweet and the meeting was voted unanimously to adjourn.

The next Board of Health Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 2, 2019 at 5:00 pm in Room 106.

Transcribed by: Virginia McNeil, Health Agent