

Ashland Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes  
January 3, 2023  
ZOOM Meeting

*Ronald Etskovitz, Chair*  
*Barbra Sekesogundu Simon, Clerk*  
*Rajit Gupta, Health Agent/Director*

*Ed Burman, Member*  
*John Byrnes, Member*  
*Bernadette Lunkuse, Member*

**Members Present Via Zoom Meeting:**

Ron Etskovitz, Ed Burman, Barbra Sekesogundu Simon, Bernadette Lunkuse and Jay Byrnes

**Others Present:**

Rajit Gupta, Health Agent/Director  
Laura Clifford, BOH Admin. Assistant  
Mark Dassoni, Resident

**Call Meeting to Order, 6:00 P.M.**

Mr. Etskovitz called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M. and stated that the meeting was being recorded by WACA.

**Citizens Participation**

Mark Dassoni, resident, hopes for a happy, productive new year to all.

**Member, Jay Byrnes, Agenda**

**Remote Area Medical (RAM) Clinic, August 12 & 13, 2023, Update**

Mr. Byrnes noted that a meeting will be held on January 9, 2023, this meeting will include a group of South Shore physicians, it will begin at 6:00 PM. Mr. Etskovitz will attend; he noted that he has spoken to one of his Medical Doctor/Partners, they will be speaking again to discuss how they may recruit other physicians. Mr. Byrnes noted that on January 11, 2023 he will be meeting with a Volunteer Coordinator from RAM; Mr. Etskovitz and Mr. Burnham both plan to attend.

**Health Director's Agenda:**

- **137 Pond Street, Condemnation Order**  
Mr. Gupta noted that an Emergency Condemnation Order was issued on this property, the building structure is unstable, there is no heat, no water and there is sanitary backup. The occupants have been moved to the Red Roof Inn and were provided with groceries; Mr. Gupta and the Town Social Worker will be meeting with them tomorrow at the Inn with a DMH worker. Mr. Etskovitz inquired what happens next; Mr. Gupta responded that we give them 30 days to make repairs, but that is unlikely because it is so unstable. Mr. Burman inquired as to whether the occupants are the owners; Mr. Gupta responded that it is complicated, because the property is in the deceased parents' name. The owner/occupant of the trailer must remove it from the property. Mr. Byrnes offered assistance, and will attend the meeting.
- **Childhood/COVID Vaccination Clinics**  
Mr. Gupta noted that the Clinics are going strong; he noted that after conversations with the Assistant Town Manager, they hope to increase the hours for the Public Health Nurse in the FY24 budget.

- **Discuss New Body Art Regulation**  
Mr. Gupta noted that he had reviewed 4-5 Regulations from various towns. This Regulation has been approved by Canton, and vetted through their legal counsel; we have been given permission to adopt it. For our current needs, this Regulation looks good.
- **Doragon Provisions, Update**  
Mr. Gupta noted that he did an inspection at Provisions Trading Company and has issued the Permit to operate.
- **Narcan Grant from State of MA**  
Mr. Gupta thanked Mr. Etskovitz for signing the Grant Application for a medical order for a Narcan Grant, Mr. Gupta noted that he has also applied for an FDA Grant, as well as another Grant.
- **Warren Conference Center, New Kitchen Facility**  
Mr. Gupta explained that the Warren Conference Center is planning to construct a satellite kitchen at their location, they will be submitting documents for a plan review which will include a request for a waiver from the Fats, Oils, and Grease Regulation which requires that an exterior grease trap be installed.
- **Restaurant Updates**  
Mr. Gupta stated that the VFW had a failed inspection but we are working with them; Los Cabos also had a failed inspection and was given a 72-hour notice to correct.

Ms. Lunkuse inquired if the Body Art Regulations are updated regularly; Mr. Gupta responded that they have not been updated in a number of years. We currently have no Body Art businesses in Town, but we had an inquiry back in October 2022, regarding microblading.

#### **Consent Agenda:**

##### **Review and Approve Board of Health Meeting Minutes, December 20, 2022**

##### **Review YTD Budget Report FY2023**

The meeting minutes were not available to be reviewed/approved, but will be ready by the next meeting.

**Motion:** Ms. Lunkuse made a motion to approve the Budget Report for FY2023. Mr. Byrnes seconded the motion.

**Vote:** 5-0. Motion approved.

##### **Discuss Future Agenda Items; Next meeting date: January 17, 2023**

- 125 Sudbury Road, Septic Variance Request
- Warren Conference Center, Waiver from Fats, Oils and Grease
- Mr. Gupta will update the Board on a few retail food establishments that have not yet applied for their renewal permit.

#### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** Mr. Byrnes made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Lunkuse seconded the motion.

**Vote:** 5-0. Motion approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:21 PM.

**ASHLAND BOARD OF HEALTH  
DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AT THE 1/3/2023 MEETING  
(All items stored in the Board of Health files unless otherwise noted)**

1. Year-to-Date Budget Reports, FY23
2. A recording of the meeting is available at [WACATV.com](http://WACATV.com)