



TOWN OF SALISBURY

BOARD OF HEALTH

JOHN W. MORRIS, DIRECTOR

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DANIEL RICHARD
RON LAFFELY
SUE RING
DENISE PETERSON
JILL TAPPER

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

May 2, 2023

7:00 PM Salisbury Town Hall

Board Members Present:

Ron Laffely, Jill Tapper, Sue Ring, Denise Petersen

Board Members Absent:

Dan Richard

Staff:

John Morris-Health Director

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM.

Minutes -Approval of meeting minutes from December 6, 2022 and February 7, 2023.

(Mr. Laffely) makes a motion to accept the ***December 6, 2022*** minutes as written.

(Ms. Tapper) seconds that motion. 4 in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carries and is passed.

(Ms. Petersen) makes a motion to accept the ***February 7, 2023*** minutes as written.

(Ms. Tapper) seconds that motion. 4 in favor, 0 opposed. Motion carries and is passed.

Old Business - NONE

New Business

- **Northeast Mass Mosquito Control Update/Review – 2023/Best Management Practice Plan**

(Mr. Morris) mentions the NEMMC (Northeast Massachusetts Mosquito Control and Wetlands Management District) newsletter previously sent to the Board. He then gives some background on the agency. Mr. Morris states that they work with the Triton School System, the Town and Salisbury DPW for catch basin treatments. Mr. Barry Noone, Director of Mosquito Control approaches the podium and explains the Best Management Practices Plan the Town has in place. He states he is attending along with

Kim Foss/Entomologist from NE Mosquito Control. He reviews the Salisbury Plan and states they are requesting a budget increase due to inflation/materials, fuel and pesticide costs. They requested 3% but hope to drop it to 2%; he will know more by June 1st. He points out the district control measures on page 2 of plan; and that there is a cost share among 32 communities. Mr. Noone reads the general overview aloud. He states there is a new Wetlands Management Coordinator who has already met with the new Salisbury DPW Director and will be working with him in the fall. Mr. Noone then addresses the Board of Health checklist which is followed. He states he has reached out to Chris Pine at Triton. Also, his team is familiar with Salisbury; such as the Rail Trail and parks, etc. Mr. Noone states there was a discussion about catch basins with DPW Director and Ray Cote/Foreman.

Mr. Noone updates the Board about the agency website. He informs them that there is now tire pickup which may cause breeding and it can be scheduled on line at massmosquito.org

(Ms. Foss) again approaches the podium and gives a review of last year's operation. She states there was a 47% decrease in the mosquito population in 2022 due to drought conditions for 2 years. She continues that Salisbury had no West Nile virus nor Triple E for 2022, 932 catch basins were treated by July 29th. She states the products used do not target pets, humans or reptiles. They only target mosquito and black fly larvae. Salisbury DPW is contacted prior to cleaning the catch basins and they coordinate with them. She continues that the agency completed 637 residential service requests and 35 property inspections. She states that if a resident wants to be excluded from the pesticide spraying they can complete a form online. She continues that they completed 150 feet of stormwater ditch maintenance and 21 habitat sites that historically breed mosquitos were inspected. A total of 3 salt marsh aerial treatments covering 1700 acres were conducted. Public notices are also released prior to the spraying season.

(Ms. Foss) continues that by April 7, 2023, (7) residential inspections were already done; which is a high number. Also (8) historical breeding locations were inspected and larvae was found on 4 sites. Adult mosquito surveillance will begin May 15th.

(Mr. Morris) asks her to explain the surveillance procedure and how they target a certain area for isolation. **Ms. Foss** explains that traps are set out, the mosquitos get trapped in a basket, are collected once a week, batched and sent to the public health lab. They then look at the date, location and trap type. This goes along with the MBP. If they get a positive they will then set up a supplemental trap which is tested. If the supplemental is positive she would work with the BOH to isolate an area around that trap. A quick turnaround is important.

(Mr. Morris) inquires about the 2023 virus trend.

(Ms. Foss) states there seems to be less to no larvae as the populations are decreasing. She continues that West Nile re-occurs every year and they are prepared for it. The BOH will be notified if anything is found.

(Mr. Morris) states the aerial approach is a targeted approach for salt marsh mosquitos. Ms. Foss agrees the aerial approach is used because it is easier then walking on the marsh.

(Mr. Noone) explains that there has been a change in the salt marsh in the last (5) years; when the tide comes in there is more water and it sits longer. The agency is expanding their efforts in doing ditch maintenance.

(Mr. Morris) inquires what the assessment is for Salisbury? Mr. Noone replies \$62,000.

(Mr. Laffely) inquires if there are any new variants of mosquitos coming North because of the climate change? Ms. Foss responds that there are 4 new species in this area that were not collected before. She states the cause for new species is caused by weather changes, wind currents, drought etc.

(Mr. Laffely) asks if phragmites help or hinder mosquitos.

Ms. Foss states there are two different schools of thought. They can act as a barrier to stop a wide tide. However, it does breed mosquitos and it is dense and sharp. When the droplets hit the phragmites, they hit the stalk and don't hit the water where the problem is.

New Business (cont)

- **61 Elm Street-Order for Correction and Notice of Fine Order dated April 6, 2023**

Mr. Laffely informs the Board that the attorney for 61 Elm St. has asked for a continuance. Mr. Morris explains that the case has to do with a fine that was imposed for not obtaining a Certificate of Habitability before renting out the unit. The property owner also filed an affidavit that is not applicable. Attorney Ciampitti became involved on Friday, stating the property owner had a medical emergency and could not attend the meeting so he asked for a continuance. Mr. Ciampitti also wanted more time to look over the paperwork. Mr. Morris spoke to Chairman Richard about the continuance and there seemed to be no problem continuing it to June. Also, by that time some of the violations will get corrected.

MOTION

(Ms. Tapper) makes a motion to continue this case to the June 6, 2023 meeting. **(Ms. Ring)** seconds that motion. 4 in favor, 0 opposed. Unanimous. Motion carries and is passed.

New Business (cont)

- **COVID 19 Updates**

Mr. Morris states there was (1) active case this past week; the numbers are way down. At peak, the Town was doing 260 cases per week. He assumes people have been vaccinated, are doing at-home testing, isolation, etc. People have educated themselves.

Correspondence - None

Health Officer Reports –January – March 2023

Nurse Report – October 1, 2022-December 31, 2022 and January- March 2023

(Mr. Morris) explains that the flu and pneumonia clinic usually held in the fall are being worked on. He and COA Director Liz Pettis are still working with Conley Pharmacy and are happy to work with him as he has access to the shots. He states that a lot of people like to have the clinics locally. It will be held sometime in October.

Ms. Petersen asks about another booster. Mr. Morris states they are working on an annual booster though he's not sure if it has been approved by the CDC. A clinic may be held once approved.

Public Comments – None

ADJOURN

(Ms. Ring) motions to adjourn; Ms. Petersen seconds. All vote in favor to adjourn, 0 opposed.

Regular public meeting is adjourned at approximately 7:40 PM

Date:

Sue Ring

Sue Ring

Ron Laffely

Ron Laffely

Jill Tapper

Jill Tapper

Denise Petersen

Denise Petersen

Respectfully submitted by Teresa K. Mahoney

Teresa K. Mahoney

Teresa K. Mahoney

Date

06/06/2023