

**Administrator's Report**  
**Board of Health Meeting of September 12, 2019**

*Report covers from 08/22 – 09/11/19*

*Items requiring Board vote are noted with an asterisk (\*)*

**A. Inspection Report Reviews**

(1) 130 Conomo Point Road, McKenzie, Map 108, Lot 65\*

I have reviewed the report for the official Title 5 inspection conducted at this property on September 4, 2019 by John Duncan. The inspector has noted that the tight tank serving this property is in good condition and does not meet the failure criteria outlined in Title 5 or local regulations.

*Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating we are in agreement with the determination of the inspector, John Duncan that the system passes the official Title 5 inspection conducted on September 4, 2019. The next routine inspection of the tight tank serving this property shall be conducted no later than September 4, 2024.*

**B. Soil Evaluations / Waiver Explorations**

(1) 22 John Wise Ave, Ginn, Map 120, Lot 4

I witnessed a full day of soil testing to determine if a portion of the property may be suitable for additional building lots. The soil evaluator was able to locate areas with the required deep observation hole depth and percolation rate for up to 4 additional building lots. The property owner will have to determine whether he meets all other state and local requirements for building lots prior to proceeding.

(1) 208 Southern Avenue, Nally, Map 209, Lot 13

I witnessed soil testing at this property to determine if the soil is suitable to site an additional septic system, for a proposed second dwelling on the parcel.

**(C) Septic System Design Plan Reviews**

(1) 54 Island Road, Map 101, Lot 6, Auditore\*

I have reviewed the design plan for the septic system serving this property, designed by John Morin and dated August 9, 2019 with a revision date of August 20, 2019. In my review of this plan, I have noted that the existing septic system (septic tank, pump chamber, distribution box, and leaching area) is currently connected to an existing two-room structure (including one bedroom). The plan proposes connecting a to-be-built dwelling that will have six rooms total (including 3 bedrooms). The original system, installed in 2012, was designed to accommodate 440 gallons per day, and therefore the system is suitable for the proposed additional flow.

*Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the property owner stating that the plan for the proposed additional flow to the septic system, designed by John Morin and dated August 9, 2019 with a revision date of August 20, 2019 is approved. Prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Compliance for the septic system and the Certificate of Occupancy for the dwelling, a total room count should be conducted to ensure the existing daily flow corresponds with the design flow as outlined in the septic design and building plans.*

**D. Septic System Installations/Abandonments (informational only)**

(1) 3 John Wise Lane, Lawrence, Map 113, Lot 13\*

I inspected the bottom of the leaching area for the proposed septic system being installed at this property.

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(2) 11 Conomo Lane, Hartley, Map 108, Lot 25

I observed the vacuum testing of the two tanks being installed at this property.

(3) 98 Western Avenue, Tetzloff, Map 142, Lot 1

I inspected the abandonment of the leach tank at this property, as it's already connected to municipal sewer.

**E. Well Water Supply**

(2) 208 Southern Avenue, Nally, Map 209, Lot 13\*

We received the Certificate of Analysis for a well drilled at this property by Charles M. Rollins Company, Inc. and I have found the well water to meet all parameters for drinking water as outlined in state and federal regulations.

*Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health sign the Water Supply Use certificate dated June 26, 2018.*

**F. Building Permit Applications**

(1) 0 Shea's Court, Isaac, Map 145, Lot 32

I signed the building permit application for the construction of a 5-bedroom dwelling at this property.

(2) 12 Wood Drive, Camp, Map 154, Lot 9

I signed the building permit application for the renovation of a one-room cabin into a one-bedroom dwelling unit.

**G. Complaints/Other**

(1) 38 Lake Shore Drive, Cameron, Map 145, Lot 35\*

In response to an anonymous complaint received about a pipe exiting the basement at this address and discharging water to the surface near Chebacco Lake, I conducted an inspection of this property in the presence of the occupants and the Plumbing Inspector. The pipe in question was found to be connected to a sump pump, and therefore there was no violation found. The property owner and complainant were notified.

*Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the occupant notifying them that an inspection was conducted on August 28, 2019, and no violations were found relating to the complaint of a pipe existing the dwelling and discharging on the surface.*

(2) CBD Edibles\*

Local Board of Health were recently provided with a guidance document on the legality of foods infused with cannabidiol (CBD). The guidance document explains why it is not permissible to add CBD to foods manufactured or distributed in Massachusetts, specifically because CBD is an active ingredient in FDA-approved drugs and also because it is not an approved ingredient under the FDA food code. Hulled hemp seeds, hemp seed protein, and hemp seed oil are considered "generally recognized as safe" by the FDA,

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and therefore these products can be legally added to human food, provided they comply with all other requirements.

*Recommendation: I recommend the Board of Health send a letter to the licensed retail food establishments explaining what is in the guidance document, and requesting that they remove any food product containing CBD from their shelves.*

(3) Chemical Exposure

We received two separate calls from individuals concerned about possible chemical exposure. One individual left a voicemail and did not return my phone call. I spoke with the second individual, who stated she was more sensitive to chemicals than other people, and when she's driving on the interstate (128 for example) she can feel the chemicals from the road burning her hair and skin; she wanted to know who would test for those chemicals and what sort of prophylaxis would she be given. After further questioning, it was determined that the woman does not live in Essex and I did not have the information she needed. She was advised to call the Board of Health in the community where she lives, or the MA Department of Public Health, for further assistance.

*Recommendation: None – informational only.*

(4) Flu Clinics

Two public flu clinics have been scheduled: September 25 at the Senior Center from 10am to noon, and October 26 in the Town Hall Auditorium during the Clam Fest, from 10:30am to 1pm. First Responders will be offered flu shots during their regularly scheduled meeting in November; and we also offer home visits for individuals who do not have transportation.

*Recommendation: None – informational only*

(5) Drug Take-Back Day

Once again, Essex is participating in the National Drug Take-Back Day, an event that is typically organized by the Drug Enforcement Agency twice per year, to keep unwanted or unneeded prescription and over-the-counter medications out of the environment and away from individuals who may abuse them. This year, the event will be held on the same day as the Clam Fest, October 26, from 10am to 1pm.

*Recommendation: None – informational only*

**H. Meetings Attended (informational only)**

(1) Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)

Our regional PHEP coalition meets monthly to discuss both local and regional emergency planning activities, including any deliverables required by MA DPH as part of our PHEP grant. This year, we will be conducting one regional tabletop exercise with the other communities in region 3D, in lieu of the 3 full-scale drills that were originally required. In addition to the tabletop exercise planning, we also were provided with community updates, including the cyanobacteria blooms in our area, the statewide EEE threats, and updates to local tobacco regulations – including the addition of mint and menthol to Swampscott's list of flavored nicotine delivery systems that are restricted to 21+ establishments.