

Administrator's Report
Board of Health Meeting of March 26, 2015
Report covers from Feb 26, 2015 to March 25, 2015
Items requiring Board vote are noted with an asterisk ()*

A. Inspection Report Reviews

(1) 18R County Rd., Alfano, Map 31, Lot 18 *

I reviewed the Title 5 inspection report for this property. I am in agreement with the determination of the inspector, George Norris, that the system passed the Feb. 25, 2015 inspection; however, the report does not include the water usage of the property for the previous 2 years.

Recommendation: I recommend, after receipt of the required water usage information that a letter be sent to the owner stating that the Board is in agreement with the determination of the inspector, George Norris, that this system passed the Feb. 25, 2015 inspection. I recommend that this letter also note that this inspection was performed on a property that was vacant since August 2014.

B. Soil Evaluations / Waiver Explorations

None

C. Septic System Design Plan Reviews

(1) Riverview Hill Rd, Lot 26 a/k/a 0 Spring St., Hagar, Map 41, Lot 14 *

I reviewed the submitted revised septic design for new construction on this property. All required corrections have been made.

Recommendation: I recommend approval of this plan, dated 2-17-15, with a revision date of 3-3-15

D. Septic System Installations

(1) 9 Conomo Point Rd., Calder, Map 19, Lot 34

I performed an alarm inspection of the tight tank serving this property. At this time we found the tank full of water, although it wasn't yet in service. The installer investigated and discovered it entering through the electric box. He contacted the electrician, who will seal it water tight.

Recommendation: None. Informational only.

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E. Building Permit Applications & Occupancy Permits

(1) 29 Pond Street, Polley, Map 8, Lot 62*

We received a building permit application for this property to “frame new 29’ X 43’ one story ranch full unfinished basement, 2 bedroom, 1 ½ baths, 8’ X 10’ screened porch” This is a house proposed for a 2 freestanding house condo property. The proposal is for a 2 bedroom house with municipal water. A 3 bedroom septic plan is approved to serve the house.

Recommendation: I recommend that this application, signed 6-10-14, be endorsed.

(2) 80 Main St., Woodward, Map 37, Lot 24*

I reviewed the submitted Demolition Permit application for this property – “Marina Fire/demo building”. The property is on public sewer and has been inspected for pests and asbestos and was negative for both. We are still waiting for additional steps to be taken to meet our demo requirements.

Recommendation: undated application,

F. Well Water Supply Certificates

None

G. Meetings Attended (for information only)

(1) Mass in Motion

The coordinator of the Grant headed this meeting to assess some options for increasing access to healthy and local foods. He has met with local Councils on Ageing to gauge their needs and requests. Cape Ann Food Pantry does mobile farmer’s markets at the Senior Centers in Rockport and Gloucester and may begin them in Essex. Walking trails, ball fields, and playgrounds availability was discussed, as was areas for seniors and all to be able walk and swim year round. A rep from the Gloucester Y was there and stated that these are issues they are considering incorporating into their new facility. Discussion on getting the word out to the public on these services was also discussed.

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H. Complaints

(1) Lanes Rd.,

We received a complaint from a property owner that the occupant of his house, while walking their dog, noted feces and a strong sewage odor at the culvert in the road/driveway. He checked the following day and did note the strong odor. I checked the day following receipt of the complaint. I saw no fecal matter and did get an occasional sewage odor on the downstream side of the culvert. The owner did grab a water sample, which I brought to Biomarine for testing. The test results were <10/ 100 ml.

Recommendation: None at this time. The owner will monitor it and retest when snow/ice conditions are better, if he feels it necessary.

(2) Hoarding

We received notification from a landlord that they were concerned about a hoarding situation with a senior tenant. The landlord had entered the unit for maintenance and was concerned at the condition of the unit and the occupant. They had already contacted Senior Care, who filed a report and planned to follow up. I suggested we wait to see the results of their investigation/intervention, as I think they have more resources. The landlord will let us know what happens and we can go from there if necessary.

Recommendation: None at this time.

(3) 12 Harry Homans Dr., William H. Burke Revocable Trust, Map 31, Lot 44 *

While I was on vacation we received a housing complaint of mold in an apartment at this property. Leslie Whelan, the inspector covering for me inspected the unit and issues a complaint to the owner and also to the occupant. I will perform the follow up inspection on Monday.

I. Hazards Abated Via Enforcement Orders

None

J. Other Issues

PTO Boards/Committees Open House

The PTO held an Open House March 14 to familiarize people with the various departments and what they do. I agreed to participate. Unfortunately, it was poorly

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attended by the public. There was discussion on presenting this again next year, but at the school on the schools open house.

Recommendation: None. Informaional only

K. Tracking of Housing, Food Service, and Other Miscellaneous Board Issues

(1) West African Traveler

We were notified by DPH that someone was returning to Essex after traveling to W. Africa. They were deemed as low risk, with no known exposure to e. Bola; however they do require daily monitoring for 21 days. Due to our shortage of Nurse availability and DPH's experience with this, they will handle the monitoring for us.

Recommendation: None. Informational only.

Restaurant Shut Down

On Monday, 3-9, I received a phone call from a restaurant on the causeway, stating that they were notified by the DPW that their water was being turned off, due to a water main break. I called DPW to determine the estimated outage (unknown – potentially into the following day) and affected locations. I contacted our food inspector to notify her & discuss – we concurred that all affected food service establishments should be shut down for the duration & perform specific flushing prior to re-opening. The food inspector would re-inspect all affected establishments to review flushing procedure logs.

I contacted all affected food service establishments to require shutdown. These calls were followed up with emails with attached written procedures to re-open. I also contacted two motels in the affected area – neither was open for the season yet.

Recommendation: None. Informational only.