

Egremont Board of Health
January 27, 2022, 10:30 am
Meeting Held Via Zoom

In Attendance: Charles Ogden, Chairman, Ellen Maggio

Recording: Juliette Haas, Director

- 1) Noting the presence of a quorum, Chairman Ogden called the meeting to order at 10:32 am. All board members and staff were introduced, and it was noted the meeting was being recorded to Zoom. Motion made and seconded to adopt the minutes from the January 6, 2022 meeting with modifications. Vote taken: Ogden yes, Maggio yes. Motion passed 2-0.
- 2) **COVID Home Testing Kits** Due to the rapidly changing events pertaining to the availability of home testing kits, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission did not place a county order and the town did not move forward on a town purchase. Home testing kits are now reimbursable through some private insurers and many residents signed up for the free kits through a federal program. These kits are anticipated to arrive in early February to those who placed an order.
- 3) **COVID**
 - 14-day positivity rate (statewide): 20.61%
 - 14-day positivity rate (Berkshire County): 14%
 - Egremont cumulative cases: 58 (increase from 45 previous week)
 - Statewide infection rates have declined in last 7-day period
 - Director Haas will email the board the current city/town data which is updated on Thursdays at 5 pm.
- 4) **Southern Berkshire Regional School District Monthly Meeting** Director Haas reported the events from the recent monthly meeting with BOH representatives from the five district towns and Superintendent Beth Regulbuto. The District is planning to opt-in to the state's new Test at Home program and only provide Test and Stay services for students in sports and extracurricular activities. Masks are mandated at SBRSD.
- 5) **Southern Berkshire Public Health Collaborative** At a Zoom meeting Director Haas attended with three members of the Executive Committee of the SBPHC she was informed how the Collaborative was formed (a Shared Services state grant) and why Egremont was not included as a member town (Egremont is served by the Alliance which also received Shared Services grant funding). Egremont was encouraged to attend future Collaborative meetings and partner in future projects where needed and applicable.
- 6) **Zoom Meeting Protocols** Due to growing occurrences of individuals disrupting BOH Zoom meetings across the county, Chairman Ogden appeared before the Select Board to inquire about procedures that can be used to keep order in a meeting. Chairman Ogden shared those procedures with the EBOH.

- 7) **Kostyk/12 Prospect Lake Road** A Title 5 inspection was recently performed at this location. The septic system is 40+ years old and the Truvap serving as the entire leach field was holding water and solids. A deep hole test will soon be performed to determine if the system is in groundwater. If so, the system will automatically fail. If not, the EBOH will decide the pass/fail status.
- 8) **Air Sensor Grant** The BOH's application for an air sensor grant to monitor particulate matter in the air was approved. Egremont will receive five air sensors which will be placed at Town Hall, French Park, Water Department, April Hill and Catamount. Director Haas will coordinate the installation with Egremont's Building Superintendent Tom Reynolds. The installation costs will come from the EBOH expense account.
- 9) Meeting adjourned at 11:13 am. The February meeting schedule will be February 10th and 24th.

Juliette S. Haas
Approved
2/24/2022