



**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**GRAFTON MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER**  
**30 PROVIDENCE ROAD**  
**GRAFTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01519**  
**(508) 839-5335 x1580 / FAX: 508-839-8559**  
[healthdept@graffton-ma.gov](mailto:healthdept@graffton-ma.gov)



HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Minutes of Meeting  
**Grafton Board of Health**  
 February 6, 2023

2023 MAR -7 1 AM 10:33  
 RECEIVED TOWN CLERK  
 GRAFTON, MA

A meeting of the Grafton Board of Health was held on February 6, 2023 and conducted remotely via Zoom. Present was Karen Gwozdowski Gauvin, Chair; Jennifer Maynard, Vice Chair; William Muller and Daniel J. Finn. Staff and invited guests present was Micah Blondeau, Regional Public Health Specialist; Amelia Houghton, RN, and Melissa Scannell, R.N., both with the Central MA Regional Public Health Alliance.

A Motion was made by Dan Finn to open the meeting at 6:30 p.m.; seconded by William Muller via roll call vote: Dan Finn, William Muller, Jenn Maynard & Karen Gwozdowski Gauvin; all ayes.

***CMRPHA UPDATES:***

Micah Blondeau updated the Board - New IMA's were with Town Managers and being worked on. Annual Reports have been submitted. Eleven food establishments were inspected since the January 9, 2023 with one suspect food poisoning called into the Health Department. Upon inspection this was unfounded. One nuisance complaint was received of trash and debris being thrown onto a property; therefore, a concern of rats. A letter will be sent to the property owner. The Health Department was not called to the fire at Feedback Earth on Creeper Hill Road since they are permitted and under the purview of the State.

Amelia Houghton updated the Board on ***Community Health:*** - On January 19th members of Community Health Team met with Central Office administrations from Grafton schools to discuss ways to expand the existing partnership between the school district and WDPH. Topics discussed were health, mental health and substance abuse. Three new members have joined the WDPH Community Health Team: Emile Somda, Engle Torres and Emily Flavin.

***Communicable Disease Reporting:*** in Calendar year 2022 there were over 1,400 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19, SARS, MERS, etc.) confirmed cases in Grafton from January through June and 437 cases from July through December. Amelia Houghton will be scheduling a ***COVID-19*** vaccine clinic in March taking advantage of the State incentive program. Melissa Scannell, RN, held Blood Pressure Clinics at the Senior Center and Grafton Housing Authority. Flu vaccination clinics were held at the High School on October 26th and Millbury Street Elementary School on November 17th. A COVID-19 vaccination clinic was held at the Middle School on December 1<sup>st</sup> for students 12 years plus and their families; 121 residents attended and those recipients receiving a \$25 gift card from the State incentive program. There were no Monkeypox concerns in Grafton in 2022.

***Tobacco Inspections*** were held for Retail Tobacco Education and Enforcement Inspections with a total of 12 inspections for the year 2022.

Jenn Maynard questioned whether the Senior Center needed more Blood Pressure Clinics with Amelia Houghton referencing they average about 15 to 22 attendees. Jenn Maynard stated other communities have had

Clinics at their Senior Housing facilities to which Amelia Houghton stated they did have them in the past but were not very well attended. Amelia Houghton will contact the Senior Center staff and Housing Authority Staff.

As of February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Grafton had 4,111 confirmed positive COVID-19 cases since early 2020 with a variety of cases not getting reported due to at home testing. After the holidays was a spike and now the numbers are slowly coming down. There are very high levels of Flu. RSV is still out there, and people need to be vigilant and take precautions, wearing masks, watching out for the elderly.

William Muller questioned of the 4,000 plus cases reported locally how many were in ICU, how many required hospitalizations and how many deaths did Grafton have. Amelia Houghton will speak with Dr. Hirsch to see if this information is available regarding the hospitalizations.

***PHEP Rep:*** A motion was made by Dan Finn to appoint Amelia Houghton, RN, as the primary PHEP Rep for the Town of Grafton seconded by William Muller via roll call vote: Dan Finn, William Muller, Jenn Maynard and Karen Gwozdowski Gauvin all voting aye. A motion was made by William Muller to appoint Dan Finn as the secondary PHEP Rep for the Town of Grafton seconded by Jenn Maynard via roll call vote: William Muller, Jenn Maynard, Karen Gwozdowski Gauvin and Dan Finn all voting aye.

***Rabies Clinic*** -Dan Finn spoke with the Tufts Veterinary students and a meeting is planned at the Municipal Center for February 23 to go over the plans. A member of the Town Clerks' office will also be invited to discuss dog licensing.

***Meetings via Zoom*** – March 31 is when Zoom meetings will come to an end; however, the State can still extend that deadline. The March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will still meet the deadline; therefore, will be via Zoom. If the date is not extended rooms will need to be booked to meet in person and via Zoom.

***New Business:*** Dan Finn reported EDS Drill on February 7<sup>th</sup> was set up by Jamie Terry and that information was forwarded to all Board members. Jamie Terry also requested an updated contact list.

***Upcoming Meetings:*** March 6, April 3, May 1, and June 5, 2023

***Adjourn:*** A motion was made by Dan Finn to adjourn at 7:15 p.m., seconded by William Muller via roll call vote: Dan Finn, William Muller, Mrs. Maynard and Mrs. Gwozdowski Gauvin all ayes.

These minutes were approved at the March 6, 2023 meeting.