Dr. David Tapscott, Chairman
Dr. Joann Lindenmayer, Vice Chair
Dr. Cay DenHerder, Member
Erin Hightower, Director
Kaitlin Donahue, Health Inspector
Missy Kakela-Boisvert, Administrative Assistant



TOWN OF UXBRIDGE BOARD OF HEALTH

21 South Main Street, Room 204 Uxbridge, MA 01569 508-278-8600 ext. 8 boh@uxbridge-ma.gov

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Minutes of the Uxbridge Board of Health hybrid meeting held on Wednesday, March 2, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting https://uxbridge.zoom.us/i/87338343200

Meeting ID: 873 3834 3200

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Present: David Tapscott, Chair; and Dr. Cay DenHerder, Member

Also present, Erin Hightower, Health Director; Kaitlin Donahue, Health Inspector, Missy Kakela-Boisvert, Administrative Assistant

Not Present: Dr. Joann Lindenmayer, Vice Chair

Meeting called to order: The time being 5:30 PM and a quorum present, David Tapscott, Chair called the meeting to order.

<u>Discussion on changes to Article 9: Rules and Regulations relative to the keeping, raising and exhibition of animals within the town of Uxbridge as well as the permit application for the keeping of animals</u> — Currently the issue seems to be more about Article 9 not being followed by the town. Erin and Kaitlin have been working with town counsel to update the regulations. It was agreed that there needs to be a separate meeting solely for this topic with town counsel and Animal Inspector Moe Guilbault in attendance.

COVID updates

Cases/Data – Erin explained Uxbridge's current positivity rate is 3.87%. Case numbers are lower. Last week there were 15 positive cases in town. Unfortunately, this does not include home kit testing.

Mask advisory – Dr. Tapscott brought up a housekeeping issue. Back in August of 2021 the board voted a mask mandate for schools. Last meeting the board voted to change to a strong advisory for indoor public spaces wearing of masks. There's a little confusion if that included schools.

Dr. Cay DenHerder made a motion to rescind the mask mandate for schools that was passed in August of 2021. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. Cay DenHerder – aye, Dr. David Tapscott – aye

Dr. Cay DenHerder made a motion to rescind the motion from February 2, 2022 with regards to mask and follow Mass DPH guidelines. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. Cay DenHerder – aye, Dr. David Tapscott – aye

Other updates – The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) will allow mask wearing to be option for school buses. This is only for school buses not public transportation in general. The Board received additional covid home test kits. They will be distributed as before to the senior center, food pantry, churches and library. Some will be at the Board of Health office also. Testing of Town employees and families is still available, but not being done very much. It is done in the vehicle of the person being tested and requires no entry to Town Hall.

<u>Monthly Reports</u>: Health Director, Health Inspector, and Board Members each gave a report on what they did during the month.

<u>Discussion on late/unpaid permits (haulers)</u> – There is one trash hauler who has not applied for a permit and feels that he does not need to since he owns a dumpster company hauling construction debris. Dr. Tapscott said he would reach out to the company. There are two other haulers that need to submit additional paperwork.

<u>Recycling/Trash Updates</u> – The Board received a \$3,000.00 grant from DEP through their Sustainable Materials Recovery Program. The grant requires that the Town purchase supplies that are recycled; there are other items which qualify for varying amounts of grant money, based on a point system. Erin will work on using the funds according to DEP requirements. Based on the survey results the townspeople are not interested in the town providing trash and recycling service as part of a voluntary municipal program.

Shared Service Grant Update (BVPPH)

Food Code Pro/Housing Code Pro – Daniel and Danielle, health agents from the shared services grant, have been trained with Food Code Pro and Housing Code Pro. Kaitlin has been trained with Housing Code Pro. She already did the training for Food Code Pro.

Inspections – Inspections are ahead of schedule. The inspectors are considering doing additional food and housing inspections for establishments that might need additional help.

Epidemiologist and Public Health Nurse – Erin met with Premsai Nagabhyrava who is the regional epidemiologist. Erin is hoping to meet with Debra Vescera who is the regional public health nurse. They will work with the same 8 towns in the Blackstone Valley like Danielle and Daniel.

Overall Grant Update

MVP – Dr. Joann Lindenmayer did a presentation to the select board on February 14th.

Air Quality Monitoring – Kaitlin is working with school and town facilities personnel to install the air quality monitors.

<u>Appoint Missy Kakela-Boisvert as an agent of the Board of Health</u> – Erin explained to the board that they needed to appoint Missy as an agent for the Board of Health even though her formal job title is Administrative Assistant. As an agent, she can administer regulations within her scope of work

Dr. Cay DenHerder made a motion to appoint Missy Kakela-Boisvert administrative assistant to the board of health as an agent. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed

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unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. Cay DenHerder - aye, Dr. David Tapscott - aye

Citizen's forum - no one was in the audience or on zoom.

Approval of meeting minutes

Dr. Cay DenHerder made a motion to approve meeting minutes for February 2, 2022. Dr. David Tapscott seconded and the motion was passed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0. Dr. Cay DenHerder – aye, Dr. David Tapscott – aye

ADJOURNMENT

	nHerder moved to adjourn the meeting	
seconded and the motion was pas	ssed unanimously with a vote of 2-0-0.	Dr. David Tapscott – aye, Dr.
Cay DenHerder - aye		
TENST		Dr. Cay DenHerder, Member
Dr. David Tapacott, Chair	Dr. Joann Lindenmayer, Vice Chair	Dr. Cay DenHerder, Member