

Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes  
May 5, 2020  
Ashland Town Hall  
101 Main Street, Ashland, MA

*Diane Mortensen, Chair*  
*Judi Teller, Clerk*  
*Mark Oram, Agent/Director*

*Chris Daniele, Vice Chair*  
*Ronald Etskovitz, Member*  
*Koduvayur Narayana, Member*

**Members Present Via Zoom Meeting:**

Diane Mortensen, Chris Daniele, Judi Teller, Ron Etskovitz and Koduvayur Narayana

**Others Present:**

Mark Oram, Health Agent/Director  
Laura Clifford, Administrative Secretary  
Sergeant Ed Burman, Ashland Police Department  
Michael Herbert, Town Manager  
Jennifer Ball, Assistant Town Manager  
Tom Curran, Food Inspector  
Mark Dassoni, Resident  
Preston Crow, Resident  
Amy Childs, Resident

**Call Meeting to Order - 6:00 PM**

Ms. Mortensen called the online meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

**Citizens Participation**

None.

**Covid-19, Updates**

Sergeant Burman reviewed with the Board the updated charts and number of cases of Covid-19, as well as the number of cleared cases. Sergeant Burman discussed a situation at the Long Term Care facility involving a positive diagnosis that was traced to an employee who, through testing at their secondary employment, discovered to be positive. The employee was continuing to work despite testing positive. Sergeant Burman noted this information was given to the Department of Public Health.

Michael Herbert discussed with the Board the draft Order prepared by Attorney Mead to mandate the testing of employees to ensure they are not carrying Covid-19 and unwittingly bringing it into the facility they are working in. Mr. Herbert referenced Section 7 of the document:

7. Provide testing of staff members with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 or those staff members who requests tests. Follow all applicable CDC and DPH guidelines related to any staff member who tests positive. Report all positive cases to the Board of Health.

Ms. Teller suggested the Order include mandatory disclosure of secondary employment. Jennifer Ball suggested advocating to DPH that the question of secondary employment be part of the intake. Sergeant Burman noted that if a facility has MAVEN access they can monitor their own employees. Mr. Herbert noted that not all of the facilities will take it upon themselves to follow certain criteria, therefore it must be up to the Town, but there is a balance. Mr. Herbert recommended the Board vote to adopt the Order, and they can continue to refine if better changes come out. Mr. Herbert also agreed that mandatory disclosure of secondary employment is valid, and suggested the Board advocate for State legislation to make this Order unnecessary.

**Motion:** Mr. Narayana made a motion to adopt the Emergency Order as presented. Mr. Daniele seconded the motion.

**Vote:** 5-0. Motion is approved.

Ms. Mortensen noted that last week the Board voted on an Order regarding Facial Coverings, however, the State then passed an Order which superseded the Board's Order. To keep in line with the Governor's Order, the Board should adopt the Governor's Order.

Sergeant Burman noted there was an issue at Market Basket regarding InstaCart; which Mr. Oram reported on, including the other establishments that he visited. Mr. Oram noted that he advised Market Basket to ensure their PA system is working and that they make public service announcements every 30 minutes, in English and Spanish, regarding masks and safety.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion:** Mr. Narayana made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Teller seconded the motion.

**Vote:** 5-0. Motion approved.

ASHLAND BOARD OF HEALTH  
DOCUMENTS REVIEWED AT THE 4/21/2020 MEETING  
(All items stored in the Board of Health files unless otherwise noted)

1. PowerPoint Slides and chart showing MAVEN work flow
2. Graphs of Total Cases, Total Cleared, Combined Total Cases and Cleared
3. FY20, Year-to-Date Budget
4. Draft Minutes, March 10, 2020, April 14, 2020