

READINGTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

October 21, 2009 7:00 pm

Chair William C. Nugent called the meeting to order at 7:10 and announced that all laws governing the Open Public Meetings Act have been met and that this meeting has been duly advertised.

Attendance Roll Call:

Christina Albrecht	present	William C. Nugent	present	Wendy Sheay	present
Jane Butula	present	Tanya Rohrbach	absent	Donna Simon	present
Beatrice Muir	absent				

Also Present: Board of Health Attorney, Stanley T. Perlowski, Esq.
Board of Health Engineer, Ferriero Engineering, Inc. representative, Joe Kosinski
Hunterdon County Dept. of Health representative, Debra Vaccarella

A. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. **Minutes** of August 19, 2009. (*-Rohrbach vote*).

A **MOTION** was made by Ms. Butula to approve the minutes of 8/19/09.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Simon, on roll call vote, the following was recorded:

Ms. Albrecht	Aye	Ms. Sheay	Aye	Chair Nugent	Aye
Ms. Butula	Aye	Ms. Simon	Aye		

2. **Minutes** of September 16, 2009.

A **MOTION** was made by Ms. Butula to approve the minutes of 9/16/09.

The motion was seconded by Ms. Albrecht, on roll call vote, the following was recorded:

Ms. Albrecht	Aye	Ms. Rohrbach	Aye	Ms. Simon	Aye
Ms. Butula	Aye	Ms. Sheay	Aye	Chair Nugent	Aye

B. CORRESPONDENCE

1. **Block 65/Lot 13.03** – NJDEP - no further action letter.

2. **Block 21.13/Lot 7** - LOI verification application.

Ms. Butula asked that this be copied to the Planning Board.

3. **Block 21.13/Lot 7** - LOI verification approval.

4. **Block 36/Lot 130** – NJDEP - no further action letter.

5. **Block 39/Lot 20.01** – NJDEP - no further action letter.

6. **Block 70/Lot 41.08** – HCDH Complaint Report.

Chair Nugent thanked the County for forwarding this to the Twp. Engr., also Code Enf. may want a copy of this.

7. **Block 74/Lot 4.1** – NJDEP - no further action letter.

8. **Block 38/Lot 38.03** – NJDEP - no further action letter.

9. **Suspected Hazardous Discharge Notification** letter dated 9/12/09 regarding oil heating #2.

10. **Suspected Hazardous Discharge Notification** letter dated 9/19/09 regarding oil heating #2.

11. **Suspected Hazardous Discharge Notification** letter dated 9/22/09 regarding oil heating #2.

12. **Suspected Hazardous Discharge Notification** letter dated 9/23/09 regarding oil heating #2.

13. **Block 64/Lot 37.08** – NJDEP – No further action letter.

14. **Block 46/Lots 5,6, & 2.01** – Freshwater Wetlands Application Checklist.

Ms. Butula asked if this would effect this Board in any way. Chair Nugent stated probably not.

15. **Block 77/Lot 1** – NJDEP – Compliance Evaluation and Assistance Inspection.

16. **HCDH LINCS** – dated 10/2/09 – UPDATE – Hunterdon Cty ILI – MMWR Week 38.

17. **HCDH LINCS** – dated 10/9/09 – UPDATE – Hunterdon Cty ILI – MMWR Week 39.

Chair Nugent noted that there was no influenza activity from 9/20/09 – 10/3/09 in Hunterdon Cty.

18. **HCDH LINCS** – dated 10/20/09 – UPDATE – Hunterdon Cty ILI – MMWR Week 40.

Ms. Butula noted that Hunterdon County is still not statistically significant. There is no increase in absenteeism at the schools.

C. SEPTIC REPAIRS (*HCHD status in italics*).

1. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 66/15. *Final Field 9/28/09*

2. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 43/29. *Final Field 9/15/09*
Chair Nugent stated this is surprising considering that this is a 4 year old system.
3. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 70/31.42. *Final Field 10/2/09*
4. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 45.02/28.22. *Final Field 9/18/09*
Chair Nugent asked if this was a baffle and tank replacement.
Ms. Vaccarella stated this is just a baffle replacement.
5. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 55/13.50. *No work done as of 10/15/09*
6. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 63/19.01. *Final Field 9/22/09*
7. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 73/3.38. *Final Field 10/1/09*
8. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 70/19.04. *Final Field 10/5/0909*
9. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 70/38.11. *Final Field 10/5/09*

Carried from the 9/16/09 meeting:

10. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 53/L 7.01. *Withdrew application due to cost*
11. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 48/26.37. *Final Field 8/17/09*
12. Septic System Repair Approval from HCHD, B 63/12. *Final Field 9/11/09*

D. OLD BUSINESS

E. NEW BUSINESS

1. **NJLBHA – Invitation letter dated 9/8/09.**
 - a) **11/14/09 – Local BOH and Emergency Preparedness; a Training Summit.**
Chair Nugent, Ms. Butula, Ms. Simon and Mr. Perlowski are planning to attend.
 - b) **10/8/09 – Commissioners Conference.**
2. **2009 H1N1 Influenza Vaccine Conference Call for Local Officials.**
Ms. Butula stated that a summary of this was sent out to everyone.
3. **Public Health Annex – Emergency Management.**
Ms. Sheay stated that the Public Health Annex has been revised, and has to be reviewed and approved by the Board.

F. APPROVALS

Category A. – Single Lots

1. Block 46.03/Lot 12 – RBZ, Purcell, Old Readington Road.

Escrow fees paid 9/1/09, Ck# 2212, \$750.00

Mr. Bob Zederbaum, Mr. Jim Dougherty, Design Technician and Soils Tester for RBZ, applicant Ms. Purcell, and prospective buyer Mr. Emiliano Escandon appeared before the board. Mr. Zederbaum confirmed that he is a licensed engineer in NJ. This application is a straightforward application, during a site investigation for the sale of the home, it was determined that the site was serviced by a cesspool. A series of soils tests on the property was done on the approximately ½ acre property. The area chosen is shown on the plan adjacent to the side of the house, somewhat towards the front on the Old Readington Road side. Permeability tests were good at that location. Soil log 3 was not pursued due to the fact that there is a tree that they wished to save. Passing permeability tests allowed them to comply with all of the requirements with the exception of the distance to the well that is on the property located inside the house within the 100' radius. They did not wish to ask for a waiver based on non information. There is a location in the rear of the property for the proposed septic system that would enable them to meet all of the requirements including distances from all surrounding septic and wells. The existing well will be sealed. The Hunterdon County Health Dept. letter dated 9/11/09 states that there are no issues other than the soils test based on the Boards ordinance, and they do need a pump.

Chair Nugent asked if the distance from the existing well to the stone septic trenches was greater or less than the distance from the existing well to the new proposed disposal bed ?

Mr. Zederbaum stated the proposed system is slightly closer to the existing well than the trenches, either way, it is inches, not a big difference.

Chair Nugent asked, regarding soil log 5, on Form 2b's submitted for that log, what was the 24 hour stabilized water depth ?

Mr. Dougherty stated the highest water level is based on seepage in that hole, there wasn't a 24 hr. water reading. There was some discussion of the seepage in soil log 4, @ 107", rising to 82" after 24 hours.

Mr. Dougherty stated there is a fractured rock substratum in soil log 5 that is much lower, by 8"

Chair Nugent asked if the design was based on a regional zone of saturation depth of 82"?

Mr. Dougherty stated yes.

Ms. Butula asked why they did not go back and do 24 hour monitoring ?

Mr. Dougherty stated that he spoke to Mr. Chalupa and they both felt that the water at soil log 4, was at the highest it was going to be, so that is what they based the pit bail on.

Chair Nugent asked at what depth it would become a mound if the design was based on a regional zone of saturation depth of 82"?

Mr. Zederbaum stated about 1 1/2'.

There was discussion of the prospective buyers awareness of the deed restrictive pump system requirements.

Ms. Vaccarella stated that there is a notation on page 2 of 4 of the design, stating the system size calculation is 4 bedrooms, so it should be changed to 3 and initialed.

Mr. Zederbaum stated he would provide a revised map to the Board within 3 – 5 business day.

Chair Nugent confirmed with Ms. Purcell that all questions raised in their correspondence had been addressed.

Ms. Purcell stated they had.

A **MOTION** was made by Ms. Butula for approval for Block 46.03/Lot 12, 13 Old Readington Road, owned currently by Regina Purcell, 3 bedroom house. The map is named Septic System Alteration for Regina Purcell, Block 46.03/Lot 12, Readington Township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey. The original date on the map is 8/31/09, pages 1 – 4, revision 9/8/09, prepared by Robert Zederbaum, licensed professional engineer in NJ. The surveyor is Nicholas Lebo, licensed professional land surveyor, survey done 8/31/09. Hunterdon County Department of Health report is dated 9/11/09. This is an alteration with no expansion. There is a letter from Ms. Purcell dated 9/10/09, responding letter from the Chairman of the Board, Mr. Nugent dated 9/14/09. For the primary, soil log 4, on 8/18/09, @ 136", heavy seepage at 107", the pit flooded after 24 hours @ 82". Soil log 5, on 8/18/09, @ 144", heavy seepage at 108", the pit flooded after 1/2 hour @ 130". Permeability test is pit bail 1 @ 131", done 8/19/09, result 15.85"/hour. Regional water for this installation will be determined by soil log 4 with the pit flooding after 24 hours to 82", that is the guiding regional water level. A report from Jeff Tariela dated 8/31/09, wetland investigation summarizing that " it is our determination that no freshwater wetlands, freshwater wetland transition areas or state open waters were present on or within 50' of the proposed replacement septic system to be located on Block 46.03/Lot 12. There is going to be a pump system, the present and future owners are aware of this. This will be recorded as a deed restriction at the Hunterdon County Clerks office, and a copy provided to the Board Secretary within 90 days.

This motion was seconded by Ms. Simon, on roll call vote, the following was recorded:

Ms. Albrecht Aye Ms. Rohrbach Aye Ms. Simon Aye

Ms. Butula Aye Ms. Sheay Aye Chair Nugent Aye

An **amendment to the previous motion** was made by Ms. Butula as follows:

For Block 46.03/Lot 12, the parties involved have stated that there will be a new well dug, which was their option, and was a condition of approval as stated. There is an update which will be made to page 2 of 4 of the maps, correcting the number of bedrooms from 4 to 3.

This motion amendment was seconded by Ms. Sheay, on roll call vote, the following was recorded:

Ms. Albrecht Aye Ms. Rohrbach Aye Ms. Simon Aye

Ms. Butula Aye Ms. Sheay Aye Chair Nugent Aye

Chair Nugent stated that there would be a brief discussion of drip dispersal systems.

Mr. Kosinski stated that the County has been charged by the DEP to create a wastewater management plans which are currently being developed and they have a deadline of 12/30/09 to submit to the state for review. The DEP had considered requiring the municipalities to implement a septic system maintenance ordinance. The Wastewater management plan serves two functions 1) establish the sewer service areas vs septic system

areas that generate less than 2,000 gallons/day 2) the DEP and County want to make sure that the systems are being maintained, the tanks are being pumped. Counties are requesting municipalities under their wastewater management planning area, submit a septic system management work plan which outlines who is responsible for developing a database, and log of all the septic systems approved under their authority, a mechanism for recording, how they plan on demonstrating compliance amongst their residence, and compliance. They want to have an outreach program where municipalities submit something to their residents indicating that they have a septic system and outlining the maintenance. At the end of the 6 year planning cycle – this is after the wastewater management plan has been accepted - the DEP is going to review the information submitted from the municipalities and counties, and based on that, they are going to decide whether the compliance rate was sufficient enough that they are not going to make municipalities put an ordinance in place.

Ms. Butula asked if there were anything in writing, and that Mr. Nugent as Chair would have to see it.

Mr. Kosinski stated if there were, it would have been at the Township Engineer's level.

Ms. Vaccarella stated for Hunterdon County, there are massive amounts of data already collected. Some municipalities and their information technology people have looked at a data sharing program, where HCDH is giving information out, and also information is coming into a main server that is secure, so that there is already a way of getting the information out to municipalities. The HCDH would be the ones to populate portions of the database itself, and wouldn't be relying on the homeowner. If this goes into effect, there is a timeline to follow, of which the first step is education, and that is already part of the plan, via the newsletter and township website. Chair Nugent stated that there are two aspects of this septic system management plan, 1) Being able to manage, monitor and report on repairs and activity that goes on with a septic system that currently is already funneled through the County, the HCDH database gives a wealth of information and knowledge and access. The other component of this plan, 2) Regular maintenance of a system.

Mr. Kosinski stated, compliance, which means the residents have to maintain their systems voluntarily.

Chair Nugent stated that he had discussed with Ms. Hobbs that the problem is the administrative aspect of an ordinance requiring homeowners to do pumping and provide information to the township or county to confirm that they are doing their maintenance. Also, the timeframes vary, suggesting from 1 year to 7 – 8 years.

Mr. Kosinski stated in another township, the residents have the option of submitting a report from a qualified system inspector stating that their sludge level isn't that bad.

There was some discussion that this has to be a fee based process.

Mr. Kosinski stated in the short term, what the municipality will need to do is in an outline form, submit a septic management plan stating how they will comply.

Mr. Kosinski stated that they have an outline from the county, and he will put together some correspondence to brief the board on what the county will be looking for.

Ms. Butula stated that in the board's educational plan the public needs to know that this is forthcoming.

Chair Nugent stated that perhaps that could be included in next years township newsletter.

There was some discussion of various methods of informing the public.

Chair Nugent stated that closes the septic management discussion.

Chair Nugent stated that the board would discuss drip dispersal systems.

Ms. Butula stated that she would ask Ferriero Engineering to confirm that drip dispersal system applications before the board comply with the Guidance Document.

Mr. Kosinski stated that that is the principal mechanism that they use. The Guidance Document is used to assure the Board of conformance.

Mr. Perlowski asked if there was anything different in the definition of a drip dispersal system than what is already in there, what makes it have special rules ?

Mr. Kosinski stated the special rules are that it is not a conventional gravity lift, or dose system, the dispersal is done through the use of emitters which emit a measured quantity of effluent to the soil, and is designed in such a way to promote aeration rather than saturation, it is a very small dose. The use of these systems is not outlined in 7:9A, they are considered alternative wastewater treatment systems.

Ms. Vaccarella stated that it is very similar in concept to how a drip line is put in.

Mr. Perlowski asked if these systems are considered experimental ?

Mr. Kosinski stated he did not believe so, because they are approved by use for the DEP.

Chair Nugent asked if the design was pressure released, so that smaller quantities are released over a longer period of time ?

Mr. Kosinski stated that is correct, there are two types of emitters that are used, 1) turbulent emitter, which has had some problems with uneven distribution and clogging because the dose couldn't be metered 2) pressure compensating emitter, which is proposed for most of the systems in NJ, and will operate with the same flow or dose over a wide pressure range.

Chair Nugent stated the other difference as he understood it is the depth of the bed and placement of the piping relative to the zone of treatment.

Mr. Kosinski stated you would not see one of these systems buried 4' deep because they are designed to take advantage of the root zone nitrate uptake and the non saturated nature of that soil provided there is permeability below that. These systems are designed to be constructed relatively shallow, 12" below ground.

Ms. Butula stated that the Guidance Document indicates that it can't be placed where there is a danger of freezing.

Mr. Kosinski stated that that may vary by region, part of the benefit of the system is that you have multiple zones, where one zone doses while the other zone rests to assure proper aeration.

Chair Nugent asked what is the particular value that a drip dispersal system provides, and or what problem does it solve that a conventional system can't?

Mr. Kosinski stated one of the benefits, from an environmental standpoint is that there is better nitrate uptake, because you are dispersing within root zone where these nitrates are going to be used beneficially by vegetation. If you have enough available land, even steep slope land, you wouldn't have to construct a mounded system, and regrade an entire area. The soil is not providing the effluent treatment, it is a tertiary treatment, so that the aerobic treatment chamber, or secondary treatment is providing the bulk of the treatment. Another example would be a peat filter, drip distribution is often used in conjunction with peat system when you have constrained areas. There was some discussion of qualified system integrators.

Chair Nugent asked if the pre-treatment was an outgoing baffle filter ?

Mr. Kosinski stated it is a filter, but the filtration is on a micron level rather than an inch level, your basics able filter has 1/16" filtration, these have disc filters which will filter out the effluent on a micron level, and are designed to flush during every dose as well.

Chair Nugent asked if there was any further discussion, and thanked Ms. Vaccarella and Mr. Kosinski for their input.

Chair Nugent stated that the following applicant has advised that they will be unable to attend this evening:

2. Block 96/Lot 1 – Whitestone, WaWa, Route 202.

Escrow fees paid 6/9/09, Ck# 3794459, \$2000.00

The following application has been deferred to the 11/18/09 agenda.

3. Block 59/Lot 2 – Hoffman, Sentner, Lilac Drive.

Escrow fees paid 7/14/09, Ck# 1077, \$750.00

A **MOTION** was made by Ms. Albrecht to adjourn at 10:30 pm, seconded by Ms. Simon with a vote of Ayes all, Nays, none recorded.

Respectfully submitted:

Lorraine Petzinger
Board of Health Secretary