

**EAST AMWELL TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
7:30 PM ZOOM
April 25, 2023 – Regular Meeting**

Statement of Compliance

The regular meeting of the East Amwell Township Board of Health was opened on April 25, 2023 at 7:31 PM by Chair Carluccio. In compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by a notice sent to the official newspapers of the Township, posted on the Township website, posted on the bulletin board of the Municipal building and filed with the Township Clerk as required by law, on February 1, 2023.

Roll Call

Committee Member (term expires)	1/24/2023	2/28/2023	3/28/2023	4/25/2023	5/23/2023	6/27/2023	7/25/2023	8/22/2023	9/26/2023	10/24/2023	11/28/2023	12/26/2023
Tracy Carluccio (12/2024) - Chair	X	A	X	X								
Leo DeCandia (12/2023) - Alternate #1	X	X	X	X								
Michael Dendis (12/2023) – TC Liaison	X	X	X	A								
Janis Grover (12/2024)	X	A	A	A								
Pauline Serafin (12/2023)	X	A	A	A								
Chris Sobieski (12/2023)	A	A	X	A								
Larry Tatsch (12/2024) – Vice Chair	X	X	X	X								
Rick Wolfe (12/2025)	X	X	X	X								
Amy Jo Merz - Secretary	X	X	X	X								

Agenda Review

There were no additions to the agenda.

Presentation of Minutes

March 28, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

A motion made by Mr. Tatsch, seconded by Mr. Wolfe to approve the March minutes was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Presentation of Vouchers

A motion made by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Tatsch to approve the vouchers for W.H. Wolf was unanimously approved by voice vote.

A motion made by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. DeCandia to approve the voucher for Larry Tatsch was approved by voice vote, with Mr. Tatsch abstaining.

Open to the Public

Seeing no members of the public present, a motion made by Mr. Tatsch, seconded by Mr. Wolfe to close the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business for discussion.

New Business

Preview Committee

Nardo, Block 14.02, Lot 28.02, 7 Toad Lane, Ringoes, NJ, Septic Application

Present was Erica Busch, P.E., to discuss the replacement of a malfunctioning system to an existing four-bedroom dwelling with no expansion. The plans and related documents were previously reviewed by the Preview Committee. Questions asked regarding location and orientation were answered by Ms. Busch; however, motion was made to not grant the following waivers requested:

1. The existing 1,500-gallon septic tank will be only 61 feet from the existing well, which does not meet the minimum 100-foot setback requirement per the East Amwell Township ordinance.
 - The Engineer explained the following reasons for keeping the existing septic tank and not moving it outside the 100-foot radius: 1) the existing septic tank is already there and the previous owner did obtain a septic repair permit in 2017 to replace the failing tank with a new tank. Since that new tank is preexisting to this design and the tank is only about 6 years old, the Engineer and homeowner decided to re-use the existing tank. 2) If a septic tank is placed further from the house, there is more of a chance of settling. Currently, the tank is 25 feet from the house. If the tank is moved 100 feet from the well, the tank would be 75 more feet from the house which isn't ideal. 3) As the hill travels downward, the water table would be higher and it's not a good idea to put the tank in a high water table.

2. The proposed 1,300-gallon pump tank will be only 72 feet from the existing well, which does not meet the minimum 100-foot setback requirement per the East Amwell Township ordinance.
 - The Engineer explained that the pump tank, which is empty 99% of the time, is further down from the septic tank and would also be located in a high water table.

A motion made by Mr. Tatsch, seconded by Mr. Wolfe, to disapprove the design and request the Engineer to review the design and make appropriate changes to move the tanks so they are in compliance with East Amwell Township ordinance was unanimously approved by voice vote. In order to be in compliance with the Township's ordinance, the septic tank and pump tank will need to be moved to a location that is at least 100 feet from the existing well. The Board is charged with protecting the environment, wells and septic systems of the Township and has a consistency with how the ordinance is applied. Chair Carluccio informed Ms. Busch that if she withdraws the waivers after this meeting and complies completely, she would not have to wait and come back before the Board for approvals since there would be nothing to come before the Board for approval at that point and, therefore, the applicant would not get delayed.

Items of Discussion

Education and Health Issues

Chair Carluccio opened up this section to members for comment; there were no comments. Chair Carluccio asked Ms. Merz when the tax mailing is going out since the Deputy Clerk asked for information from each Board and Committee that would like to include something in the mailing. Ms. Merz said the mailings go out sometime in July. Chair Carluccio and Mr. Tatsch will give some thought about the topic for this year and asked Ms. Merz to let them know what content was included last year.

Board Secretary's Report

There were no new updates from Ms. Merz.

Open to the Public

A motion made by Mr. Tatsch, seconded by Mr. Wolfe to open the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote. Seeing no members of the public present, a motion made by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Tatsch to close the meeting to the public was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Correspondence

Chair Carluccio reviewed the correspondence received with the Board. Covid levels are the same as last month. The transmission rate is still medium and rate of occurrence is low so we will keep tracking both and see how the reports are trending. Mr. Tatsch commented that up until 4/19, people were not able to get the 2nd Bivalent booster shot. On 4/19, the CDC changed the requirements to allow a 2nd Bivalent shot for those 65 and older or those with any pre-existing conditions that could affect their covid susceptibility. Mr. Tatsch said he and his wife were able to get their booster shots today via an appointment at Shop Rite and have had no side effects yet from it. Mr. Wolfe commented that it seems like dog bites are not that infrequent in

East Amwell and he doesn't know whether the owners get fined or if there are any consequences. Possibly the Board could put something in the tax mailing info about consequences to let people know so they are more careful with their dogs. An example is the case reported in this evening's packet of the meals on wheels volunteer that was recently bitten while delivering a meal to someone. Many people let their dogs run loose and the dog could be euthanized if it happens several times. Ms. Leonard also commented her understanding of the process is that after three times a dog bites someone, it can be euthanized. The first and second time, the event is documented. It is up to the person who gets bitten, whether they want to press charges, etc.

Adjourn

A motion made by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. DeCandia to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm was unanimously approved by voice vote.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, 2023.

Amy Jo Merz, Board of Health Secretary