

**Lincoln Board of Health**  
**Virtual Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, June 15, 2022**

Members Presents: Frederick Mansfield, MD  
Steven Kanner, MD  
Patricia Miller

Others Present: Trish McGean, Town Nurse; Melanie Dineen, Concord Health Director; Elaine Carroll, Adm. Asst., Buzz Constable and Michelle Barnes, LLCT

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The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. The next meeting is on July 13, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

**Update on COVID-19 Cases**

Trish McGean said the following: COVID cases are going down, which coincides with the wastewater numbers as seen in the last several months. In Lincoln for the last seven days, we have seen 10 confirmed PCR cases. Becky McFall said the school had 14 cases in 14 days mostly at Hanscom with two students and one staff member from Lincoln. In a text this morning, Becky said their pool testing results showed six positive Hanscom students and one positive Lincoln student with June 21 being the last day for students and June 22 for teachers. In general kids are not as symptomatic, but through calls she is seeing adults with symptoms that are lasting longer with body fatigue, body aches and temperatures. In the next calendar year, the State is not offering any pool testing and if the school wants to do it themselves it would cost \$500,000 for the year. They will not be doing that but have ordered a lot of antigen tests and will be using that for symptomatic testing in the nurse's office. Jessica Downing from Park and Recreation said during the Public Health Team meeting that they are getting ready for summer camp, which is almost filled up. Melanie Dineen is doing the health inspection for the camp, and she is doing the medical part. The new guidelines say that unvaccinated children who are exposed to close contact do not need to quarantine anymore as long as they stay asymptomatic but should mask up for 10 days. Dr. Kanner said he sent a link which could help people navigate the risks with COVID, which is going to be with us for the long haul. The members will review it and decide whether to put it on the Board of Health website. People should protect themselves from high risk places like grocery stores because you can still get COVID even if you have been vaccinated and have booster shots. The CDC has also rescinded the travel order for anyone re-entering the United States.

The State has had four cases of monkeypox. Two were adult men in close contact. Currently this is not anything to be concerned about with more cases in other parts of the country. The symptoms include a rash, swollen lymph nodes, Covid like symptoms. They should seek medical advice from their primary care physician. It is spread by close contact with open weepy lesions.

**Update on Opting Out of Mosquito Spraying for Municipalities:**

Dr. Mansfield said after the last meeting he had presented the Select Board Office with a letter outlining the four things the Board proposed in order to opt out of municipal spraying, but the Select Board never got a change to discuss it at their meeting and the deadline to opt out had passed. Melanie Dineen said that the Concord Board of Health did not decide to opt out because if there is a positive case of EEE or West Nile virus you would want to do some sort of spraying anyway based on the history in Concord.

Buzz Constable said the following. He talked to Tim Higgins and Tim felt that there was not enough time to apply to opt out and felt the prospect of a winning outcome was relatively low. Some towns have questioned their towns being in a high risk. Lincoln had a case of EEE around 1955 and felt the Town should start around November to see where we stand for opting out next year. Between the Land Trust and Conservation, we are comfortable not having tried to get the opt out. The Land Trust is prepared to put out the information on protecting yourself from mosquitoes in their e-news letter and on Lincoln Talk with the endorsement of the Board of Health, which is the same thing we did last year. They would also help with a town wide mailing, which is expensive and time consuming. Michelle Barnes said she thought there would be interest in some sort of panel discussion but since we missed the deadline, there is no urgency to get that done. Michelle said that the Agricultural Commission is quite keen to support this effort since a lot of their farmers are certified organic and do not want spraying. Melanie said that if a farm is a registered organic farm with the State then they will with

mapping be excluded from spraying and had also heard that the spraying would be a very limited region that would be sprayed around the positive test area. The type of spraying which you could opt out of is the aerial fine mist done at night and not the land spraying.

Mr. Constable said if there is a case in the area there will be people coming to the Board asking what to do and how to do it and if there is any way the Land Trust can help then we would be happy to do it. Dr. Mansfield said it would be right to say that the Board endorses the Land Trust's distribution of material to avoid mosquito bites of the same nature as distributed last year. In conclusion, the information should be provided town wide. Dr. Mansfield said we should start the opt out process in April and also invite Brian Farless of East Middlesex Mosquito Control to come to a meeting to discuss the process and get some information from him about Lincoln's history with regard to mosquito control and invite the public to the meeting.

Melanie said she was at the Codman pool today for an inspection and issued their permit and is going to be inspecting the summer camps. Casey Mellin is no longer with Concord or Lincoln. Concord will be posting tomorrow for a new Environmental Health Inspector for Lincoln and Concord.

**Minutes:**

Patricia Miller made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2022 meeting as written. Steve Kanner seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Steve Kanner-aye, Patricia Miller-aye, Fred Mansfield-aye.

At 8:30 p.m. Patricia Miller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve Kanner seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Steve Kanner-aye, Patricia Miller-aye, Fred Mansfield-aye.

*Submitted by Elaine Carroll*

*Approved: July 13, 2022*