

**Princeton Board of Health Commission**  
**Minutes**  
**June 18, 2013**

The regular monthly meeting of the Princeton Board of Health as convened at 7:30PM at Princeton Borough Hall-East Conference Room.

**Members Present:** Dr. George DiFerdinando, Janet Heroux, Dr. Charles Rojer JoAnn Hill, RN.

**Alternates:** Steven Miller, PhD, # 1 and Linda Steiner-Sichel, RN, MPH, # 2

**Liaison:** Heather Howard

**Also Present:** Dave Henry, Health Officer

**Member absent:** Robert Ciotta, PhD, Dr. Laura Kahn and Rick Weiss

**Visitor:** Professor Robert J. Goldston, Princeton Plasma Physics Laboratory Mr. Rakesh Joshi, Secor, Chief Technology Officer, Ms. Kip Cherry and Elizabeth Bidwell-Bates, Princeton Human Service Commission.

**Public Comment:**

Ms. Cherry gave a brief outline of the concerns and possible damage to the environment also the various health hazards and safety issues. Ms. Cherry presented a map of the pipeline as it runs through Princeton Ridge and parallel to Route 206 there is an existing pipeline that is about 36 inches in diameter, the new pipeline size is to be 42 inches in diameter Ms. Cherry mention her concern in the unlikely event of an accident how the emergency response would be handled.

The deadline to submit any comments to the FERC is July 1, 2013.

Mr. Rakesh Joshi he spoke on the pipeline safety Mr. Joshi indicated that before the work on the pipeline starts the Williams Company should have a meeting with the Township to give an overview of the project and all aspects of the emergency planning should it be required. Pipeline Safety Grants are available from Federal Department of Transportation (DOT) to communities and nonprofit organizations to increase pipeline safety.

Professor Robert J. Goldston spoke of the safety condition of the existing pipeline that has been in place for 55 years one section had to be replaced and there is a concern about the boulder field in the area where the pipeline will be laid and the concern is that with the use of heavy equipment this could cause boulders to move much closer to the existing pipeline and cause an interruption in the coating of the pipeline the company has assured him that they have done this type of work before.

Professor Goldston indicated that he was not happy with the new pipeline being laid next to a working pipeline he suggested that a request be made for the old pipeline to be turned off while work is being done on the new pipeline with the conditions documented the environment before the pipeline is installed and after it is done he also mentioned that an Environmental Impact Statement should be reviewed.

Professor Goldston and Mr. Joshi hiked along the Ridge and found a boulder field that is about 500 ft. from the Stuart School, and this is considered a safety risk.

Professor Goldston indicated that Williams Company should be asked to contribute to the emergency preparedness. The Board of Health should request the Williams Company to examine other options of laying the new pipeline next to the old one.

Ms. Howard indicated that the intervener status should be taken and inquired of Dr. Rojer of the position of the Environmental Commission, Dr. Rojer indicated that there meeting would be on the following night.

Ms. Cherry indicated, a resolution was started by the Environmental Commission and was very detailed. This was approved by the Environmental Commission and sent to the Counsel this was passed.

Mr. Miller thought that the Board should endorse the Resolution by the Counsel and asked that the safety issues and the emergency response the emergency preparedness and the possible hazards be addressed.

Dr. DiFerdinando thought that risk of the hazards could be problematic and would like to have a conversation with Transco about all the concerns mention.

Ms. Heroux mentioned if the risk cannot be identified, a recommendation to the company should be to minimize risk by turning off the old pipeline while working on the new one.

Dr. Rojer indicated that with the removal of the trees would change the quality of the air and the water retention and drainage it also affect the health of the community and the way that children play in that area.

Dr. DiFerdinando noted that three themes one that the Board should support the Counsel and the Environmental Commission resolution, two Stress an EIS that addresses the level of risk and the hazards involved and three stress that any modification of the current pipe line must address the need for detail of an emergency preparedness plan and implication.

Mr. Miller thought that in the event Williams denied the EIS then the Board of Health should prepare the emergency response plan and the hazard mitigation.

After more discussion it was agreed that a thorough safety and emergency service preparedness plan be in place in the event of an explosion

A motion made by Dr. Rojer that the Board of Health supports the declaration from the Environmental Commission and the Princeton Counsel resolution of concern and the particular concern of the health /safety of the community and call for EIS with the hazards involved and the need for a detail emergency plan which include emergency support.

This was seconded by Mr. Miller on a voice call vote: Ayes (6) Nays (0)

### **Minutes- May 21, 2013**

A motion to approve the May 21, 2013 minutes was made by JoAnn Hill and seconded by Linda Steiner-Sichel

### **Local & Regional Public Health Preparedness**

Dr. DiFerdinando reminded members of the MRC training for emergency preparedness. Classes are on going every six month

### **Monthly Reports/ Health Officer's Report (May/June)**

Mr. Henry gave a review of the Health Officers report he indicated that the report on the lead poisoning the remediation of the paint will be completed shortly.

A child was scratched by a rabid bat the child was seen and by all of the various medical personal.

## **Old Business**

### **Meningitis Update**

Dr. DiFerdinando gave an update on the above.

### **County Epidemiology- Elimination of Position/Resignation**

Mr. Henry reported that the County Epidemiology has resigned on May 31, 2013

### **Essential Public Health Services – Health Education**

Mr. Henry distributed information on the importance of public health and explained the importance of good hygiene.

Ms. Bidwell-Bates inquired about the well baby numbers. Mr. Henry indicated that he has not received the information.

## **New Business / Members Comments**

Dr. DiFerdinando mentioned the death of a person who fell while cutting down a tree this is a dangerous occupation.

The Board takes this time to remind the resident of safe yard work and encourages the review of OSHA materials on safe tree trimming.

### **Resolution- Overriding Veto on A575/S253 – Prohibition on accepting the waste from Fracking.**

Mr. Henry indicated that Grace Sinden was unable to attend and gave a brief explanation of the bill.

Dr. DiFerdinando made a motion to support the effort to override the Fracking waste bill.

This was approved on a voice call vote: Ayes (6) Nays (0)

### **Resolution– Requesting Adoption of Domestic Animal Policy/Sustainable**

## **Princeton**

Mr. Henry gave a brief report on the above request.

After much discussion the above was tabled for the next meeting.

## **Resolution – Endorsing Comprehensive Tobacco Program**

The resolution was tabled for the next meeting.

Draft Annual Report for 2012 was tabled for the next meeting.

## **Reports from Committees**

Budget and Finance

Personnel

The above mentioned committees had no reports at this time.

Planning – DiFerdinando & Rojer

The above committees are in the process of setting the goals of the committee.

## **Reports from Other Boards and Commissions**

Environmental Commission

Princeton Alcohol and Drug Alliance

The above commissions have no reports at this time.

There being no further business to come before the Board the meeting was adjourned.