

**VILLAGE OF BARRINGTON HILLS
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
December 9, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Village of Barrington Hills Board of Health was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chairman Johnston.

Board of Health Members Present: Gwynne Johnston, Chairman
Frank J. Konicek, M.D., Vice Chairman
Anne Majewski, M.D.

Board of Health Members Absent: Shirley Conibear, M.D.

Others Present: Robert Kosin, Director of Administration
Dan Strahan, Village Engineer
Janet Agnoletti, BACOG

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dr. Majewski made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20th, 2014 meeting of the Board of Health. The motion was seconded by Dr. Konicek and approved unanimously.

MEETING CALENDAR 2015: Mr. Kosin presented the draft calendar. After discussion a motion was made by Dr. Majewski and seconded Dr. Konicek to recommend adoption of the draft calendar by the Board of Trustees. The motion was approved unanimously.

WATER QUALITY STUDY: Mr. Kosin introduced the discussion by clarifying a question from the previous meeting regarding privacy of groundwater data. After review, it had been determined that any data, including groundwater testing, that is gathered by the Village and relied upon by a public body is public and is subject to the Freedom of Information Act.

Dr. Konicek asked for clarification of what the obligations were for public and private wells. Mr. Kosin responded that there is not testing obligation for private wells. The threshold at which state testing requirements begin is for wells serving 25 or more unrelated individuals. Above this threshold the testing requirements are similar to the Level II groundwater testing program offered by BACOG.

Chairman Johnston noted the feeling of the Board of Health would be to support a program to develop baseline data of groundwater quality in the Village. Mr. Strahan noted that nine locations had been identified within the Village that would be subject to testing requirements as a public well and that the proposal would be to coordinate with staff at these locations to take samples from the system. Chairman Johnston asked if there were any recommendations from BACOG regarding the frequency or timing of such a testing program. Ms. Agnoletti indicated she would look into this topic with the Illinois State Water Survey, but noted that as most of the testing parameters are naturally occurring the time of year was unlikely to affect the levels. Ms. Agnoletti noted that a typical testing frequency for these parameters, if found to be at normal levels, would be once very ten years. Chairman Johnston noted he would prefer annual testing or perhaps more often to identify seasonal trends. Ms. Agnoletti noted that the ISWS can perform eight tests per batch through the BACOG program and that there is currently a waiting list of 80 residents. She noted that she was unsure if ISWS had the capacity to perform the tests once or twice per year for the Village.

Mr. Kosin discussed the logistics of the proposed program, noting that Village staff would coordinate with the Village Engineer to make contacts. Mr. Kosin noted that the costs of the program could be covered within the normal activities of the budget.

Mr. Strahan noted that the Village has been conducting surface water quality testing for several years as part of the NPDES program, which can be looked at as an initial indicator of groundwater quality. Mr. Strahan also observed that the Village owns several properties as well as roadway right-of-way throughout the Village, which could provide a means to install monitoring wells as a way to gather data without having to overcome privacy and other issues associated with data from private wells.

A motion was made by Dr. Majewski and seconded by Dr. Konicek to recommend to the Village Board that funding be approved by the Village Board to support an ongoing groundwater testing program. The motion was approved unanimously.

Chairman Johnston asked how the data would be analyzed and monitored over time. Ms. Agnoletti noted that the data could be mapped in GIS and suggested gathering data points beyond the Village limits, perhaps from adjacent municipal wells. Ms. Agnoletti also suggested using the contacts established in a current BACOG groundwater level testing program utilizing 18 state wells located throughout the BACOG area.

Chairman Johnston asked for further input regarding how residents contribute to the program while addressing privacy concerns. Mr. Strahan suggested that data could be submitted with quarter section, section, township, and range information, which would be accurate enough for Village wide testing but would not require a specific address.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comments were made. Dr. Majewski asked if anyone has addressed the question of septic system design for commercial horse boarding operations. Mr. Strahan noted the response received from the Lake County Health Department that they did not have specific criteria, but would rely upon an estimate from the applicant and use a water meter to identify the flow rate. Dr. Majewski noted her concern that this area was not regulated.

Dr. Konicek asked if the question of horse density had been addressed. Mr. Kosin noted that Village staff has contacted a faculty member at the University of Illinois who was interested in studying the area to review potential horse density. After discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Majewski and seconded by Dr. Konicek that in view of the conflicting evidence that has been presented to the Board of Health regarding grazing density and the public health concerns for potential surface and groundwater contamination, the Board of Health recommends that no specific grazing density value be made until an expert in the field can provide professional input and guidance regarding appropriate grazing density in the area of Barrington Hills. Chairman Johnston requested that this concern be communicated to the Board of Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT: Dr. Konicek motioned to adjourn at 8:37 PM. Dr. Majewski seconded the motion. All present said aye.