



WESTERN MASSACHUSETTS PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION

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Sean Gonsalves, DEP

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2025 MEETING AT THE MONTAGUE TOWN HALL ANNEX,
1 AVENUE A, TURNERS FALLS, MA 01376 **(Thank you to the Montague Health Department
for hosting!)**

Attendance *Tom Hibert; Ryan Paxton; Bri Dupras; Tammy Spencer; Phoebe Walker; Laura
Kittross; Colton Garelli; Dan Hassett*

TH opened the meeting at 11:37 am

Minutes Review and Approval:

LK made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 12, 2025 executive committee meeting;
PW seconded the motion; all approved.

Treasurer's Update

Financial Report: **Checking:** 16,181.13

Savings: 10,617.56

FY 25 Grant: 975.46

FY 23 Grant: 1,684.35

Group discussed FY23 Funds. Will use them to purchase promotional materials for MHOA annual
conference and for Totally Title Five Conference.

Totally Title 5 Subcommittee

Ideas that the subcommittee has come up with for sessions are

- Overview of METRIK
- Update on the T5 Training Program from the Central T5 Trainer
- Justin DaMore (Overview of PuraFlo and Advanced Enviro-Septic Treatment Systems https://youtu.be/T_FnSnZwHLI?si=YI0tqUYTIZEb4PII).
- Basics of reading a blueprint
- LUA Basics
- Dealing with questionable credentials

TS will update the calendar invite for the executive committee members to reflect the new March date. Add Perkright to vendor list.

CLPH and Legislative Update - PW & LK

Very few people are signing up to testify at the hearings. PW strongly urges individuals to submit testimony. Submission period open until October 11, 2025.

Pathway to RS subcommittee looking to reduce the number of credits needed for the RS application. Send feedback to Phyllis Williams Thompson at OLRH.

CART annual SAPHE 2.0 reporting will be coming out shortly.

Discussed issues with DEP regarding NEIWPCC and how to plan for more access to training.

PHE Day at the State House – CLPH is working on messaging to bring to the governor's office.

WMPHA helping to fund bus from Greenfield to Holyoke to the State House for PHE Day.

Email went out from Kate Forest at CLPH reminding LPH to reach out to their legislators routinely.

Pathway's Internship Program looking for feedback – email Phoebe Walker.

Discussed CLPH subcommittee representation from WMPHA.

Information from decrease in funding for family shelters this winter.

WMPHA Logo Discussion

Looking to have the Logo ready for the September MHOA newsletter.

MHOA Conference

Discussed table staffing and giveaways – stickers, pens, candy, etc. BD is updating the WMPHA poster and tablecloth. BD and TH looking into new print supply companies. PW will look into stickers. BD is working on getting the Codebooks printed.

FY26DPH Workplan and Budget

Group reviewed workplan and budget provided by FRCOG. DH moved to approved the workplan and budget with suggested changes; TH seconded the motion; all approved.

Bus Rental for PHE Day at the State House 10/23/2025

LK made a motion for PW to put a deposit down on a bus for PHE Day Event at the State House on 10/23/25 with up to \$20 per person for lunch; RP seconded the motion; all approved.

Training Hub Update – BD and DH

Assistant Clerk Magistrate, Caitlin Castillo, agreed to participate in housing trainings. Berkshire training hub has a new website.

Two trainer positions open – one in each Western Mass training hub.

RS/REHS Book and Course Update – BD

Four free course available at time of meeting.

Adjournment

DH made a motion to adjourn; LK seconded the motion; all approved.

Next Meeting:

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held virtually at **11:30 am on Tuesday, October 14, 2025.**

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Spencer, Secretary WMPHA