TOWNSHIP OF COLTS NECK
BOARD OF HEALTH
January 6, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Jim Schatzle called the Colts Neck Board of Health meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and read the following statement: "As Chairman and Presiding Officer of this meeting of the Colts Neck Board of Health, I hereby declare that the notice requirements of the New Jersey public meetings law have been satisfied by noticing the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times on February 26, 2025 stating that a regular meeting of the Colts Neck Township Board of Health would be held on January 6, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Colts Neck Town Hall Annex, 3 Veterans Way, Colts Neck. A copy is on file in the Office of the Township Clerk. I further order that this public announcement be placed in the minutes of this meeting."

ROLL CALL INDICATED:

PRESENT:	Jim Schatzle, Dr. Boak, Annemarie Delle Donne, Pam Sokoler, Jeff Reisinger, Linda Stagliano, Joe Abutel
ABSENT:	Liz Iacono, Dr. Mark McCollum and John Tobia (Liaison)
ALSO PRESENT:	Tom Frank and Christine Eschert

Reorganization – Tom Frank requested nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary. Jeff Reisinger made a motion to appoint Jim Schatzle as Chair; Pam Sokoler as Vice Chair and Christine Eschert as secretary. The motion was seconded by Dr. Boak and unanimously carried. Oaths of Office were administered to Dr. Boak, Pam Sokoler and Joe Abutel.

Meeting Dates 2026 Board of Health – All 2026 BOH meeting dates were approved, and the Board will continue to meet in the Town Hall Annex located at 3 Veterans Way, Colts Neck Township.

Meeting Minutes – Jim Schatzle made a motion to approve the November 4, 2025 meeting minutes. This motion was approved by Jeff Reisinger, seconded by Linda Stagliano and unanimously carried.

Discussion Item – None

Old Business – There was no old business to discuss.

New Business – Proposed Obre Road- 25 (Mumford Home) Subdivision - Block 53 Lots 4, 5 & 7

A presentation was made by Brian Decina of French & Parrello Associates, who is representing applicant Roger Mumford (Mumford Homes) regarding this project.

Mr. Decina explained that his office was retained by the applicant to conduct subsurface soil profiles on each of the proposed lots back in May 2023. The result of the evaluation and testing of the soils confirmed that each lot was suitable for an individual subsurface sewage disposal system according to the current code. Mr. Decina explained that the lot configurations presented today are conceptual and that additional soil test pits may need to be accomplished depending on the final configuration on each individual property.

The Board had a brief discussion regarding the final approval of the septic system design plans for each lot. It was agreed that the Health Officer, Mr. Frank, would review each proposed plan administratively. However, if there is any discrepancy or potential deviation from the code, Mr. Frank will include the Board and may require a presentation and approval at a Board Meeting.

The Health Officer emphasized that additional soil logs and/or site evaluations may need to be performed depending on the final proposed configuration on the property, as well as other important considerations such as setback requirements from any water course; proposed water wells; property lines; auxiliary structures; number of bedrooms, etc. Any pending NJDEP permit approvals would also need to be satisfied.

The Board agreed to approve the project with the understanding that this was a conceptual design presentation and that the individual septic design application for each lot must meet all code requirements and be approved by the Health Department before a construction permit is issued.

A motion to approve the proposal as discussed was forwarded by Jeff Reisinger and seconded by Dr. Boak. All other Board members were in favor.

Health Officer's Report:

- Annual Rabies Clinic – The annual rabies vaccination clinic was held on Saturday, November 8, 2025 at Bucks Mill Park in Colts Neck. It was a sparce turnout with a total of 15 dogs and 4 cats being vaccinated.

- Communicable Disease – Emergency departments in NJ are seeing a sharp rise in influenza, Covid-19 and RSV cases, with influenza showing the sharpest increase. There is now a mutating flu virus strain that is circulating and there is some speculation whether the current vaccine will be effective in preventing disease transmission or reducing severity. The NJDOH still recommends getting vaccinated. Long-term care facilities are also continuing to see an uptick in Covid-19 and influenza outbreaks.

- Retail Food Licenses – A statement went out with Retail Food License renewals that any brick-and-mortar food establishment that is not rated as satisfactory on their food safety sanitation inspection will be posted on our website starting in 2026, until such time as they are reinspected and pass their inspection.

- Annual Revenue – Annual Health Dept. incoming revenue for 2025 was $25,045.00 (i.e.: for all permits – septic systems; water wells; food establishments; subdivision soil witnessing fees). The Health Dept. averaged around $2,000.00 a month in fees.

- Drought Warning – The NJDEP's most recent Drinking Water Supply Update now has all of New Jersey in a Statewide Drought Warning. In November we were considered in a Drought Watch. The DEP continues to stress following water conservation practices and using water wisely!

- Educational Efforts – In 2026, the Health Department is looking to increase educational efforts to inform our residents regarding radon testing for their homes and tick bite prevention. More information will be put on our website, in the library and possibly at some community events throughout the year.

- Presentations for 2026 – The Health Officer suggested some possible presentations for 2026 such as bringing in a licensed well drilling company; a Visiting Nurse Association representative; a septic system presentation by the Health Officer and/or a septic system contractor; and a possible radon presentation.

Liaison Report – None

Public Comment - None

A motion to adjourn was made by Jim Schatzle at 7:44 p.m. and unanimously carried. The next scheduled meeting is February 3, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Christine Eschert - Secretary