

Shutesbury Board of Health  
September 4, 2025, 7 pm  
Virtual meeting

Members present: Catherine Hilton, chair; Norene Pease, Arleen Read, Garrett Simonsen.  
Members absent: Wm Levine. Guests: Michael DeChiara, Tom Siefert.

Minutes of three previous meetings were accepted without changes. (Arleen moved, Garrett seconded, vote unanimous.)

Michael DeChiara spoke of initiatives on the part of the Massachusetts Association of Health Boards to encourage the passage of local bylaws protecting groundwater, especially important in communities like ours that rely on private drinking water wells. These initiatives are responses to the introduction of data centers and battery storage facilities, each of which poses a unique potential threat to groundwater.

Tom Siefert described the regulation recently adopted by the Wendell Board of Health, of which he is clerk.

Discussion of a potential regulation in Shutesbury was tabled until a future meeting. The board members will study the materials provided by Michael, and Norene will reach out to Mike Hugo of MAHB for guidance.

Cat ended the meeting without a vote at 7:54.