



**Robert F. Sullivan**  
MAYOR

# City of Brockton

## Health Department

**Dr. Eno Mondesir**  
EXECUTIVE HEALTH OFFICER

### **I. Introductions**

The meeting was called to order at 4:31 PM with 3 members present: Dr. Craig Andrade, Mr. George Fiske, Dr. Eno Mondesir.

Also in attendance: James Doucette (ISD Inspector), Sarah McColgan (MA Health Officers Association), Taneekah Johnson, prospective member of the Board, and Jessenia Urrea (CHW at Brockton Board of Health)

### **II. June Meeting Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes from the June 6 2024 meeting was made by Mr. Fiske, seconded by Dr. Craig Andrade.

### **III. HEARINGS**

#### **2 Debbies Convenience store located at 516 Pleasant St**

During A routine inspection on 6/14, flavored tobacco products were observed for sale in violation of MA 105 CMR 665.010 . This is the 2nd violation within 36 months. In accordance with MA 105 CMR 655.045, a \$2000 fine was assessed and the store is subject to a period of suspension from selling tobacco products for 7 days.

Attorney on behalf of 2 Debbies Convenience Store, has requested to appear before the board in September as there was limited time to prepare to appear before the board tonight.

#### **Country Food Store**

During a routine inspection on 6/4, flavored tobacco products were observed being offered for sale in violation of MA 105 CMR 665.010. This is the 2nd violation within 36 months. In accordance with MA 105 CMR 655.045, a \$2000 fine was assessed and the store is subject to a period of suspension from selling tobacco products for 7 days.

No representatives from Country Food Store were present.

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Mr. Fiske made a motion to move forward with suspension and fine, seconded by Dr. Andrade.

### **R and K Food mart**

During a routine inspection on 6/25 , tobacco products not in the original manufacturer's packaging were observed for sale in violation of MA 105 CMR 665.030. This is R and K Food Mart's 1st violation within 36 months. In accordance with MA 105 CMR 665.045, a \$1000 fine was assessed. Owner has requested to appear in front of the board, but he has not made an appearance for tonight's hearing. Mr. Fiske made a motion to proceed with the fine. Dr. Andrade seconded the motion.

### **Olympic market**

A routine inspection on 6/25 found tobacco products not in original packaging observed for sale in violation of MA 105 CMR 665.030. This was the 1st violation within 36 months. In accordance with MA 105 CMR 665.045, a \$1000 fine was assessed. Ken Goldberg, lawyer for hearing, requested a hearing appearance, but since then have paid fine and do not want to continue with hearing. Motion to approve fine made by Mr. Fiske. Dr. Andrade seconded the motion.

Another violation occurred in March, where loose flavored cigarettes were observed offered for sale during a routine inspection in violation of MA 105 CMR 665.030. The proprietor requested a hearing. That hearing took place in April but the proprietor claimed he had technical difficulties and could not attend. The proprietor was placed on agenda for today for an attempt at a hearing, but he was not present. In accordance with MA 105 CMR 665.045, a fine of \$1,000 was enforced during the hearing in April. Mr. Doucette recommended that the board uphold the \$1,000 fine. Mr. Fiske made a motion to enforce the fine, Dr. Andrade seconded the motion. Mailed the notice of fine to the establishment owner.

Other notes:

There was conversation regarding an increase in tobacco violations, in particular the selling of loose tobacco (aka "snuff") in foil packages. There was consensus that it could have cultural or religious significance to communities in Brockton, but concerns have been raised about product safety and tampering. There is agreement that further understanding is needed about the use of loose tobacco and to be considerate of the importance of tobacco to spiritual and religious needs.

## **IV. COVID19**

8/1 morning had 13 new COVID19 cases. Total active cases: 88. In July, we had 545 deaths, but one death was reassessed and removed from the death count for a total of 544 deaths. We have had 35,490 cases to date.

**Skipped agenda items V and VI**

**VII. Vaccination Initiatives**

COVID19 Vaccinations are offered at the Shaw’s Center from 1 pm to 4 pm every Tuesday. Also offering vaccinations during wellness clinics that LPHNs and CHWs from Brockton Board of Health hold throughout the year in the city.

**Skipped agenda item VIII**

**IX. TB Infections**

TB infections remain relatively high. However, 0 cases have failed treatment or developed resistance to treatment to date.

**X. Health promotion and health education**

Community Health Clinics with wellness team - comprising PHNs and CHWs. We have the time to go around the city to provide basic wellness education and health checks, as well as talk about nutrition and chronic disease maintenance.

**XI. National Mental Health Emergency Hotline 988**

Dr. Mondesir shared the National Mental Health Emergency Hotline number to help address mental health needs in Brockton as highlighted by current results from 2024 community health assessment. Call or text 988 for mental health support.

**XII. Miscellaneous**

Dr. Mondesir wants to highlight HIV rates in Plymouth County. As of 2022, there are 1,259 HIV cases in Plymouth county, and 54% of them were in Brockton alone. Working with DPH on containment and education in regards to HIV. Dr. Andrade brought up questions of how many cases are residing, how many of them are living with HIV and for how long, and mode of transmission. Ms. Johnson brought up the need for more detailed information to help create plans of education and prevention.

Mr. Fiske made a motion to adjourn. Dr. Andrade seconded the motion.