

Agenda
Warren Selectboard
December 15, 2020
Via Zoom
6:00 PM

6:00 PM – Public Comment

6:10 PM – Covid Update – Jeff Campbell

6:25 PM – Budget Continuation

Library Budget – Marie Schmukal & Library Board Commissioners
Warren Conservation Commission
Other Budget Items -Review

7:00 PM – Town Meeting Discussions

7:15 PM – Approval of Minutes for December 8, 2020

7:16 PM – Approval of Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants

7:20 PM – Other Business

****Agenda Subject to Change****

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system.

Weekly: [https://us04web.zoom.us/meeting/uZErf-6sqz8o-](https://us04web.zoom.us/meeting/uZErf-6sqz8o-oB1DfOMkLTV6yElzCsjag/ics?icsToken=98tyKu2tqDMtHtGRslztd7QvW9r-b-G5jTxBiPJ5mjDICAxnVFXvE-5YEaF1Ed-B)

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Minutes of December 15, 2020

Warren Selectboard

VIA Zoom

6:00 PM

Members Present: Andrew Cunningham, Bob Ackland, Luke Youmell, Randy Graves & Camilla Behn.

Others Present : David Ellison, Marie Schmukal, Ellen Kercia, Dayna Lisaius, Jito Coleman & Cindi Jones.

6:00 PM – Public Comment – None.

6:05 PM – Covid Update – Jeff Campbell – COVID-19 Report for December 15, 2020

Total Cases: 5,923

Cases statewide in the last 7 days: 743

Total Probable Cases:

Currently Hospitalized: 20 with 4 in the ICU, 0 on Ventilators

Positive Active Cases in Washington County in the last 7 days: 142

Total Cases in Washington County since the beginning: 831, second highest in the state.

Deaths: 100 with 15 in the last 7 days

Total People Tested: 245,457

Total Tests: 625,217

Tested in the last 7 days: 36,584

Numbers of concern

- Yesterday hit a grim milestone of 300,00 Deaths Nationwide
- NY has 784,000 cases an increase of 71,000
- MA has 294,000 cases an increase of 35,000
- NH has 31,875 cases an increase of 6,000
- Maine has 16,700 cases an increase of 3,000

Cases

- Current cases count in the area as of 12/9/20
 - Warren 11
 - Waitsfield 15
 - Moretown less than 5
 - Fayston less than 5
 - Waterbury 53

Update on outbreaks and clusters

- There are currently 37 Total Active outbreaks, 25 Non healthcare, 12 Healthcare
- There are currently 225 Total Non-outbreak related situations, 180 Non healthcare and 45 Healthcare

Cross-State Travel & Regional Heat Maps

- All of Northeast is Red
- Signage for Roxbury Mountain is up on the top of Roxbury

The board thanked Mr. Campbell for his report. Mr. Campbell will send over the maps for the board as well.

6:15 PM – Budget – Warren Public Library – Marie Schmukal & Warren Library Board – Ms. Kucera started off the discussion with an update on the library and what they have been doing. The curbside pickup has gone very well and they continue to offer the service. They have been offered on line programs such as mystery packs, trivia night and working with the Joslin and Moretown Libraries on adult programming. Ms. Kucera wanted to recognize Ms. Schmukal, Ms. Lisaius, and Ms. Green for transforming the town forest into a haunted forest for Halloween along with the many volunteers that helped.

Mr. Cunningham commented that the Library Board has presented a level funded budget and that the Library has had a very successful year for the Town given Covid. Mr. Ellison commented that running at the level they are now is giving the Town what it needs for support. Ms. Schmukal went over her budget and presented that the Library Board approved a 2.5% salary increase for the staff. There was much discussion regarding the correct numbers concerning what the Town had and what the Library Board had. Ms. Behn asked for clarification that the Selectboard sets the salaries for other town staff, but the Library Board has full control over their employees. Mr. Ellison and Mr. Cunningham responded yes that is true. Mr. Cunningham commented that the Select board looks at the Labor Cost Employer Index which is at 1.7% at this time for the last 12 months. In some cases, the Town has rounded up the number. Mr. Ackland commented that the MRPV and the other towns are setting at 2.5% increase. Mr. Cunningham commented that it has been a tough year and all the Town employees have been exemplary in doing their jobs with the Covid requirements and felt that 2.5% was the number it should be. Mr. Ackland commented that the board could not put the brunt of the budget on the backs of the Town Employees. Ms. Behn supported the idea of the 2.5% as well as.

6:45 PM – Warren Conservation Commission Budget -Jito Coleman – Mr. Coleman started out the discussion that they had only spent about \$2,000 of their budget taking in consideration of Covid. They did cut their budget for the coming year. Mr. Coleman commented that there has been regularly scheduled Thursday night work meetings of volunteers about 12 that worked on 8-12 knotweed sites. The group has been making good progress this year. The Conservation Commission lowered the knotweed budget from \$14,000-\$10,000. They are in hopes of getting another intern through the VYCC to continue this program. A large discussion on mapping took place about what the Planning Commission was looking for the rewrite on mapping and there seemed to be disagreements between the consultant and the State.

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Mr. Graves commented that with the new Land Use Regulations that the Conservation Commission needed to be involved in the habitat and corridor mapping. There seems to be disagreement on what maps to use, whether it is the state maps or the maps that Town has done extensively. Mr. Graves commented that whatever maps are used in the Land Use Regulations that they had to stand up in court if a case did come about. Mr. Cunningham inquired what is the intended effect? Mr. Graves commented that these are mapping layers of steep slopes, and Contiguous Habitat Units that would overlay showing sensitive areas. It is not meant to restrict the average property owner, but intended for development to have an idea of the critical habitat when doing large scale developments. Currently the Regulations state: No Adverse Effect. It is not intended to put the brakes on development. Ms. Behn commented it is to preserve the character and nature of Warren and habitat is a large part of it, but it is not restricting development. Mr. Coleman commented that the State and the Consultant needed to sit down and come to an agreement on this.

Capital Allocation – Mr. Cunningham asked what the Conservation Commission was presenting for an article on the Town Meeting Warning. Mr. Coleman commented that \$20,000.

Ms. Behn commented that the Zoning Regulations re-write is pretty comprehensive. Mr. Graves commented that he has read it from front to back and that the consultant will be adding an addendum overview of the old vs the new. Ms. Behn called it the “crosswalk” - Laws to support Town Plan, and the Town plan is the spirit. The regulations are basically the nuts and bolts to support the Town Plan.

Other comments on the budget thus far was a question why in the Selectboard budget did notice publications go up. Ms. Jones explained that with is where the Town Meeting Warnings are posted, vacancies, road closures etc. and with Covid it is expected to be more. Mr. Cunningham commented that the board should keep in the 4th of July line item. Mr. Cunningham also wanted to let the public know that there are two vacancies: John Goss is not running for another 5-year term on the Cemetery Commission. The board thanked Mr. Goss for his time on the Cemetery Commission. Also, Ms. Goss is not running for re-election as delinquent Tax Collector. It at times is a very unpleasant job that is pretty thankless at times. The Board thanked Ms. Goss for her service in that role.

7:20 PM – Other Business

Mr. Cunningham inquired about the Housing Coalition Article. Mr. Ackland commented that the Housing Coalition are asking the Warren Selectboard to come before them to do a detail presentation. All the Valley Towns will pay the same amount. The Warren Selectboard is open to listening in early January.

MVP Health Insurance – Ms. Lisaius asked the board if they are approving to go with MVP. The board agreed to continue with MVP.

Vacation Waiver – Ms. Lisaius asked the board if they would consider waiving the policy of use or lose vacation time since employees couldn't go anywhere on vacation and that are stuck at home because of the Covid Restrictions. Mr. Cunningham asked how many hours are we talking and for who? The board had to see the hours and then will decide if the employees will lose all the time.

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7:45 PM – Approval of Minutes for 12/8/2020 – Motion by Youmell to approve the Minutes of 12/8/2020, second by Ms. Behn. All in Favor: 5-0.

7:46 PM – Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant – Motion by Mr. Ackland to approve the Accounts Payable Warrant as presented for \$50,373.29, second by Mr. Youmell. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

7:48 PM – Approval of Payroll Warrants – Motion by Mr. Ackland to approve the payroll warrant as presented for \$13,952.64, second by Mr. Youmell. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

7:50 PM – Motion by Mr. Youmell to adjourn, second by Mr. Ackland. All in Favor: VOTE: 5-0.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,
Cindi Jones, Warren Town Administrator

The Warren Selectboard

Andrew Cunningham, Chair

Bob Ackland, Vice Chair

Luke Youmell

Randy Graves

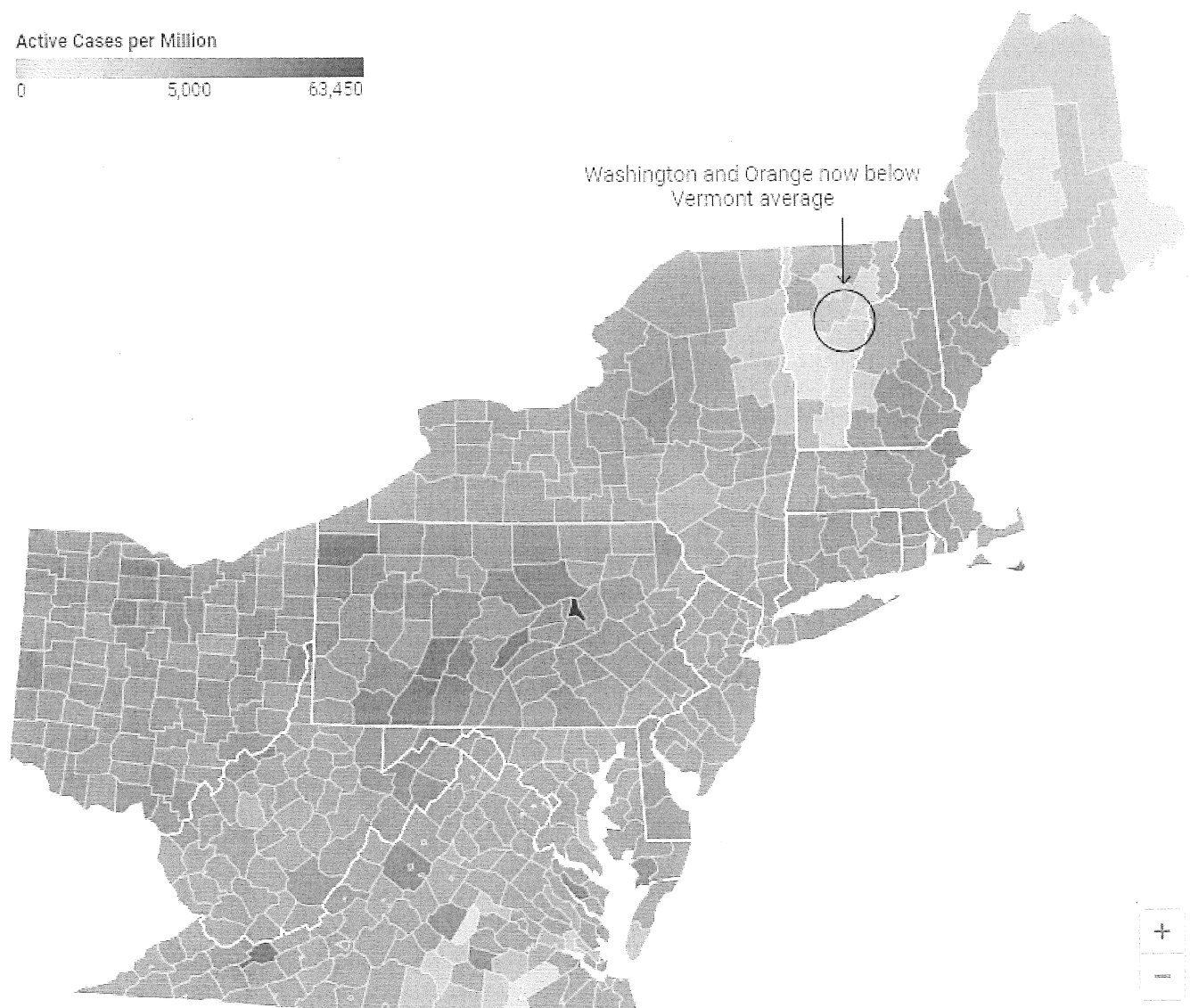
Camilla Behn

Vermont Regional COVID-19 Heatmap

This map does not show travel restrictions; all travelers entering or returning to Vermont are required to observe quarantine requirements.

Active case counts are based upon the Department of Financial Regulation's active case algorithm. This algorithm includes estimates for undetected, asymptomatic infections, and so may exceed numbers published by local health officials. In counties with insufficient infection numbers, calculating R_t or test positivity may not be possible—statewide data has been included below for comparison.

R_t is a measure of how many additional infections the average cases leads to (e.g., an R_t of 3 implies that each infected individual goes on to infect three more people). An R_t of less than 1 means infections are falling—greater than 1 means infections are rising.



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Map: Updated 12/15/2020 • Source: Covid Act Now, Johns Hopkins University, and the New York Times • Get the data • Created with Datavrapper

Governors Updates

- No new Updates

Testing

- Testing remains a high priority. The State extended on-demand testing with 15-17 sites a day throughout the state
- The State is moving towards a surveillance testing program for first responders but is still working out the specifics
- Testing in Waitsfield will be held on Sunday 12/20 from 9-2 at Waitsfield Telecom
- Testing continues to be offered almost daily in Barre, Northfield, Waterbury and Middlebury.

Vaccination Planning

- The first vaccines have arrived in the state
- The state is expected to receive 5850 doses weekly and hope to have 34,000 doses by the end of the month
- Those who choose to get vaccinated will receive their first shot and then a second 21 days later.

COOP Planning Update

- No update at this time

Lastly, stay safe and be smart.

Signature: andrew cunningham
andrew.cunningham (Dec 23, 2020 08:34 EST)
Email: propertymanagement@gmavt.net

Signature: Robert M Ackland
Robert M Ackland (Dec 23, 2020 09:47 EST)
Email: ackland@gmavt.com

Signature: Luke Youmell
Luke Youmell (Dec 23, 2020 14:18 EST)
Email: luke@birddogvt.com

Signature: Randall Graves
Randall Graves (Dec 23, 2020 15:04 EST)
Email: turnradius@gmail.com












Minutes of December 15, 2020

Final Audit Report

2020-12-23

Created:	2020-12-23
By:	Cindi Jones (cjones@warrenvt.org)
Status:	Signed
Transaction ID:	CBJCHBCAABAA9B4fysxTXh8imV6dabyy4O3OvrKiWRCL

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