

Minutes of the Truro Board of Health, Tuesday February 6, 2024

This was a hybrid meeting held in person at Truro Town Hall in the Select Board chambers and via Zoom.

Board members in attendance: In person: Chair Tracey Rose; Board Members Helen Grimm & Brian Koll; Remote: Board Member Tim Rose; Absent: Vice Chair Jason Silva and Alternate Member Candida Monteith; Also Present in person: Health Agent Emily Beebe, Assistant Health Agent Courtney Warren.

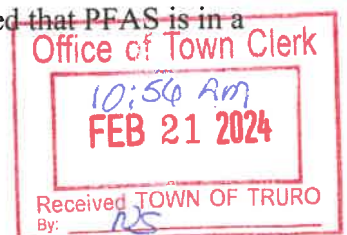
The meeting was called to order at 4:31 pm by the Chair, who described the remote meeting procedures and the process for public participation.

Public Comment: Clinton Kershaw was present to describe a petitioned article he is drafting for the 2024 Annual Town Meeting warrant. The topic is to have the town plow private roads. He described his proposal as a benefit to health & safety. He asked the Board to provide an opinion letter to accompany his proposal and left his documentation with the Agent for inclusion in the next packet.

Proposed addition of Manager- Harborview Village, Peter DeAndrade. Peter De Andrade is a full-time resident at Harborview Village and has volunteered to be the third co-manager for the facility. Chair Tracey Rose confirmed that he understood the expectations of the Board of Health for a manager. **Motion:** Board member Helen Grimm moved to approve the addition of a manager; **Second:** Board member Brian Koll; **Vote:** 4-0; the motion carried.

Discussion on PFAS:

The Agent informed the Board that the most recent round of testing at the transfer station has come back with reportable concentrations of PFAS. The Town is working closely with Bryan Massa our LCP/consultant, and the DEP. Letters have been sent to three private properties downgradient of the site to arrange for testing of those private wells. DPW Director Jarrod Cabral noted that the DEP has not yet mandated testing for PFAS as part of the monitoring of landfills and transfer stations. This testing was done preemptively and self-reported to the DEP. Investigations will include a parcel file review, testing of all Transfer station monitoring wells along with the three private wells. Results of these activities will determine further action. Chair Tracey Rose commended Jarrod Cabral for being proactive with the testing. The Chair read a portion of a memo from the Health Agent to further describe what PFAS compounds are. Consultant Bryan Massa pointed out that the concentration dropped 50% between the two wells that were tested. The secondary investigation will work to determine whether the source could be leachate from the septage beds at the old landfill or some other background sources not related to the landfill. Board member Helen Grimm pointed out that PFAS is everywhere. Board member Brian Koll also commended Jarrod Cabral for his forethought in doing this testing. He also asked if PFAS was part of the reason for the carpet ban in the trash hopper. Jarrod Cabral confirmed that carpet was part of the waste ban, but small pieces can still go in the clothing trailer. Brian Koll also asked whether the dilution would be linear or more related to the soil. Bryan Massa explained that the big open, unpaved area allows precipitation to continually dilute the groundwater. He also noted environmental forensics will use the chemical fingerprint of the PFAS to help determine its source. The first step is to determine whether PFAS is in the private wells or not and then investigate/evaluate where it came from. The Chair stated that PFAS is in a

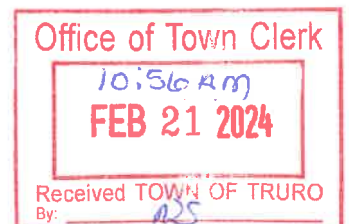


wide variety of products that we use every day. She also mentioned Stones Throw Condominiums who had PFAS tests exceeding the MCL in their public water supply well. The Chair asked the Agent if the source had been identified in that case. The Agent replied that the DEP had investigated the area for a source, and the Town did not yet have results. The Chair also asked about the disposal of filters from any filtration system. Bryan Massa stated that the typical treatment is either granulated activated carbon or organoclay filters. Some of these materials can be regenerated in a special facility under extreme heat and pressure. Other types of filters would need to be disposed of as hazardous waste. These are big units (500-10,000 lbs), not something small that a homeowner would throw in their own trash. Clint Kershaw asked about what was happening with determining the source of the Stones Throw contamination. The Agent reported that it does not appear that Stones Throw was the source. Karen Ruymann pointed out that PFAS is not going away, it's still in the soil. She is interested in ways to filter her own water since the chemicals are so ubiquitous and pointed out that the public will be looking to the Board of Health as a source of information and guidance. The Agent noted that groundwater is continually moving and that this is not a static situation. Board member Tim Rose remembered there being fires at the old landfill that were extinguished using firefighting foams. The Agent suggested putting PFAS on the future agenda when more information is available. The Chair also suggested including the topic in the monthly Water Resources report.

Transfer Station Update: Jarrod Cabral reviewed the budget and detailed fluctuations in both recycling and solid waste tonnage. The contract with SEMASS expires at the end of this year and contract negotiations are ongoing. Recent third-party inspections have found no discrepancies. The Chair commended Jarrod Cabral on the efficient transfer station operations and added that the Climate Action Committee's Talking Trash presentation was very good and recommended that citizens watch the video. The CAC has asked if this presentation can be repeated in the spring when more people are able to attend.

Discussion on Barnstable County Public Health Excellency Grant Memorandum of Understanding. – This shared services grant from DPH was awarded to Barnstable County, and Barnstable County is the fiduciary entity. The Agent explained that the draft MOU provided to the Board members would require both Board of Health and Select Board approval. Further, the Outer Cape towns are already working closely together, and this MOU does not in any way replace the intermunicipal agreement that is already in place between the four towns. This grant will unify access to training, credentialing, resources, and data reporting to the State and one of the main benefits is the access to training. A few towns on the Cape are not participating (Barnstable, Falmouth, Sandwich, Yarmouth) but most are. The Chair asked how training had been done in the past. The Agent explained that since Truro is so small, we often go to other towns for training. The Agent handed out the final version of the MOU and asked to discuss it again at the next meeting.

Minutes: January 19, 2024; **Motion:** Board member Brian Koll moved to approve the January 19, 2024 meeting minutes.; **Second:** Board member Helen Grimm; **Vote:** 3-0-1 with Board member Tim Rose abstaining.



Report of the Chair :

Chair Tracey Rose stated that the next meeting of the Provincetown Water & Sewer Board will be Thursday February 8th. She is continuing to work on goals and objectives for the Board of Health for the year. Since this is a new activity, it is taking a little longer than anticipated. She would like to discuss the proposed storm water by-law again as well as the proposed senior pass program and how that would impact the budget and tax rate.

Health Agent's Report:

Nalox boxes have been installed at the Library and Community Center. More boxes have been ordered and the Aids Support Group will make sure they are maintained. Narcan trainings are being scheduled, maybe even at future Board of Health meeting. Additionally, the Aids Support Group has a mobile unit that establish a set route going through each Outer Cape Town. Future locations of Nalox boxes were discussed and Board Member Brian Koll suggested that beaches might be a good place for Nalox boxes providing that the temperature control issues can be solved. Some could be stocked seasonally outdoors; he also suggested that the condo complexes should have Nalox boxes available, and the managers trained.

The Climate Action Committee will present a Climate Anxiety talk at the library on Saturday Feb 10th. As part of the ongoing CAC series on water, the Health Agent and Provincetown Water Superintendent Cody Salisbury will give a talk on March 7th at the library on Provincetown and Truro's shared freshwater resources. It was also noted that the First of the 3-part series of talks about Water Resources is now available on the town website.

Board member Helen Grimm moved to adjourn the meeting; Second: Board member Brian Koll; Vote: 3-0-0 (Board member Tim Rose had left the meeting), the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Warren CW

