



Minutes of the Truro Board of Health, Tuesday February 20, 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; Vice Chair Jason Silva, Board Members Helen Grimm, Brian Koll, and Tim Rose; Absent: Alternate Member Candida Monteith; Also Present in person: Health Agent Emily Beebe, Assistant Health Agent Courtney Warren.

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 pm by the Chair, who described the remote meeting procedures and the process for public participation.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

Title 5/Local Variance Request: 258 Rte 6, Christine Avila

RS Jason Ellis represented the request to upgrade the cesspool to a new Title 5 system; local variances are required to the setbacks to wetlands. The well is currently in the highway layout and will be relocated. Chair Tracey Rose asked about the polyvinyl barrier shown on the plan. Jason Ellis stated that was included because of breakout concerns on the southwest corner of the leach area due to the slope of the lot. The Agent commented that the property was part of the Pamet River watershed and that this property would likely need to upgrade to enhanced I/A in the future. Jason Ellis confirmed that the homeowners are aware of the future possibility but that at this time they wanted to keep costs down. Board member Jason Silva asked if the future need for enhanced I/A drives the way he designs current systems. Jason Ellis responded that similar to what he has been required to do in Wellfleet, he will revise this plan to specify an Orenco 1500-gallon tank. That way the system will be more easily retrofit when required by future regulations. The chair stated that the standard of review for the Board of Health is to determine if the design showing reductions to the requirements of the Board of Health regulations will provide as much environmental and public health protection as would a plan without variances.

Motion: Board member Tim Rose moved to approve the variances as requested with the condition that the tank be changed to an Orenco 1500-gallon tank.; **Second:** Board member Brian Koll; **Vote:** 5-0-0; the motion carried.

Extension Recommendation: 522 Shore Road. The sale of one of the condominium units at this location triggered the need for a new septic inspection prior to the sale. However, the system cannot be inspected at this time as it was recently pumped and therefore, there are no "normal flows" to observe in the system. The Board was asked to extend the validity of the 2021 inspection by four months to cover any transfers that may occur. The system will be inspected in the spring when the property opens and normal flows are restored. The Chair asked if normal flows could be restored that quickly. The Agent replied that flows should return to normal quickly, and that the system itself was relatively new and had been inspected/pumped regularly.

Motion: Board member Helen Grimm moved to approve a four-month extension request for 522 Shore Rd; **Second:** Board member Jason Silva; **Vote:** 5-0-0; the motion carried.

MOU: Barnstable County Public Health Excellency Grant

As discussed at the last meeting, this is a shared services grant from DPH awarded to Barnstable County who is the fiduciary entity. Chair Tracey Rose asked if town counsel had reviewed this

agreement. The Agent responded that they had. The document has been specifically modified to protect the four-town MOU already in place for the Outer Cape towns. This grant will cover a variety of shared services and trainings to help meet the state benchmarks for credentialed professionals. **Action: The Board members all signed the document.**

Water Resources Report

The Agent reported that the cesspool upgrade process, was moving forward in the categorical steps. The bucket 3 letters have generated a good response. Letters would be going out soon to those properties eligible for an ACO to provide dates and next steps. The Provincetown betterment amount has been used as a placeholder in discussions with potential ACO properties to have a cost estimate. A recent meeting has been held with Provincetown around the financial feasibility of connecting to town sewer and will hopefully have a better estimate soon. Policy discussions will need to be had about the costs of infrastructure. There may be some grant funding opportunities for this work. Staff will also be meeting with DEP to discuss the ACO process as well as our wastewater management planning.

The final design costs for the Pond Village stormwater project will be on the warrant this year at annual town meeting for planning work. The Board will discuss the proposed stormwater by-law at a future meeting.

Staff is working on the process for developing a master plan with Provincetown and are building the structure of regular meetings for the staff of both Towns.

Report of the Chair:

Due to time constraints, the chair did not make her report.

Health Agent's Report:

As part of the ongoing CAC series on water, the Health Agent and Provincetown Water Superintendent Cody Salisbury make a presentation on March 7th at the Truro library about the Provincetown Water system, and the shared freshwater resources. It was also noted that the "Talking Trash" presentation is now available on the town website. The Agent noted that the first redwing blackbirds have returned.

Minutes: February 6, 2024; **Motion:** Board member Helen Grimm moved to approve the February 6, 2024 meeting minutes.; **Second:** Board member Brian Koll; **Vote:** 5-0.

Board member Tim Rose moved to adjourn the meeting; Second: Board member Helen Grimm; Vote: 5-0-0, the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Courtney Warren

