



Minutes of the Truro Board of Health, Tuesday January 3, 2023

This was a remote meeting.

Board members in attendance:

Chair Tracey Rose, Vice Chair Jason Silva; Board Members: Brian Koll; Alternate Candida Monteith; Absent: Helen Grimm, Tim Rose; Also Present: Health Agent Emily Beebe, Assistant Health Agent Courtney Warren.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment.

Local Variance Request: 72 Depot Road:

Brad Malo from Coastal Engineering represented the homeowners. The dwelling is served by a 1978 code septic system which will be replaced voluntarily with an I/A system with no increase in flow. The soil absorption system is proposed to be located in the riverfront area due to a well setback requirement. Jack Reimer asked what the total nitrogen concentration for the upgraded I/A system would be. The Health Agent answered that the target for the proposed system is 19 mg/l or less. Jack Reimer commented that in his opinion this property should install an enhanced I/A system due to its proximity to Pamet Harbor. Karen Ruyman commented that she understood that the retrofit to enhanced I/A was not a significant cost. There followed a discussion of the costs of the various I/A systems. Jack Reimer asked the board to table this request until more definitive cost estimates could be obtained. Brad Malo stated that the enhanced I/A systems can cost upwards of \$55,000. The Health Agent added that DEP changes to Title V will lead to plans for targeted protection of groundwater resources, but that regulations requiring enhanced I/A are not yet in place. Chair Tracey Rose stated that although this is an important conversation, to keep in mind that this particular matter included a voluntary upgrade that would offer an overall improvement, and that the Pamet Harbor area has not yet been designated as nitrogen sensitive. Board member Jason Silva thanked the public commenters and appreciated the discussion. Brad Malo stated that he has complied with the variance process and that the proposal is in compliance with Title V nitrogen loading requirements and that the homeowner is under no obligation to upgrade as the current system meets all requirements, but the additional treatment will be a great improvement. The Board thanked the public for the good conversation and commitment to protecting the town's water and the applicant for their voluntary upgrade which helps protect ground water.

Motion: Board Member Jason Silva moved to approve the variance request.

Second: Brian Koll; Vote: 4-0-0; the motion passed.

Local Variance Request: 8 North Union Field Road:

Danny Gonsalves represented the project. This 3-bedroom dwelling is currently being served by a cesspool, which will be upgraded. They request variance from the requirement for an Innovative/Alternative system since the lot is 305 square feet shy of the size required for three bedrooms. The Health Agent noted that the property is located in the Zone 2 of the North Union Field public water supply well and urged caution in approving a variance due to the sensitivity of the area. Chair Tracey Rose inquired about the distance between the property and the Walsh

property. The Health Agent shared a map and asked if the homeowner had explored any easement options with their neighbors to pick up the missing area. Danny Gonsalves stated that due to the cost, the property owners would not pursue I/A and would remove a bedroom if necessary. Board member Jason Silva added that this property abuts the seashore and that he can see both sides of the argument. Alternate board member Candida Monteith asked whether this is a full-time residence, to which Danny responded it was and that it is not rented. Danny Gonsalves asked to continue the request to the next meeting to be able to confer with the homeowner about options.

Motion: Board Member Jason Silva moved to continue until January 17, 2023. Second: Brian Koll; Vote: 4-0-0; the motion passed.

Re-Organization of the Board:

Since the full board was not preset, Chair Tracey Rose asked the Board to come prepared to make their nominations for chair, vice chair and clerk at the next meeting. Currently Tracey Rose is the chair, Jason Silva is the vice chair and Tim Rose is the clerk.

Minutes: November 1, 2022

Motion: Board Member Jason Silva moved to approve the minutes for November 1, 2022. Second: Brian Koll; Vote: 4-0-0; the motion passed.

Report of the Chair:

Tracey Rose stated that she has a memo that details the annual accomplishments of the Board of Health that will be ready to present at the next meeting.

Report of the Health Agent:

The Health Agent and the Board of Health discussed a draft letter to a homeowner who had requested relief from the cesspool upgrade requirement the Boards response was to state that they had made no exceptions to the regulation.

Board member Dr. Brian Koll gave an update on Covid, Flu and RSV.

Board member Jason Silva moved to adjourn the meeting: Second: Board member Brian Koll; Vote: 4-0-0, the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by Nina Richey

