



## **Minutes of the Truro Board of Health, Tuesday May 18, 2021**

Remote Meeting,

Board members in attendance: Chair Tracey Rose; Vice Chair, Jason Silva, member Helen Grimm; and alternate Candida Monteith. Also Present: Health and Conservation Agent Emily Beebe; The meeting was called order at 4:32 by the Chair, Tracey Rose. The Chair announced the remote meeting procedures and asked for the cooperation of the members and public for a smooth meeting.

1. Title 5 Variance Request to 310 CMR 15.211 & 15.248 & 15.240(4): 12 Highland Avenue, this matter was continued from 4/20/2021 to obtain a water quality sample analysis from the well. Jason Ellis represented Joan Moriarty the owner of the property. The property is located in the zone 2 of the Knowles Heights water supply, and is a 4 BR cottage in 10,000 sf. Mrs. Moriarty described the use of the property as seasonal and rented two months out of the year; she said there is no heat in the cottage and did not want to move the well.

Jason Ellis described the project as a challenging upgrade on a difficult site because it is so small. There was discussion about adding IA treatment. Jason Ellis said the system would cost \$15-\$20,000 plus \$15 to \$10,000 for the extra treatment. With \$1500-2000 for O and M.

Alternate board member Candida Monteith asked why the variance had to be granted since it was a four bedroom cottage on a very small lot. The chair pointed out that the house was preexisting.

**Motion** by Jason Silva - To approve the plan with an I A system due to the size of the lot; to allow the well to remain with a deed restriction requiring connection of the property to town water at that location once it is provided. **Second:** Helen Grimm **Vote:** 4-0 in favor, the motion carried.

The owner, Mrs. Moriarty asked about what was approved, and the Agent answered that the system Jason Ellis proposed would be used with additional treatment. There was discussion about the Barnstable County loan program.

During the report of the Chair Tracey Rose expressed gratitude to the Select Board liaison Sue Areson.

## **2. Public Hearing- Board of Health regulation amendments**

The Board reviewed the proposed amendments for section 6, local title 5 regulations.

There were questions from the public about the proposed change to the definition of buildable upland. Jack Reimer commented about frontage and upland calculations and expressed concern about increased stormwater runoff. Karen Ruyman commented that the Board should take more time to research issues of flow. In response to these comments Board member Jason Silva pointed out that adding IA for a 3 BR dwelling would be more beneficial than a 2 BR dwelling with standard title 5 system. Board member Helen Grimm thanked the public for their comments, and felt that the board's goal in using IA was to allow for a net increase in protection to groundwater.

**Motion** by Helen Grimm - to set the Riverfront IA section aside and move forward with the rest of the document. **Second:** Jason Silva; **Vote** was 4-0 in favor, the motion carried.

The Board moved on from the section 6 regulations to review the proposed well water regulations, section 8. The overall goal of the changes is to add triggers to require well water testing. There was a question from Jack Reimer about the criteria for rental registration.

**Motion:** by Jason Silva- to approve the section 8 well regulations as presented

**Second:** Tracey Rose; **Vote** was 4-0 in favor, the motion carried

The Board reviewed the proposed local inspection report checklist for title 5 septic system inspections and the proposed fee changes to include the inspection report fee and to change the perc test fees from a flat fee to by the hour fee.

**Motion:** by Helen Grimm- to approve the inspection form and the changes to the fee schedule;

**Second:** Jason Silva; Vote was 4-0 in favor, the motion carried.

There was discussion about approving the proposed amendments to the local title 5 regulations, Section 6.

**Motion** : by Helen Grimm – to approve the local title regulations, minus the section on buildable upland.

**Second:** Jason Silva; Vote was 4-0 in favor, the motion carried.

The Chair expressed gratitude for the good work from the team to get the regulations updated !

There was no public comment

**BOH MASKING ORDER-** review recommendations on modifying order; discussion on the Commonwealth's re-opening standards; general discussion on COVID-19 as warranted:

There was discussion on the local Mask Order and whether to modify it. The State has announced was going to removal of all restrictions by May 29 rather than August as originally proposed. The Agent described administrative discussions about incrementally opening Town buildings to the public, and that the BoH should weigh in on that discussion. The Agent recommended that in Town Buildings the rules requiring masking and maintaining physical separation, regardless of vaccination status, be extended. Also that the proposal to keep face covering requirements for Public buildings and local Masking requirements be worded to support businesses that wish to maintain the requirement to wear masks.

Board member Jason Silva expressed his surprised that the State would relax its requirements so quickly, as August had been the discussed schedule. Alternate Board member Candida Monteith expressed her concern that the Town should not second-guess the Harvard school of Public Health experts that the Governor bases his recommendations on, and felt that it was confusing for the public to go from one town to the next and have different requirements. She felt that the library should be open if the grocery store was open.

The Chair agreed that it was confusing, however, she believed that locally it appeared that people wanted to slow it down. Board member Helen Grimm also agreed that the COVID rules were all confusing, but did not see the need to rush; she felt that Town employees were vulnerable and agreed with the masking requirement. She appreciated the need to extend protection to Town Meeting to support the participation of folks that might not otherwise attend.

Candida stressed that the CDC's position was to stand behind the vaccine and that if you are vaccinated you can be with others that are not vaccinated, and that you have a 2 percent chance of getting sick. It makes sense to go along with the Commonwealth's decision.

The Chair suggested that the Board plan to meet next week to have more conversation about the Mask Order, to then vote and send to Town Counsel.

The Agent suggested that the Board meet the following Tuesday at 4 PM and review a document in advance of the meeting that Town Counsel had already reviewed.

## MINUTES

**Motion** : by Helen Grimm – to approve the minutes of April 20 as amended;

**Second:** Tracey Rose; Vote was 3-0-1 in favor, the motion carried. Board member Jason Silva abstained as he did not attend the meeting.

**Motion:** by Jason Silva- to approve the minutes of May 4, as amended

**Second** : Helen Grimm; Vote was 4-0 in favor, the motion carried

**Motion** to adjourn Jason Silva; **Seconded** by Helen Grimm Meeting adjourned at 6:55 PM

Minutes prepared by E.Beebe *E. Beebe*  
11/12/2021 at 4:50 PM

