



# Town of Fairhaven

## Board of Health

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FAIRHAVEN TOWN CLERK  
ROUD 2024 APR 19 PM 1:57

March 27, 2024

PRESENT: Kevin Gallagher, Justine Frezza, Brian Meneses, David Flaherty

### 1. Call to Order

- a. Chairman Gallagher called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Chairman Gallagher welcomed everyone.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Welcome and Media Notification

- a. Chairman Gallagher read the media and recording notifications.

### 4. Minutes of the Meeting

- a. **Motion:** Vice Chair Frezza made the motion to accept the minutes of the meeting March 13, 2024. Member Meneses seconded and motion passed. Chairman Gallagher abstained. The vote passed (2-0-1).

### 5. Health Agent Report

- a. Health Agent Flaherty reports COVID numbers are at 12.76%, which is slightly down from 13.22%. This is from positive tests in a clinical setting only. COVID Test Kits are now available at the Health Department and the COA.
- b. Blood pressure and wellness clinics offered every Wednesday at the COA from 1-3 pm.
- c. Gastrointestinal illness cases, such as the norovirus, have risen in Fairhaven and the South Coast. Influenza is also on the rise. Please consult your physician regarding vaccination. Be sure to wash hands often, after the restroom, before preparing, serving, and eating meals. Sanitize surfaces frequently as well.
- d. No Perc tests were witnessed and no Title 5 were witnessed.
- e. There were multiple Chapter II housing issues followed up on.

- f. Rodent complaints have gone down. Please be vigilant with trash and birdseed on your property. Consult a licensed exterminator for property treatment in conjunction with neighbors if it seems overwhelming.
  - g. Fairhaven home-bound residents qualify for a free home-bound flu vaccine offered by the Southeastern Mass Public Health Collaborative to provide an in-home vaccine. Please call the Health Department for more information. The COVID vaccine is not yet available for home-bound residents.
6. **Discuss the Single-Use Plastic By-Law with Sustainability Committee** – Chairman Gallagher notes this meeting is being moved to a future date. This was mutually agreed upon by the Sustainability Committee and the Board of Health. The Sustainability Committee will contact the Board of Health once they are ready to meet.
7. **Southeastern Mass Public Health Collaborative Update** – Agent Flaherty summarized that this was previously referred to as the New Bedford Health Alliance. There will be a website and a Facebook page for the Collaborative. There will be information on public health education, mental health awareness, and activities in the area. Through this Collaborative the Health Department has received more medication disposal bags, sharps containers, CPR masks, and pill containers (these are available in English and Spanish). Please visit the Health Department for any of these items. Agent Flaherty also attends weekly meetings with the Collaborative. There is a pre-diabetic screening, CPR training and community walks also being offered. Please check the Fairhaven Health Department website for upcoming events. Chairman Gallagher asked which towns are involved in this Collaborative. Agent Flaherty notes Acushnet, New Bedford and Fairhaven.
8. **Discuss and Vote on Title 5 Design Review for 320 New Boston Road** – Agent Flaherty reviewed that this is a straightforward plan. There is a pump chamber involved because of the separation from the bottom of the system to the leaching field. There are no variances requested. The Board reviewed the plan. Member Menses requested information on the pump chamber and its purpose. Agent Flaherty reviewed the pump chamber is to pump to the leaching field when it is higher than the tank. Agent Flaherty provided a scale model of what the chamber looks like. Agent Flaherty recommends accepting the Title 5 Design. **Motion:** Vice Chair Frezza made a motion to accept the Health Agent's recommendation for the Title 5 Design for 320 New Boston Road. Member Menses seconded. The vote is unanimous (3-0-0).
9. **Health Agent's Annual Evaluation** – Agent Flaherty requested the Board of Health to perform his Annual Evaluation. Chairman Gallagher asked if this is done in Public Meeting. Agent Flaherty stated it has been done this way in the previous years. Agent Flaherty provided the Annual Evaluation to the Board. Chairman Gallagher reviewed and completed the Evaluation with Vice Chair Frezza and Member Menses.

**10. Public Comment** – No public comment at this time.

**11. Invoices, Correspondence and other business**

a. Invoices reviewed and approved.

**12. Next Meeting Date** – April 10, 2024 at 5:00 pm

**13. Meeting Adjourned – Motion:** Vice Chair Frezza motioned to adjourn the meeting.  
Member Menses seconded. The vote is unanimous (3-0-0).