



## Town of Fairhaven Board of Health

Town Hall · 40 Center Street · Fairhaven, MA 02719  
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March 13, 2024

PRESENT: Justine Frezza, Brian Meneses, David Flaherty

ABSENT: Kevin Gallagher

### 1. Call to Order

- a. Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 5:00pm. Vice Chair Frezza welcomed everyone.

### 2. Pledge of Allegiance

### 3. Welcome and Media Notification

- a. Vice Chair Frezza 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 February 28, 2024. Member Meneses seconded, motion accepted. The vote is unanimous (2-0-0).

### 5. Health Agent Report

- a. Health Agent Flaherty reports COVID numbers are at 13.22%, which is slightly down from 13.62%. 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. Be sure to wash hands often, after the restroom, before preparing, serving, and eating meals. Vice Chair Frezza requested a brief overview of symptoms. Agent Flaherty notes diarrhea, vomiting, fever. The very young, old, and immunocompromised individuals are at greatest risk. Stay alert for signs of dehydration and consult a doctor for more information.
- d. One Perc test was witnessed and one Title 5 was 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 Greater New Bedford Health Alliance 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.
- h. The Greater New Bedford Health Alliance will be expanding some services offered in Fairhaven. Please watch for programs, i.e. free pre-diabetic screenings and lactation consultations for new moms.

**6. Discuss and Vote on Title 5 Design Review for 29 Nakata Avenue (with variances)** – Brian Grady, the engineer joined the discussion via zoom. Agent Flaherty provided the Title 5 design for the Board. Agent Flaherty summarized the plan is to replace the cesspool with a tank, pump chamber and a raised field. The variances needed is because of the lot size and the feet needed from the dwelling to the septic. Brian Grady reviewed the plan for 29 Nakata Avenue and answered all questions regarding the plan. **Motion:** Member Meneses made a motion to accept the Health Agents recommendation for the Title 5 design with variances for 29 Nakata Avenue. Vice Chair Frezza seconded, motion accepted. The vote is unanimous (2-0-0).

**7. Discuss and Vote on Title 5 Inspection Report Review for 352 New Boston Road** – Agent Flaherty notes the system was constructed in 2019 and the inspection passed. There is a well test on file. Agent Flaherty recommends accepting the Inspection Report. **Motion:** Member Meneses made a motion to accept the Health Agents recommendation to accept the Title 5 Inspection Report for 352 New Boston Road. Vice Chair Frezza seconded, motion accepted. The vote is unanimous (2-0-0).

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

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

- a. Invoices reviewed and approved.

**10. Next Meeting Date** – March 27, 2024 at 5:00 pm

**11. Meeting Adjourned** – **Motion:** Member Meneses motioned to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Frezza seconded. The vote is unanimous (2-0-0).