



Town of Fairhaven Board of Health

Town Hall · 40 Center Street · Fairhaven, MA 02719
Telephone: (508) 979-4023 ext. 125 · Fax: (508) 979-4079

January 28, 2026

PRESENT: Justine Frezza, Brian Meneses, Barbara Acksen, David Flaherty

1. Call to Order

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

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Welcome and Media Notification

- a. Chair Frezza read the media and recording notifications.

4. Minutes of the Meeting

- a. **Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses made the motion to accept the minutes of the Public Meeting December 17, 2025. Member Acksen seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0-0).
- b. **Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses made the motion to accept the minutes of the Public Meeting January 7, 2026. Member Acksen seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0-0).

5. Health Agent Report

- a. COVID positivity rate is 5.06% down from 8.47% for the past two weeks. This is from positive tests in a clinical setting only.
- b. Blood pressure and wellness clinics offered every Wednesday at the COA from 1-3 pm.
- c. Measles, pertussis, influenza, RSV and other childhood diseases are on the rise. Please consult your physician regarding vaccinations.
- d. No Perc tests were witnessed and no Title 5 inspections were witnessed.
- e. Rodent complaints are still coming in. 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.

- f. Fairhaven home-bound residents qualify for a free home-bound flu vaccine offered by the Southeastern MA Public Health Collaborative to provide an in-home vaccine. If you were unable to attend any of the Vaccine clinics please contact your pharmacy.
 - g. Stop the bleed and Narcan training was held at the Fairhaven COA on January 15, 2026.
 - h. The Southeastern MA Public Health Collaborative has provided medication disposal bags, sharps containers, CPR masks, tick removers, sunscreen, and pill containers (these are available in English and Spanish). There are no longer any COVID test kits. Please visit the Health Department for any of these free items.
 - i. A warming shelter will be available at the COA on Sunday and Monday due to the storm this weekend.
6. **Request for Hearing: Discuss the Correction/Cease and Desist Order for 1st violation in 36-month period, \$1,100 fine issued and 3-day suspension of tobacco sales permit at Seabreeze, 235 Main Street** – Agent Flaherty reviewed the Correction / Cease and Desist Order. The Board discussed the Tobacco Regulation in regards to the violation. Golam B. Chowdhury of Seabreeze Mini Mart addressed the Board regarding the violation, corrective action taken and history of the establishment in Town. Mr. Chowdhury asked the Board to consider the 3 day suspension. **Motion:** Vice Chair Meneses made a motion to remove the 3-day suspension for Seabreeze at 235 Main Street, but keep in place the \$1,100.00 fine. With the exception of mandatory training from Megan. Member Acksen seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0-0).
7. **Discussion of New Poultry Regulations** – Agent Flaherty presented the revised draft of the proposed poultry regulations. Discussion ensued regarding the proposed poultry regulations and advertising for a Public Hearing. Agent Flaherty will revise the draft and provide it to the Board members for review.
8. **Wind Turbine Status** – Chair Frezza noted that Fairhaven Wind was supposed to be on the Select Board Agenda, but they have withdrawn any proposal changes to the contract. Member Acksen requested this topic remain on the Agenda. Chair Frezza requested Agent Flaherty still contact Weston & Sampson regarding testing.
9. **FY27 Budget Update** - Agent Flaherty reviewed the FY27 budget for the Health Department. Agent Flaherty noted the Community Nurse budget was cut. Services should not be affected, but means Agent Flaherty and the Southeastern MA Public Health will have to handle some of the workload. Agent Flaherty also noted that he is working on the Short Term Rentals, which will also bring in some revenue. Agent Flaherty noted the Opioid Settlement Fund recipients will be awarded in February.

10. Public Comment – 2 Minute allowance by Chair on Public Health Issues

11. Next Meeting Date – February 11, 2026 at 5:00pm

12. Meeting Adjourned – Motion: Vice Chair Meneses motioned to adjourn the Public Meeting. Member Acksen seconded. The vote passed unanimously (3-0-0).