**Aquinnah Board of Health Special Session**

***Minutes***

**Tuesday, 27 February, 2024**

**3 PM via zoom**

**Changes to hours and staff at Aquinnah Landfill** The Board discussed a request from Natalie to change her hours and staff 3 hours on Sunday mornings at the LDO with an assistant. She also suggested that total hours be increased by three hours.

The Board noted that overall volume has not increased, and that there was therefore no compelling reason to increase total hours. However, the Board wishes to accommodate Natalie’s request for a change in hours, and therefore asked Marina to work with Natalie on two options: either, to add the assistant on Sunday mornings, and work 3 hours less, or to propose a schedule of the same number of hours that works better for her than the current schedule.

**Introduction of Brice Boutot** asInter-Island Public Health Excellence Inspection Agent. The current IIPHEC All-Island Inspector, Drew Belsky, has changed his employment and is now the Health Agent for Tisbury. IIPHEC has hired Brice Boutot to replace him, and Brice will be available to help departments around the island to increase their inspectional capacity, on everything from Food Establishments to Septic systems and swimming pools. The Board appointed Brice as and Agent of the Board for conducting inspections as determined by Marina Lent, the Aquinnah Health Agent.

**Physical Address, Map/Lot number:** 437 State Road (8-129)

Applicant:  Levy/Cohen,

Presenter: Douglas Cooper, RS

Description: Title 5 Inspection Report of 1/31/2024 ***conditional pass****: “an old cesspool requires proper abandonment. A crushed pipe from septic tank to leaching pit requires repair. The baffle on the septic tank inlet is missing and should by installed if this system is to remain in service.”*

Discussion: Doug explained that this was an in-family transfer, and that owners have no intention of conducting major renovations or other changes to the property, but want to assure proper function of the existing septic system gong forward. The repairs identified in the Title 5 inspection report will be completed, by filling the cesspool, replacing damaged pipes, and installing an inlet baffle in the tank.

Variances Requested: None required.

Conditions Attached: None.

Motions and Votes: Unanimous approval of the proposed repairs

**Draft Town Report 2023** The Board reviewed the draft annual report and asked Marina to add information about the Aquinnah LDO and send the final draft to Jerry.

**Testing for Cyanobacteria** Gerald Green noted that, because the access point at Squibnocket will not be expanded this summer, there will not be town-supported regular testing for cyanobacteria at the site. Marina Lent noted that Great Pond Foundation will take individual samples for testing, should the Board wish to do so in response to conditions at the site.

**Public Nursing Expense** Marina Lent discussed with the Board that there may be instances in future where a concerted, labor-intensive public health response is required, in particular in connection with an infectious disease outbreak. This could put significant strain on Aquinnah’s constrained resources.

The regular March BoH meeting will be held on **March 26th,** at 3pm, via zoom. The following BOH meeting will be held in person, at Aquinnah Town Hall on **May 7, 2024** at 3pm.