



**Fairhaven Marine Resources Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2024**

Present: Chair Michael McNamara, Vice-Chair Andrew Jones, David Hebert, Robert Pink, Robert Hobson, Michelle Potter and Harbormaster Timothy Cox.

Absent: Select Board member Keith Silvia

The meeting was videotaped by Cable Access and Zoom meeting application.

Mr. McNamara opened the meeting at 6:30 pm.

Approval of Minutes from March 14, 2024:

Motion: Mr. Hobson motioned to approve minutes. Mr. Jones seconded. Vote (6-0-1)

Aquaculture renewal – Stephen Doonan:

Mr. Cox spoke in favor of Stephen Doonan and the proposed five year renewal of his Aquaculture license. Discussion ensued regarding the requirements and whether the five thousand dollar bond requirement would cover the cost to remove the equipment if needed. It was agreed the bond was sufficient.

Motion: to recommend to renew Aquaculture License for a five year term. Mr. Pink Motioned, Mr. Jones seconded. Vote (6-0-1)

Shellfish updates:

Shellfishing is currently closed. Sampling should be done either Monday or Tuesday if it does not rain again. A meeting was held regarding the closures and the state is working on a plan to rectify the situation. Tim had a meeting with the Buzzards Bay Coalition and the Town Administrator to discuss the situation and will be working to come up with a solution to stop the closures. The bid has been accepted for the quahog relay and will be done in July. The Blue Stream upweller did not pass at the Select Board meeting and they will be looking at other locations. North Cove needs to be tested before reopening which is not scheduled yet but it should be opening the beginning of May. Sand has been removed from Hoppy's Landing ramp and the parking lot has been graded.

Harbormaster updates:

FOTH is going to be surveying the area near Hoppy's that was discussed at the last Marine Resource Committee meeting. They will update us when testing is completed. Dredging is happening now at the Seaport, Coast Guard Auxiliary and Popes Island. Drilling at Union Wharf has been completed and sheets are in place. The Lobster Basin is now complete and the rest is on schedule to be completed by mid May. Seaview Boat ramp will be getting a new dock and it will be installed by May 30th. Discussion ensued regarding the vessels and regulations at Union Wharf.

Any other business not reasonably anticipated 48 hours prior to the posting of this meeting:

none