

**Town of Blue Hill
Select Board Meeting
Monday, June 15, 2026
Minutes**

Call to Order: 5:30 PM.

Attendance/Quorum

E. Best (Chair), S. Miller, J. Wootten, A. Woog (remote, arrived during item #1), D. Goettler (Town Clerk, Minute Taker).

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 2/0 with one abstention to approve the minutes of June 8, 2026, as edited.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to rescind the approval of the minutes of June 8, 2026, and table approval until the following meeting.

Public Comment

J. Fehrle reported that she notified the Hancock County Sheriff's office about the upcoming Pride Parade.

Business

1. Hancock County Planning Commission Representative – Julia Zell

J. Zell distributed HCPC service handbooks, explained her role on the Commission, and answered questions about hazardous waste disposal services and grant opportunity tracking. S. Miller asked her to supply the supporting data for the current Comprehensive Plan.

2. Year-to-Date Financial Review

M. Cousins pointed out that the Marine Resources budget is above what is expected, but the lower-than-expected harbormaster wages mean that there is minimal danger of approaching the amount appropriated at the Town Meeting. There was also a significant expense associated with inoculating street trees, but a significant portion of that has already been reimbursed by homeowners. M. Cousins also pointed out that the Select Board's fund for unanticipated expenditures is growing very low; a Special Town Meeting will need to be called to replenish it, especially as a Town Hall heat pump recently broke beyond repair. Staff have been asked to find out if there is a warranty on the heat pump.

3. Liquor License Public Hearing

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to schedule Naiad Country Brewery's liquor license hearing for June 22, 2026, at 5:45 PM.

4. Primary Election Recap

D. Goettler reported that, while the election itself went smoothly, extreme pressure was placed on Deputy Clerk A. Ruiz, who ran the very busy Town Office alone on election day. She suggested that, while being open in a standard capacity was likely untenable on election days, clerks may be able to assist residents who were unable to return on another

day (for example, those with mobility challenges) upon request. S. Miller proposed directing the third clerk away from the polls and into the Town Office for more of the day; D. Goettler expressed concerns with maintaining full Registrar of Voters coverage at the polls. No decisions were made.

5. Camping, etc. on Town Property

The Board discussed updating signage on Town property to make prohibited behaviors clearer, including a QR code linking to a webpage containing a more detailed and fluid list than can fit on signs. J. Chapman added vinyl decals to the sign at the Nub to clarify the prohibition of fires.

6. Mobile Vendor Permit Application

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to approve Flanders Bay BBQ's one-day mobile vending permit as requested.

7. Schedule Liquor License Public Hearing

The hearing for Rioux Catering's annual liquor license renewal was opened. Three members of the public spoke in favor of renewal. The hearing was closed. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to approve Rioux Catering's liquor license renewal as requested.

8. Culvert Replacement Grant (MaineDMR/Penobscot Nation)

The Board received an email about a grant for culvert repair that was submitted several years ago, inviting the Town (or the Penobscot Nation) to reapply. The Board agreed to see if the Penobscot Nation is interested in applying; if the Penobscot Nation are awarded the grant, there will be no match, whereas if the Town receives it, they will be required to contribute 20%.

Other Business

A tax account with two recorded liens was brought current in preparation for being sold, requiring a municipal quitclaim deed. The check has not yet been deposited, but as it came from Acadia Law Group and not a private individual, the Board agreed to sign and record the deed on good faith. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to execute the municipal quitclaim deed for Phillip Manion and Charles Maurer, Jr.

S. Miller summarized the recent interactions between M. Haskell, owner of Blaze, and Z. Alvarez. Several violations have come to light since the noise complaints, and Z. Alvarez will issue a notice of violation for a setback issue and a shoreland zoning issue.

Z. Alvarez has received several inquiries about lawn signs across Hancock County. S. Miller contacted a representative from MaineDOT, who clarified that commercial signs are illegal within public rights-of-way and on private property outside of 1,000 feet from the business's primary location. Therefore, most of the signs to which objections were raised can be removed, either by MaineDOT (along State roads) or by Public Works (along Town roads).

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted 4/0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM subject to signing Disbursement Warrants.

The Disbursement Warrants were signed.