



**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES**  
**Thursday, August 22, 2023**

**BOARD MEMBERS:**

Jennifer Riebe, Commissioner, Payette County – present  
Lyndon Haines, Commissioner, Washington County – present  
Zach Brooks, Commissioner, Canyon County – present  
Kelly Aberasturi, Commissioner, Owyhee County – present  
Viki Purdy, Commissioner, Adams County – present  
Sam Summers, MD, Physician Representative – present  
Bill Butticci, Commissioner, Gem County – present

**STAFF MEMBERS:**

In person: Nikki Zogg, Katrina Williams, Colt Dickman, Doug Doney, Troy Cunningham, Monique Evancic, Beth Kriete, Alexis Pickering

Via Zoom: Jeff Renn, Jenifer Spurling

**GUESTS:** None.

**CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER**

Chairman Kelly Aberasturi called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Meeting attendees participated in the pledge of allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Chairman Aberasturi – present; Dr. Summers – present; Commissioner Purdy – present; Vice Chairman Haines – present; Commissioner Brooks – present; Commissioner Riebe – present; Commissioner Butticci – present.

**REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS; APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Chairman Kelly Aberasturi asked for additional agenda items. Board members had no additional agenda items or changes to the agenda.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Riebe made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

**IN-PERSON PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment given.

**OPEN DISCUSSION**

Commissioner Riebe mentioned a group called Youth Rising attended the Payette County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) meeting yesterday. They plan to open a youth center in Payette City. Commissioner Riebe asked if Southwest District Health (SWDH) staff are familiar with the group or working with them.

### **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – JULY 25, 2023**

Board members reviewed meeting minutes from the meeting held July 25, 2023.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Riebe made a motion to approve the July 25, 2023, Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Dr. Summers seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

### **INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES**

No new employees were introduced.

### **LUMA PROGRESS REVIEW**

Troy Cunningham, SWDH Financial Manager, provided an update on the progress of transitioning to Luma software. Troy and his finance team are having some challenges issuing payments and are notifying vendors of the delay due to the change over to Luma. Another challenging aspect of the transition has been extracting data from Luma in a usable manner for developing expenditure and revenue reports. As a result, expenditure and revenue reports are not available this month.

Some of the other health districts are working through another software platform called Cognos that attaches to Luma to help draw reports. Troy hopes to have reports next month for the September Board of Health meeting.

Board members asked how contract progress is being monitored without the data reports. Troy explained that most of the funders SWDH bills are from Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW). All seven health districts have worked through the Legislative Service Office guidance regarding what operating buffer can be held and SWDH is currently holding three months operating buffer. However, Troy explained that despite revenues being down we have not run into a cash flow problem.

### **STATE vs. COUNTY FISCAL YEAR DISTRIBUTION**

Troy is gathering information for this topic and will present his findings on the pros, cons, and considerations at the Board of Health next month.

### **2023 REGIONAL PRIORITIES AND HEALTH ATLAS**

Alexis Pickering, Health Strategist for the Western Idaho Community Health Collaborative (WICHC) highlighted the 2023 Regional Priorities identified in the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) recently completed. Alexis provided background information for WICHC, a multi sector public-private partnership established four years ago by four private funders and funding from the Legislature.

The team gathering data hosted more than 60 focus groups and collected 3,000 surveys. For each rural county, the team hoped to hold one focus group and met that threshold in each county except Boise and Owyhee. The surveys were translated into several languages and provided demographic data. The focus groups and interviews provided deeper conversations with intentional participation.

To identify health needs, a standardized process based off of the feedback received helped identify the priorities for the assessment. Charlene Cariou, SWDH Program Manager, shared that health education specialists with SWDH helped our counties' Community Health Action Teams (CHAT) act as facilitators for some of the data collection and conversations.

The results of the CHNA show three clear priorities: housing and homelessness (unsafe, unaffordable, and unattainable), behavioral health (mental health and substance misuse), and limited access to care with some emphasis on dental and vision and language barrier access.

Some of the priorities that did not rise to the top included cost of living, transportation, access to and cost of childcare, low wages, and job access.

Alexis also provided a demonstration of the health atlas tool.

### **COVID-19 AFTER ACTION REPORT – FINAL**

Ricky Bowman, Program Manager for Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Epidemiology Response (PHEPER), presented an after-action report for the COVID-19 emergency response. The PHEPER program works within the framework of the 15 essential functions and assessed SWDH's response against the 14 national capabilities as defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Ricky explained that the recovery aspect of the functions is now being addressed in the COVID-19 response. The PHEPER team is looking at how to define recovery and identify phases of that process. Following a three pronged approach to evaluating SWDH's response; the overarching themes requiring improvement include 1) training for staff, partners, and elected officials specific to their role within an incident command structure, 2) communication, including clear expectations for SWDH staff, clear expectations about SWDH's role and resources to responding partners, and clear information for local authorities to use and inform decisions, and 3) resource management, including development of the capacity to use a regional unified command and townhall meetings to provide opportunity for public input and feedback.

For future response efforts, PHEPER will work with emergency managers to optimize the community resources rather than SWDH setting up a separate operation.

### **IMMUNIZATIONS OVERVIEW**

Rick Stimpson, Clinic Manager, provided an overview of the immunization program. Rick discussed the difference between health equality and health equity and how business hour access, transportation, insurance coverage, and cost create barriers clients face. To help overcome those barriers, Rick explained that a subgrant for vaccines allows staff to take vaccine out to community events and schools and to waive fees for vaccines. Rick listed the schools where immunization services have been provided and clarified that each one has requested SWDH presence.

### **RECREATIONAL VEHICLE WASTEWATER DISPOSAL FOLLOW UP**

Colt Dickman, Environmental and Community Health Services Division Administrator, provided a follow up to the discussions regarding recreational vehicle (RV) living at Board of Health meetings over the last few months. Colt shared a brochure that helps explain the laws around waste disposal and other aspects of compliance needed for RV living. The brochure also provides background information around why proper disposal is important as well as resources for pumping and dump station locations.

Colt also explained that our data management system does track reports of illegal systems; however, the data are currently unreliable. We are working on improving the data quality and accuracy and will have it available to the board in the future.

Commissioner Aberasturi expressed concern that an individual needing to manage a small capacity of RV waste has to have the same license as a large capacity pump truck or commercial provider. Colt will take this

back to Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and see if there is consideration for varying levels of licensure.

### **ADAMS COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTION TEAM**

Tara Woodward, Program Planning and Development Specialist, provided information about the Adams County Community Health Action Team (A-CHAT). The A-CHAT identified mental health and housing as top priorities impacting health. The team's definition is broader than mental health crises and includes mindfulness, connection, physical and mental strength, wellbeing, and positive health maintenance.

Tara identified metrics used to monitor use of mental health resources developed or promoted by A-CHAT. One metric is the number of times the QR code for the 988 suicide and crisis lifeline is accessed.

### **OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND ALLOCATION REQUEST**

Charlene Cariou, Community Health Program Manager, presented a request for authorization to use a portion of the opioid settlement funds SWDH has received to fund the purchase of naloxone to provide to partner agencies. She explained that during the most recent legislative session, changes were made to language impacting how free naloxone is available within communities. Previously, community agencies, law enforcement agencies, health districts and other agencies could receive and distribute free naloxone. Now, first responder or law enforcement agencies are the only ones receiving and distributing free naloxone.

The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) is in the process of identifying a new partner to implement free naloxone distribution. Charlene asked Board members to consider allowing SWDH to serve as a distribution point for free naloxone during this interim gap.

Charlene estimates 120 boxes of naloxone would be needed for trainings and about 300 boxes for community distribution to agencies such as libraries and police departments. Charlene asked to use approximately \$25,000 to support this interim need and be able to distribute naloxone to the community members who request it.

**MOTION:** Dr. Summers made a motion to use approximately \$25,000 of the opioid settlement funds to obtain approximately 420 boxes of naloxone for community distribution in Southwest Idaho. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

#### **SWDH Website**

Nikki Zogg asked Board members for assistance with contact information for connecting with county personnel to submit a request to add a link to SWDH to each county website. This would assist with efforts to improve our social media and website presence.

#### **Subsurface Sewage Permit Revocation**

Environmental and Community Health Services team members are working through the process to revoke two subsurface sewage permits issued earlier this year for new systems needing replacements. Team members are working with risk management and the property owners to remedy the situation as well as with the city and county agencies regarding the option for city or county services.

Nikki explained the appeal process that may come to the Board. Currently, the board would only hear a procedural appeal. Colt discussed the proactive steps being taken to avoid similar revocations. The lot sizes impacted are approximately .1 acres and are near one of the main thoroughfares in Caldwell. The DEQ requires a statement for anything within 200' explaining why they cannot connect to city services. Board members will be kept informed of the processes.

**Follow Up on July Board of Health Meeting Open Discussion**

Following Commissioner Purdy's request last month for a status update on the \$200,000 grant mentioned several months ago, Nikki provided information on a grant that matches the criteria Commissioner Purdy was able to recollect. Nikki and her staff reviewed meeting minutes and meeting recordings and identified the Partnership for Success grant which is funding that comes to SWDH that comes as federal funding through the Office of Drug Policy (ODP) and is given to the public health districts. The grant was discussed due to some changes in the relationship between SWDH and the Regional Behavioral Health Board. The funding was set to terminate at the end of Fiscal Year 2023 due to money not being spent through the grant period. The funder did allow the grant period to be extended and work will now be completed by the end of September 2023. The drug prevention work is not anticipated to continue unless funding from Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration SAMHSA is received.

**Board of Health Payroll and Reimbursements**

Following the transition to Luma, Board member payroll processes have been identified and payroll for June and July has been submitted. The mileage reimbursement piece is still being navigated.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Nikole Zogg  
Secretary to the Board

Approved as written:



Kelly Aberasturi  
Vice-Chairman

Date: September 19, 2023