



BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, October 24, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS:

Jennifer Riebe, Commissioner, Payette County – present via Zoom
Lyndon Haines, Commissioner, Washington County – not 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 Buttici, Commissioner, Gem County – not present

STAFF MEMBERS:

In person: Nikki Zogg, Katrina Williams, Colt Dickman, Troy Cunningham, Beth Kriete, Cas Adams, Charlene Cariou

Via Zoom: Jeff Renn

GUESTS: No guests attended the meeting.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Kelly Aberasturi called the meeting to order at 9:08 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 – not present; Commissioner Brooks – present; Commissioner Riebe – present via Zoom; Commissioner Buttici – not 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.

IN-PERSON PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment given.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Board members had no topics for open discussion.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

Board members reviewed meeting minutes from the meeting held September 19, 2023.

MOTION: Commissioner Brooks made a motion to approve the September 19, 2023, Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Purdy seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

October 24, 2023

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Division administrators introduced new staff.

SEPTEMBER 2023 EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORT

Troy Cunningham, SWDH Financial Manager, presented estimated expenditure and revenue report data for fiscal year 2024 July through September. Due to the unavailability of data in Luma, expenditures and revenue do not align. Troy explained that the target range for this time in the fiscal year is about 25%. The expenditures are the most on-target numbers available through Luma. The budget to actual for personnel is at 20% which is close to target.

Troy has reached out to Luma staff to inquire about how to pull accurate data. Other agencies across the state are experiencing similar challenges.

Troy explained the Western Idaho Community Crisis Center (WIDCCC) and Western Idaho Youth Support Center (WIYSC) are also showing out of balance as Health and Welfare has not yet been billed for this contract.

Commissioner Aberasturi asked if we have had to dip into reserves at all yet. Troy explained that at this point he does not believe so. Based on conversations with the Luma team and with the Deputy Controller, Luma is expected to begin to resolve some of the issues with pulling data. Troy is working to create reports to minimize inaccurate data. Despite those efforts Troy acknowledges that throughout this fiscal year the numbers will be a challenge.

Nikki added that the Board asked SWDH staff to review the pros and cons of changing fiscal year cycles to align with counties. One of the biggest cons to this is the need to switch enterprise resource planning (ERP) system. There are barriers to changing; however, we are pursuing this option and have an upcoming meeting scheduled with the State Controller regarding the concerns with Luma and the feasibility of moving to a new ERP. Following the upcoming meeting with the State Controller, Nikki will coordinate a meeting with both the State Controller and Treasurer to discuss the what challenges may exist at the Treasure's office that will need to be overcome to allow SWDH to move to a different ERP.

QUARTERLY CONTRACTS REPORT

Troy shared out an updated quarterly contracts report. This report is up to date as of the latest grant we received. This report reflects the grants we have received broken out in state and federal categories. Board members appreciated the additional detail in the report.

QUARTERLY WESTERN IDAHO COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER (WIDCCC) REPORT

Cas Adams, Southwest District Health Project Manager, provided the Fiscal Year 2024 Quarter 1 Report for WIDCCC. Cas reminded board members that the purpose of the adult crisis center is three-fold and includes diversion from unnecessary involvement in the justice system and unnecessary admissions in the emergency department, prevention of future crises, and promoting wellbeing. The majority of clients at WIDCCC have both mental health and substance use concerns.

Cas also discussed outcomes for the first quarter and shared survey results from the clients. 100% of those surveyed would return, 95% were confident with their discharge plan and 95% feel their needs were addressed. In Pathways' first quarter as the WIDCCC provider they are providing high quality services showing the client is valued and the client needs are being addressed.

October 24, 2023

Return on investment numbers show other areas for cost savings can be identified. One or two days not spent in an in-patient center is a significant cost savings. Cas will analyze these figures for quarter 2 and bring back an updated return on investment figure.

Commissioner Purdy asked for clarification of the dollar amount Medicaid pays is \$400 per day. She asked what is the cost per day to run WIDCCC.

Commissioner Brooks asked if pre-prosecution diversion (PPD) grant funds are earmarked to help with WIDCCC. Nikki responded that the PPD grant award will specifically go toward the work as described in the grant proposal and will not go toward supporting the crisis center.

Cas shared that one success from first quarter is receipt of the harm reduction vending machine. Staff at WIDCCC have completed their first round of training for these harm reduction resources. She also noted that donations from community resources are abundant. Deseret Industries provides clothing donations to the center. Chipotle and Starbucks and local food pantries also provide donations. The increase in admission numbers from last fiscal year to this fiscal year's first quarter is another noteworthy success.

Increasing community buy in, increasing utilization, and increasing telehealth capabilities are goals for this fiscal year.

SCHOOL CLINICS AND MEDICAL CLINICS OVERVIEW

Rick Stimpson, SWDH Clinics Manager, provided an overview of the medical clinic. He noted that in Caldwell a provider is available almost each day and at the satellite offices several times each month for immunizations, screenings, and medication distribution. Rick provided information on the clinic staff, shared goals of moving from services limited to birth control and immunizations to broader primary care services. To help share this information out, rack cards and social media campaigns will highlight clinic services. Also, starting in January, SWDH will do a digital marketing campaign with clinic services as part of that advertising.

Board members asked Rick if the clinic's goal is to get people to use a taxpayer funded service as opposed to private health care providers? Rick responded that we hope to bring patients in to increase the volume and explained that private health care providers often refer patients to SWDH for some of the more cost-efficient services and, similarly, SWDH cross refers as needed.

Commissioner Purdy asked if we are competing with private business for customers. Nikki explained that there is a shortage of providers across the state and across our region and SWDH fills a gap or need where access is hard or where clients may not have great access to care based on underinsured or uninsured status. The SWDH medical clinic fills that gap rather than competing with the private sector.

Dr. Summers clarified that often appointments at private health care providers are not available in a timely manner. Rick added that the partnership with other primary care providers allows cross referrals to help meet client needs. He also pointed out that the Community Health and Needs Assessment (CHNA) identified the need for family practice medicine as one of the biggest needs.

Next, Rick provided an overview of the Marsing School Clinic Project. Southwest District Health and Boise State University jointly wrote the grant for a school nurse in a rural area. The grant aims to show that access to a school nurse in a rural area helps increase student health overall.

October 24, 2023

The partnership began as a project to provide a SWDH nurse in the Marsing school district three days a week. Boise State University developed and initiated a survey to ask students about their physical and mental health and whether students are aware of the school nurse resource. The survey was completed at the beginning of the project, in the middle and will be conducted at the end.

The project works to help fund the school nurse through reimbursable services from Medicaid or private insurance. Parents have appreciated the availability of the school nurse as it limits the time off from work to take a sick child to a provider and increases access to medical screenings and exams.

Dr. Summers asked for information on the metrics being used to prove the school clinic in Marsing is reaching its goals. Rick clarified that BSU is managing the metrics reporting side through the surveys being completed at beginning, midpoint, and endpoint of the project.

Commissioner Aberasturi asked if after the initial project concludes is there any sustainability? Currently, there is not but there may be a chance for Blue Cross of Idaho to provide reimbursement for services provided by a nurse practitioner.

ORGANIZATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Sam Kenney, SWDH Organizational Development Manager, presented performance indicators chosen to measure the agency's performance. The indicators show room for improvement and were developed from an inventory showing topics SWDH values such as fiscal accountability, building trust with the public, and maintaining engaged staff. These topics align with our strategic goals and values and are meaningful to our vision, mission, and purpose.

This is the first year SWDH has established baseline performance indicators to track and through this next fiscal year we will build out a visualization for these indicators in a dashboard that can be shared out on our website designed to help increase transparency.

Sam proposes reporting out on these indicators twice a year. These indicators may change in the future as our goals change and as we change performance measurement indicators. Sam shared the indicators for feedback or input from Board members. There were no questions or feedback.

OPIOID SETTLEMENT SPENDING PLAN

Charlene Cariou, SWDH Program Manager 2, presented a proposed spending plan for opioid settlement funds received. Receipt of these funds began in Fiscal Year 2022 and are expected to continue to be received through Fiscal Year 2039. Charlene asked for input to ensure funds are spent wisely. She reminded board members of the environmental scan results that helped highlight needs. She also shared activities currently in progress.

The contracted research agency that conducted the environmental scan provided some ideas for pre-approved activities such as prevention, education, treatment, mental health services, community health services, and supporting basic needs. These specific recommendations were gathered from listening to community members, policy makers, and other decision makers.

Charlene emphasized the goal for the use of these opioid funds is to not duplicate services but rather to support gaps in general infrastructure as well as diving in to prevention, support, and treatment.

October 24, 2023

Charlene requested that for the remainder of this fiscal year about \$150,000 of the funds be dedicated to supporting personnel time and general operating expenses. She asked for Board member guidance or feedback.

Commissioner Riebe asked for a description of the Guiding Good Choices Program. Charlene explained that the program provides instruction on risk factors for youth substance use, strategies for enhancing family processes, effective parenting tools, and the use of family meetings to improve family engagement and child management. This program would not be school-based but would be provided through collaborations with partner organizations to implement the program, and train on the curriculum. For example, faith-based organizations, YMCAs, and Boys and Girls Clubs are examples of agencies that may benefit from this curriculum.

MOTION: Commissioner Brooks made a motion to approve the Opioid Settlement Spending Plan as presented. Dr. Summers seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

SOUTHWEST DISTRICT HEALTH POLICY POSITION STATEMENTS

Nikki Zogg, SWDH District Director, presented policy position statements around priority areas as determined by CHNA results with housing, behavioral health, and behavioral health care access being primary priorities.

Nikki asked Board members for feedback and guidance. One support statement that is not included but will be added if the Board supports it is that the District would oppose legalizing the production and distribution of legalized marijuana. She clarified that this is supported by the collective Boards of Health across the state but was not included in this packet.

Board members asked Nikki for the opportunity to review these policy statements and discuss them at next month's Board meeting. This item will be carried over to the November Board of Health meeting for further discussion.

IDAHO TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT OFFER FOR EASEMENT PORTION

Nikki presented the right of way acquisition packet received from Idaho Transportation Department for the portion of land at the Caldwell location that will be impacted by the Farmway Road to Middleton Road project number A022(715), SH 55.

Nikki did ask our legal counsel to review this offer. Legal counsel has no issues with the packet from ITD but did suggest that an outside appraisal would be a costly and lengthy process.

Dr. Summers asked how long the highway expansion project will take and will it impact our clients' access to the Caldwell facility. Nikki expects construction to begin in the spring and there will be an impact for clients. Following completion of the project drivers will no longer be able to turn left from Florida onto Highway 55.

MOTION: Commissioner Brooks made a motion to approve the Idaho Transportation Department Right of Way Acquisition offer in the amount of \$280,991.75 and authorize Chairman Aberasturi to execute the required signatures. Dr. Summers seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

October 24, 2023

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Health Symposium

The Public Health Symposium is scheduled for November 28, 2023. The Board of Health meeting will be shortened to allow Board members to attend the symposium.

Strategic Plan Revision – County Commissioner 3-question survey

Nikki will be reaching out to county commissioners with a 3-question survey to help inform some upcoming revisions to the SWDH Strategic Plan. Board members may recall providing input through a survey mechanism several years ago.

Youth Behavioral Health Crisis Center Update

Nikki shared that SWDH has had some delays beyond our control with the proposed physical location for location in Nampa. The deadline for opening the crisis center is approaching. Nikki shared that staff has been in communication with the Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections (IDJC) regarding a revised timeline for opening. A new architect has been identified to work with this project and a contractor to complete the work will be identified. The revised goal is to have the WIYSC operational by the end of March. This timeline aligns with the Department of Health and Welfare's goals for establishing Medicaid reimbursement.

In addition, Pathways of Idaho, the WIYSC contracted service provider, has indicated they have space at a Nampa outpatient services location that may be available as a temporary location which could open in January. The feasibility of opening in this temporary space is being explored. Next steps are to finalize the contract with Pathways of Idaho, finish design plans with the new architect firm, and explore a temporary location in closer proximity to the long-term location.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:15 a.m., Commissioner Brooks made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(a). Dr. Summers seconded the motion. Roll call was taken. All in favor.

At 11:25 a.m. Board members came out of Executive Session.

ACTION TAKEN AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

MOTION: Commissioner Purdy made a motion to allow interviews to be set up for the three Board of Health Physician applicants that live within our District. Commissioner Brooks seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Nikole Zogg
Secretary to the Board

Approved as written:



Kelly Aberasturi
Vice-Chairman

Date: November 28, 2023