



BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, December 19, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS:

Jennifer Riebe, Commissioner, Payette County – present via Zoom
Lyndon Haines, Commissioner, Washington County – present via Zoom
Zach Brooks, Commissioner, Canyon County – present
Kelly Aberasturi, Commissioner, Owyhee County – present
Viki Purdy, Commissioner, Adams County – present
Sam Summers, MD, Physician Representative – not present
Bill Butticci, Commissioner, Gem County – present via Zoom

STAFF MEMBERS:

In person: Nikki Zogg, Katrina Williams, Colt Dickman, Beth Kriete, Doug Doney, Troy Cunningham, Sam Kenney

Via Zoom: Jeff Renn

GUESTS: No guests attended the meeting.

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Kelly Aberasturi called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting attendees participated in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Aberasturi – present; Dr. Summers – not present; Commissioner Purdy – present; Vice Chairman Haines – present via Zoom; Commissioner Brooks – present; Commissioner Riebe – present via Zoom; Commissioner Butticci – present via Zoom.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND APPROVAL OF AMENDED AGENDA

Chairman Kelly Aberasturi asked for additional agenda items. Board members had no additional agenda items or changes to the agenda. Nikki asked for the addition of an informational item.

MOTION: Commissioner Butticci made a motion to approve the amended agenda with addition of the informational item. Commissioner Purdy seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

IN-PERSON PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment given.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Board members had no topics for open discussion.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 28, 2023

Board members reviewed meeting minutes from the meeting held November 28, 2023.

MOTION: Commissioner Riebe made a motion to approve the November 28, 2023, Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Haines seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES – DECEMBER 13, 2023

Board members reviewed meeting minutes from the meeting held December 13, 2023.

MOTION: Commissioner Purdy made a motion to approve the December 13, 2023, Special Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Haines seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

CONFIRMATION OF BOARD OF HEALTH PHYSICIAN REPRESENTATIVE

All six counties have confirmed Dr. John Tribble’s appointment to the Board of Health as the Board’s Physician Representative. Board members discussed accepting this confirmation.

MOTION: Commissioner Purdy made a motion to accept the ballots confirming Dr. John Tribble’s appointment to the Board of Health as the Board’s Physician Representative. Commissioner Haines seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Division administrators introduced new staff.

NOVEMBER 2023 EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORT

Troy Cunningham, Financial Manager, presented the November 2023 Expenditure and Revenue Report. Troy has been working to develop an anchor report to show what was pulled out of the system. Troy explained he made a change to reporting this month to utilize the modified accrual basis and it includes a significant amount of outstanding accounts receivable in the revenue total. These outstanding accounts receivable are due to Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) still struggling to issue payments.

Personnel expenditures are down slightly due to a few staff vacancies. Trustee and Benefits also shows as low due to pass-through funds not yet expended.

Contract revenues for the Western Idaho Community Crisis Center (WIDCCC) and Western Idaho Youth Support Center (WIYSC) are down as SWDH team members continue to work on getting caught up on invoicing. As we get IDHW fully invoiced, the revenue percentage should stabilize.

Troy responded to Board member questions regarding whether there are improvements in the Luma system allowing more efficient, accurate work products. He explained that he has reached out to other agencies to gather information about other platforms. He is also working with the State Treasurer’s Office and the State Controller’s Office to determine next steps and actions needed to pursue navigating away from using Luma.

WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY HEALTH ACTION TEAM OVERVIEW

Halle McDermott, Health Education Specialist, Sr., provided information on the Health Alliance for Washington County (HAWC), formerly known as the Washington County Community Health Action Team. Halle provided a brief overview of what a community Health Action Team (CHAT) is, the purpose, and the makeup of team members. She explained that CHATs aim to meet multiple essential public

health functions including to assess and monitor local health needs, mobilize communities and partnerships, and champion policies and laws, and innovate to build infrastructure for health.

The HAWC team is comprised of several community organizations including healthcare organizations, smaller health organizations, nonprofit agencies addressing cancer and mental health, and community members interested in improving their communities' health. Priorities for 2024 are being developed.

Board members expressed appreciation for the recruitment to ensure a good mixture of individuals and agencies on the HAWC team.

MPOX STATUS REPORT

Andy Nutting, SWDH Epidemiologist, provided an update on Mpox (formerly known as Monkeypox). He explained the name change is part of an effort to reduce negative connotations around anyone who becomes infected.

Mpox is not a new disease. It was first introduced into the United States in 2003 and is part of the family of viruses that causes diseases like smallpox. The signs and symptoms include a rash on hands, feet, chest, face, or genitals. Fever, chills, and respiratory symptoms may also occur. Those who are exposed to a person sick with Mpox should monitor for symptoms for 21 days.

Andy explained that Mpox has been identified by Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (IDHW) as a disease of public health concern. The spread of the disease through the U.S. has been primarily through sexual contact. The goal is to gather more data on disease presentation. Disease spread can be prevented through the vaccine which includes two doses 28 days apart and may result in milder cases of the disease and help avoid hospitalization.

Next steps include partner notification services, continued disease investigations, increased communication around Mpox, sharing information about vaccine availability and providing assistance to medical providers.

Board members asked if the disease is airborne or only contact related. Andy explained that the population impacted right now is primarily contracting the virus through sexual contact with an infected person. Though there is some information showing it may spread through a droplet, transmission is primarily through direct contact.

BOARD OF HEALTH WORKPLAN DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION

Nikki Zogg led Board members in discussion around development of a Board of Health Workplan for 2024. She explained that this workplan informs meeting agenda development. She started the conversation by sharing the role and responsibilities of Board members. She also asked for feedback about beginning to use workshops as a tool for educating Board members on specific topics.

She asked Board members whether they have topics that impact their communities that they would like to have training or information on such as Incident Command System (ICS). Commissioner Buttici mentioned that Gem County has already provided ICS training. He does appreciate being involved in the budget process. He also asked for information around priority funding. Commissioner Buttici expressed full confidence in the SWDH Leadership Team staff to develop the spending plan and identify priorities but would ask to just be kept informed of that process. Commissioner Riebe shared she has an interest

in hearing about emerging trends even if it is not in our area just to have an advance notice. She would appreciate hearing from the Think Tank about anything noteworthy. Commissioner Haines echoes the value of having the ICS training and possibly a tabletop exercise to put that information into action. Commissioner Aberasturi would like to have more information on multi-county or multi-district efforts especially those that are more like us in size such as the Twin Falls area. He is also interested in working with other government entities including Area 3 Senior Services to determine how Western Idaho Community Crisis Center and the Western Idaho Youth Support Center are working and can be improved.

Commissioner Purdy suggested that policies hindering the impact of public health would be less if public health had not interfered with people's rights during COVID. Nikki clarified the policies she is referencing are more around the vagueness and who is ultimately responsible for ensuring compliance to protect public's health in areas such as drinking water and sewage waste disposal. Commissioner Purdy also expressed her opinion that the septic program would be more beneficial to Adams County if they could manage that themselves. She stated that the septic system program pays for itself. Commissioner Aberasturi mentioned that the septic programs are managed by the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) who contracts with the public health districts and shifting to individual counties would require a statute change.

Board members had no other input on the workplan development. Nikki will continue building out the calendar year 2024 workplan and share it with Board members. She asked Board members to forward further input. She will also ask Dr. Tribble if there are topics of interest to him for inclusion in the workplan.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Western Idaho Community Health Collaborative Implementation Plan Kick off meeting

The unveiling event for this is January 11, 2024 and Board members are invited.

Meeting with State Treasurer's Office

Troy and Nikki will meet with the State Treasurer's Office to discuss challenges with Luma and a potential substitute system.

Public Health Symposium Feedback

Nikki thanked Board members for attending the Public Health Symposium and she asked for any feedback or ideas for a focus area for next year's event. Several board members shared their appreciation of the SWDH staff they met and the opportunity to learn more about the programs and services and seeing their skill sets.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:37 a.m.



Nikole Zogg
Secretary to the Board



Kelly Aberasturi
Vice-Chairman

Date: January 23, 2024