



BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, March 24, 2026

BOARD MEMBERS:

Jennifer Riebe, Commissioner, Payette County – present
Jim Harberd, Commissioner, Washington County – not present
Zach Brooks, Commissioner, Canyon County – present
Kelly Aberasturi, Commissioner, Owyhee County – present
Viki Purdy, Commissioner, Adams County – present
John Tribble, MD, Physician Representative – present via Microsoft Teams
Kirk Wille, Commissioner, Gem County – present

STAFF MEMBERS:

In person: Nikki Zogg, Katrina Harshman, Don Lee, Beth Kriete, Ben Shatto, Michele Hanrahan, Jody Waddy, Wendy Young, Cas Adams

Virtual: Colton Osborne

GUESTS: Ashley Lynn, Washington County Community Paramedic

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Kelly Aberasturi called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Chairman Aberasturi – present; Dr. John Tribble – present via Microsoft Teams; Commissioner Purdy – present; Commissioner Harberd – not present; Vice Chairman Brooks – present; Commissioner Riebe – present; Commissioner Wille – present

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Kelly Aberasturi asked for additional agenda items. Nikki asked to amend the agenda to move the Executive Council Update earlier in the agenda. Board members had no additional agenda items or changes to the agenda.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was provided in person and no public comments were submitted through the online submission mechanism.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

No new employees were introduced.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO IDAHO CODE 74-206(b)

Pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(b) Board members entered Executive Session at 10:08 a.m. Commissioner Wille made a motion to go into executive session. Commissioner Riebe seconded the motion. Roll call taken.

At 10:32 a.m., board members came out of executive session.

ACTION TAKEN AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

FISCAL YEAR 2027 BUDGET WORKSHOP

Division Presentations

Family and Clinic Services

Beth Kriete, Family and Clinic Services (FCS) Division Administrator, shared a few of her team’s efforts. The FCS team is working to shuffle personnel to adjust to the upcoming decrease in home visiting funds. Clinic efforts are focusing on Weiser to improve utilization of services. Beth also explained that the YouthROC program will be sunseting.

Another highlight from FCS is that the Pre-Prosecution Diversion (PPD) program will continue with the support of the Canyon County Prosecuting Attorney.

Environmental and Community Health Services

Ben Shatto, Environmental and Community Health Services (ECHS) Division Administrator, shared highlights from his teams. The Community Health team continues to stay busy with programs such as Fit and Fall Proof. Food inspections are likely to change based on legislation around cottage foods. Childcare inspections continue to go well. Ben shared that as part of the Memorandum of Agreement between SWDH and the City of Nampa, 38 pools within city limits have been inspected and those inspections are going quite well.

The subsurface sewage program remains busy. Land development and subdivision work has slowed over the last four to five years. That slowing is sometimes a leading indicator to an economic slowdown. The team will see how this affects team members’ workloads.

The responsibility for solid waste inspections has transitioned back to Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Rather than contract with health districts for this service, DEQ will be looking to hire one supervisor and two inspectors to manage the state’s solid waste inspections.

Ben reported that the PHEPER (Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Epidemiological Response) program continues to go well. A forecasting model has been successfully developed and implemented for use to let schools know about anticipated risk during respiratory illness season. Infection rates for Idaho’s reportable diseases are also available on an online dashboard.

Lastly, Ben shared that he anticipates bringing back a request to the Board of Health members to approve a revised fee request to adjust the septic fee. Currently, the fee is at \$950 for a septic permit.

District Operations

Don Lee, Chief Operating Officer, provided a report on District Operations. The team provides finance and accounting, human resources, I.T., facility maintenance and building safety functions, data tracking, and organizational/workforce development services and support. These teams are working to increase efficiency and lower costs. Don provided three examples of this:

- Migrating to SWDH Adobe
- Fleet tracking software – Samsara
- Moving to modules in Luma allowing quicker routing and allows for less paper copies

Don also shared about efforts to minimize costs while maintaining the district's vehicle fleet. The leasing agency has provided updated numbers and leasing appears more advantageous.

Subgrants and Contracts Forecast

Nikki Zogg, District Director, shared a forecast of FY27 subgrants and contracts. There continues to be some talk at the national level regarding future shifts around whole health and nutrition. No funding opportunities around those new priorities have been identified yet. Staff continue to look for funding opportunities that align with our current strategic goals.

Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Proposal

The total budget request for FY27 is \$16,071,931 representing a 6.34% decrease from prior fiscal year. The SWDH employer share of health insurance premiums is expected to increase by \$1,400 per employee.

Michele shared a summary of revenues and expenditures and showed the trend over the last three years. She reminded Board members that statutorily 70% of county contributions are based on population and 30% are based on market taxable value. Updated population numbers will be available before the Board of Health meeting in April and those updated pieces of the formula will impact the calculations slightly.

Michele explained the table showing anticipated county contributions for FY27 does not show the Board of Health's decision to approve the use of board committed reserve to offset any increases in county contributions for FY27 and FY28.

Nikki shared a chart that she developed at the request of the IAC public health workgroup and included it for board member awareness. The chart was developed to attempt to capture the dollar amount going into each county in the health district relevant to the county contributions.

Nikki asked for board member feedback and will bring this proposal for approval at next month's meeting. She asked for board member feedback on what to present differently.

Commissioner Wille stated it would be helpful to understand which departments are using district funds and which are self-sufficient.

Employee Compensation Plan

Jody Waddy, Human Resources Manager, shared changes to the FY27 compensation plan. Most changes add clarifying statements. Jody highlighted the longevity recognition plan to add the 10, 15, 20, and 25-year longevity recognition awards. She also shared a proposal to change the holidays SWDH observes to remove President’s Day and Columbus Day as paid holidays and instead add the day after Thanksgiving and the day before Christmas as paid holidays. SWDH is currently closed for both President’s Day and Columbus Day. Jody pointed out that the suggestion for which two holidays to swap out is based on research showing that businesses in the private sector are more likely to be open on President’s Day and Columbus Day.

Jody asked for approval of the compensation plan with changes as presented as well as approval of a change in holidays the District observes. She noted that if board members approve this plan the implementation will be only partial for calendar year 2026 as President’s Day has already been observed as a paid holiday. She proposed that for this year, calendar year 2026, SWDH offices remain open on Columbus Day and close the day after Thanksgiving.

MOTION: Commissioner Riebe made a motion to approve the employee compensation plan as presented with the change in holidays observed to remove President’s Day and Columbus Day as paid holidays and instead observe the day after Thanksgiving and day before Christmas as presented. Commissioner Wille seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

Opioid Settlement Fund Spending Plan

Don Lee, COO, shared an overview of opioid settlement funds received and expended as well as planned expenditures for Fiscal Year 2027.

MOTION: Commissioner Riebe made a motion to approve the \$320,000 in planned expenditures as presented in the Fiscal Year 2027 Opioid Settlement Fund Spending Plan. Commissioner Purdy seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

Board members asked for a review of options for a higher interest rate yield for the opioid settlement funds. Michele indicated that currently, the opioid settlement funds are earning 3.796%.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UPDATE

Nikki summarized several changes in legislation that impact public health including cottage foods and parental consent regarding emergency care or crimes against children when medical care can be provided without consent. There is also a new bill around kratom consumer protection that creates a standard age to not be able to purchase natural kratom until age 21 and bans any adulterated kratom.

Also, Senate Bill 1314 eliminated the state Board of Health and Regional Behavioral Health Boards by removing those sections of Code.

APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY, 24, 2026 BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

Board members reviewed meeting minutes from the February 24, 2026 Board of Health meeting. No changes suggested.

MOTION: Commissioner Riebe made a motion to approve the February 24, 2026 Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Wille seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

FEBRUARY 2026 MONTHLY EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORT

Michele Hanrahan shared the February 2026 monthly expenditure and revenue report. Michele shared detail about the year-to-date program revenue. Overall, we are at 64.35% of budget revenue collected which is very close to the target for this point in the fiscal year. Currently, budgeted expenditures are at 63.74% which is also very close to target.

COMMUNITY PARAMEDICS PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Wendy Young, SWDH Program Manager, and Ashley Lynn, Washington County Community Paramedic, shared an overview of Washington County’s Community Paramedics Program. The program is funded through a 5-year SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration) grant that began in September 2023 and runs through September 2028. The grant’s purpose is to divert youth and adults with behavioral health needs from the criminal justice system. Wendy explained that the purpose of community paramedicine is to reduce unnecessary emergency department (ED) visits, hospital admissions, and justice system involvement.

Ashley Lynn was hired in October 2024 and began training to create a CIT (crisis intervention team) collaborative, providing consultations with law enforcement and seeing patients. She explained she serves as a resource to identify how to best help a patient. She can provide mental health crisis support, substance use disorder support, connections to counseling services or telehealth/medical services and family education on crisis response steps and warning signs.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Director approved agreements, contracts, and subgrants

Summary pages for grants, contracts, agreements, and subgrants are included in the meeting packet. Any questions can be directed to Nikki.

Retirement of Central District Health District Director

Russ Duke, Central District Health District Director, has announced his retirement effective the first part of July 2026.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Nikole Zogg
Secretary to the Board

Approved as written:



Kelly Aberasturi
Chairman

Date: April 28, 2026