

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
316 N. PARK AVENUE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
Lewis and Clark City-County Building
August 22, 2019**

Members Present

Commissioner Andy Hunthausen, vice chair
Dr. Mikael Bedell
Tyler Ream
Kammy Johnson
Jenny Eck
Brie Oliver

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann Rae Brown
Jolene Helgersen Greg Daly
Eric Merchant Marisa Johnson
Jacqueline Isaly Katie Maslowski
Gayle Shirley Jess Hegstrom
Mary Pierce

Members Absent

Justin Murgel, chair
Mayor Wilmot Collins
Scott St. Clair

Guests Present

Pat Christian, Helena Citizens Council

Commissioner Andy Hunthausen, vice-chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was established. Introduction of Board members was made.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were made.

MINUTES

Commissioner Hunthausen asked if there were any corrections or additions to the July 25, 2019, minutes. The Board approved the minutes as written.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION:

Employee Survey Presentations: Drenda Niemann, Health Officer, discussed results of the Employee Engagement and the Mental Health/ACEs/Trauma-Informed Practices staff surveys (pages 9-21 of the board packet). Ms. Niemann said that after reviewing the results of the Mental Health/ACEs/Trauma-Informed Practices survey, staff will have another ACEs training at an all-staff meeting. Staff recently participated in a QPR (Question Persuade Refer) suicide prevention training. The management team learned through the Employee Engagement Survey that the department could improve its efforts to ensure employee physical and emotional safety and provide staff with a better understanding of employee rights, rules, and grievances. Staff also participated in the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services Workforce Development Survey. The results of that survey are not available at this time. In answer to a question from Jenny Eck, Ms. Niemann said that 41 of 44 employees participated in the mental health survey. In answer to a question from Brie Oliver, Ms. Niemann said management has begun researching different trauma-informed models such as the one being used by Shodair Children's Hospital. The management team will create an action plan and reach out to others in the community for training. In answer to a question from Commissioner Hunthausen, Ms. Niemann said that management is creating action and training plans based on the results of the two surveys.

Home Visiting Presentation: Mary Pierce, Home Visiting Supervisor, along with the Home Visiting staff, gave brief updates on the Parents as Teachers (PAT), Nurse Family Partnership, Peer Breast feeding, Circle of Security, Montana Asthma, Home Visiting and First Breath Smoking Cessation Programs. The presentations included program challenges, successes, and recommendations for improvement (see Attachment “A”). In answer to a question from Commissioner Hunthausen, Katie Maslowski, Home Visiting Case Manager and Social Worker, and Ms. Pierce, said that the PAT Program receives referrals from the hospital and the WIC program. Income is one of several criteria for eligibility PAT requirement. Staff also works hard to enroll families who would benefit from the program but do not meet income eligibility. In answer to questions from Ms. Eck, Ms. Pierce said the PAT income eligibility guideline is the same as the WIC Program. Families find out about the PAT Program through outreach within the community, St. Peter’s Health, and the state Child and Family Services Division among others. Ms. Pierce also said that staff is trained to recognize child abuse and are required to report it to the state.

Suicide Prevention Presentation: Jess Hegstrom, Suicide Prevention Health Educator, gave a presentation on the Suicide Prevention training SAMHSA grant, targeted learners, anticipated impacts, training programs, Military Strong Challenge, and the Man Therapy Anti-stigma Campaign (pages 22-32 of the board packet). In answer to a question from Ms. Oliver, Ms. Hegstrom discussed how Public Health came to use the Man Therapy Campaign. In answer to a question from Tyler Ream, Ms. Niemann said that the Suicide Prevention Coalition would decide how to use any funds remaining from the campaign.

Communications & Marketing Year-End Report & Website Review: Gayle Shirley, Communications and Systems Improvement Manager, gave a brief update on the Communications and Marketing Dashboard 2019 Year-End Summary, in which she highlighted the results in earned media, the website, and social media (pages 33-37 of the board packet). She also shared with the Board a proposed new design for the department’s main web page and invited their feedback.

Board Training: Board members watched a brief University of Michigan training video titled “Public Health Primer A.”

HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT

At a ceremony Aug. 22 at Prickly Pear Elementary School in East Helena, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) presented an Excellence in Site Reuse Award to representatives from the Montana Environmental Trust Group (METG) and partner agencies (including the department) for their efforts to advance the cleanup and revitalization of the East Helena Superfund site. The award recognized the teamwork and partnerships that led to the successful remediation and redevelopment of former ASARCO properties in East Helena. The land, impacted by over 100 years of lead smelting operations, is being transformed into new schools (including Prickly Pear Elementary), residential subdivisions, and trail networks. The Lead Education and Assistance Program, Environmental Services, and the Water Quality Protection District were among those recognized for their efforts in making the land viable for new uses.

There being no public comment, the meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Commissioner Andy Hunthausen, Vice-Chair

Drenda Niemann, Secretary