

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
1930 9th AVE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
Zoom Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
March 24, 2022**

Members Present

Dr. Mikael Bedell, vice chair
Commissioner Jim McCormick (dept. @ 2:15pm)
Mayor Wilmot Collins (dept. @ 2:00pm)
Mayor Kelly Harris
Lisa Kaufman
Rex Weltz (dept. @1.53pm)
Katherine Weber

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann	Brett Lloyd
Laurel Riek	Beth Norberg
Kathy Moore	Mary Sparks
Dorota Carpenedo	Sarah Sandau
Jolene Helgerson	
Damian Boudreau	
Dorota Carpenedo	

Members Absent

Justin Murgel, chair
Brie MacLaurin

Guests Present

Charles Lane, Deputy County Attorney
Bob Anderson, Hydrometrics
Representative Mary Ann Dunwell

Dr. Mikael Bedell, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were made. No public comment was given.

MINUTES

Dr. Bedell asked if there were any corrections or additions to the February 24, 2022, minutes. There being none, the Board approved the minutes as written. No public comment was given.

ACTION ITEMS

Communicable Disease Response Plan & Checklist: Brett Lloyd, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, presented the Communicable Disease and Response Plan and Checklist (see Attachment “A”) for board review and approval. Mr. Lloyd gave a brief explanation of the current plan and discussed the changes that were made this year to incorporating a protocol to identify and prioritize case investigation and contact tracing which was tied directly to our COVID-19 response. In answer to a question from Commissioner Jim McCormick, Mr. Lloyd said yes this response plan and checklist does comply with the new law regarding the governing body. After no further board member discussion, Mayor Kelly Harris made a motion to approve the Communicable Disease and Response Plan and Checklist. Mayor Wilmot Collins seconded the motion. No public comment was given. The motion carried 7-0.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Call for Board of Health finance committee: Drenda Niemann, Health Officer, provided an update on the Fiscal Year 2023 budget process and asked if there were any board members interested in participating on the finance committee. With no board member response at this time, Ms. Niemann will send out an invitation to all board members to gauge interest from members not present.

East Helena Arsenic & Selenium Plume Presentation: Bob Anderson, with Hydrometrics which is a contractor for the Montana Environmental Trust Group (METG), gave a presentation on the East Helena Arsenic and Selenium Plumes which developed from the work conducted at the ASARCO Smelter East Helena Facility (see Attachment “B”). Mr. Anderson provided background on the East Helena Smelter site, the groundwater contaminant source areas, addressed the corrective measures completed to date, the Corrective Action Monitoring Program (CAMP), plume well trends, plume analysis, and spoke about the unfumed slag removal project and the adoption of the East Valley Controlled Groundwater Area.

Review of Strategic Plan Performance: Public Health Division Administrators A.C. Rothenbuecher, Laurel Riek, Health Officer Drenda Niemann and Environmental Services Division Supervisor Beth Norberg, presented their divisions strategic plan performances (see Attachment “C”) in which they highlighted their programs initiatives, objectives, goals, successes, challenges, and recommendations.

COVID-19 Update: Ms. Niemann highlighted the decision making dashboard and the COVID-19 HUB map of current numbers of confirmed, active, break through and recovered cases, daily new case incidences, weekly case incidences, test positivity rates, wastewater surveillance testing, and vaccine rates for the county.

Interlocal Agreement Update: Ms. Niemann announced that Interlocal Agreement negotiations are complete. The local governing body will consist of 2 County Commissioners, 2 Helena City Commissioners, and the Mayor of East Helena. Ms. Niemann noted that the signed Interlocal Agreement was added to the online board member orientation packet. The next steps will be to update the Board of Health By-Laws to reflect the changes and to write a standard operating procedure for the new governing body.

Dr. Bedell asked if there was any public comment to agenda item 5. Representative Mary Ann Dunwell thanked the Board and public health staff for all that they have done to help the community during this pandemic and her concerns regarding public housing availability in Lewis and Clark County.

There being no public comment on items not mentioned above, the meeting adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Mikael Bedell, Vice Chair

Drenda Niemann, Secretary