

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
1930 9th AVE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
In-Person/Zoom Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
April 27, 2023**

Members Present

Justin Murgel, chair
Dr. Mikael Bedell, vice chair
Commissioner Tom Rolfe
Mayor Wilmot Collins
Mayor Kelly Harris
Brie MacLaurin
Lisa Kaufman
Katherine Weber
Rex Wertz

Members Absent

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann
Jolene Helgerson
Laurel Riek
Kathy Moore
Heather Parmer
Beth Norberg
Valerie Stacey

Dawn Sullivan
Amber Johnson
Janet Janus
Sarah Sandau

Guests Present

Justin Murgel, 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

Mr. Murgel asked if there were any corrections or additions to the March 23, 2023. There being none, the Board approved the minutes as written. No public comment was given.

INTRODUCTIONS

Employee Recognition and Staff Introduction: Kathy Moore, Environmental Services Division Administrator announced that Valerie Stacey, Sanitarian, was awarded the Doris Morgan Excellence award. Drenda Niemann, Health Officer, announced that Sarah Sandau, Prevention Program Supervisor was awarded the Exemplary Service award by the Montana Public Health Association. Ms. Moore announced that Dawn Sullivan, Administrative Assistant with the Environmental Services Division, received the Quarterly Employee Recognition award. No public comment was given.

ACTION ITEMS

Adopt 2023-2016 Strategic Plan: Drenda Niemann, Health Officer, presented the 2023-2036 Strategic Plan (on pages 6-61 of the board packet) for review and approval. Ms. Niemann highlighted the plan's values and the 5 strategic initiatives which are health equity, behavioral health, health across the lifespan, safe and healthy environment, and public health infrastructure along with how LCPH will meet these initiatives. In answer to a question from Commissioner Rolfe, Ms. Niemann stated that throughout the plan, each initiative includes community engagement that will help rebuild the trust lost between the community and Public Health over the past couple of years. Mr. Rolfe strongly stressed the need to have a community public meeting sooner than later that would create a discussion on how to fix the relationship between the community and Public Health. Mr. Murgel highlighted Strategic Plan Initiative #5-Public Health Infrastructure- Objective 5.3.1 which has Public Health developing and implementing a

community education and feedback campaign. After further board member discussion, Lisa Kaufman made a motion to approve the 2023-2026 Strategic Plan. Brie MacLaurin seconded the motion. No public comment was given. The motion carried 8-1.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

3rd Quarter FY22 Finance Report: Heather Parmer, Finance Coordinator, referenced the FY23 comparison to budget and cash flow for July through March 2023 (on pages 63-64 of the board packet). Ms. Parmer noted that the department is 75% through the fiscal year. Total revenue to date is \$1,963,478 or 68% of the amount budgeted; actual expenditures are \$2,259,149 or 80% of the amount budgeted. Revenues are under expenditures by \$259,672; total ending cash is \$303,696. Ms. Parmer said that the current cash reserve is below the 90 day recommended cash reserve, but she is not concerned as the county will receive tax revenue in May. In answer to a question from Mr. Murgel, Ms. Niemann said that she is not aware of any discussion in legislature that would provide a housing tax reprieve. If true, then the Public Health budget may possibly be affected as LCPH is funded through mill dollars in the form of property taxes.

Annual Variance Summary: Beth Norberg, Environmental Services Supervisor, presented the variances to the Lewis and Clark County Onsite Wastewater Regulations (on pages 65-69 of the board packet) in which she discussed Montana Code Annotated 50-2-116(1)(j), what a variance is, annual review process, and yearly permits issued. She encouraged board members to visit a site location to better understand the request for a variance.

No public comment was given.

HEALTH OFFICERS REPORT

PHAB Reaccreditation Update: In April, Public Health submitted their reaccreditation application (step 1) which was approved and allows for staff to upload supportive documentation for the 10 domains that shows how we have met standards and measures. Once submitted, the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) will review those documents. In the fall, we will host a site visit of PHAB. Board members will part of the site visit.

Legislative Update: Ms. Niemann offered a short update on activities of the Montana Legislature related to public health (see Attachment "A"). Commissioner Rolfe noted that with the funding assistance from House Bill 557 the reopening of the Journey Home is a possibility.

Local Governing Body: Commissioner Rolfe said that the Local Governing Body By-laws should be available for review at the next Board of Health meeting.

No public comment was given.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

The meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Justin Murgel, Chair

Drenda Niemann, Secretary