

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
1930 9th AVE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
In-Person/Zoom Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
June 22, 2023**

Members Present

Justin Murgel, chair
Commissioner Tom Rolfe
Mayor Wilmot Collins
Katherine Weber
Brie MacLaurin
Lisa Kaufman

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann
Jolene Helgerson
Nina Heinzinger
Sarah Sandau
Melissa Baker
Carin McClain
Dorota Carpenedo

Members Absent

Dr. Mikael Bedell, vice chair
Mayor Kelly Harris
Rex Weltz

Guests Present

Justin Murgel, chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Drenda Niemann, Health Officer, requested to add two additions updates to the health officer’s report. No public comment was given.

MINUTES

Mr. Murgel asked if there were any corrections or additions to the May 25, 2023. There being no changes, the Board approved the minutes as written. No public comment was given.

ACTION ITEMS

Selection of Board of Health Officers: Mr. Murgel, enumerated the board positions that needed to be filled for FY2024. The Board made the following appointments:

- Brie McLaurin as chair
- Dr. Mikael Bedell as vice-chair
- Lisa Kaufman as hearing officer
- Commissioner Tom Rolfe as Interim Water Quality Protection District Representative until position is filled.

Commissioner Rolfe made a motion to approve Board of Health appointments for FY24. Mayor Wilmot Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0. No public comment was given.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Chronic Disease Presentation: Sarah Sandau, Chronic Disease and Prevention Supervisor, along with Melissa Baker, Cancer Screening Health Educator and Carin McClain, Tobacco Use Health Educator, provided a program update (on pages 8-11 of the board packet) in which they highlighted the purpose of each program, their activities, and goals.

Tobacco Prevention Campaign Winners: Ms. McClain presented the winners of the 2023 Escape the Vape Poster Contest (on page 12 of the board packet). Ms. McClain said there were seventy-seven entries this year. In answer to a question by Mr. Murgel, Ms. McClain said that she has plans to broaden her engagement of the tobacco prevention campaign to include East Helena and Broadwater High Schools.

Licensed Establishment Program Presentation: Nina Heinzinger, Licensed Establishment Supervisor, provided a 2022 Program Summary review (on pages 13-17 of the board packet) in which she highlighted number of facilities and other establishments licensed in Lewis and Clark County, the number of inspections completed, special events permit issued, recipes reviewed, along with communicable disease investigations and revenue resources.

Employee Satisfaction Survey Results: Ms. Niemann presented the Public Health Employee Satisfaction Survey results (see Attachment “A”) in which she highlighted the purpose of the survey, methods, results, lessons learned, and recommendations. In answer to a question from Mr. Murgel, Ms. Niemann stated that the staff answered the questions ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree too not applicable. In answer to a question from Lisa Kaufman, Ms. Niemann stated that the response to staff concern about safety in the workplace could have been in connected to public threats and disrespect towards staff during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

HEALTH OFFICERS REPORT

Strategic Communications Bootcamp-September 28: On September 28, Public Health staff along with Board of Health members will attend a Strategic Communications Bootcamp to discuss and strategize on such topics as rebuilding public relations, meeting strategic plan goals, and revenue generating strategies.

Local Governing Body: Commissioner Rolfe announced that the Local Governing Body By-Laws were approved on June 16, 2023.

COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Survey: Dorota Carpenedo, COVID-19 Epidemiologist, presented the COVID-19 Wastewater Surveillance Utilization Survey (see Attachment “B”) in which she highlighted the survey purpose, results, and conclusions. She also announced that we received grant funding from DPHHS to sustain the wastewater surveillance program.
No public comment was given.

COVID-19 Operations: With the end of the Federal COVID-19 Public Health Emergency Declaration, the COVID-19 testing clinic and call center operations along with the need for temporary staff will end on June 30, 2023. All ongoing COVID-19 work will be incorporated by Public Health staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

The meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

Justin Murgel, Chair

Drenda Niemann, Secretary