

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
1930 9th AVE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
In-Person/Zoom Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
February 22, 2024**

Members Present

Dr. Mikael Bedell, vice chair
Commissioner Candace Payne
Mayor Wilmot Collins
Mayor Kelly Harris
Justin Murgel
Lisa Kaufman

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann
Jolene Helgerson
Beth Norberg
Sarah Sandau
Jay Plant

Members Absent

Brie MacLaurin, chair
Rex Weltz
Katherine Weber

Guests Present

Representative Mary Anne Dunwell

Dr. Mikael Bedell, vice chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Board member introduction was given. A quorum was not established.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Drenda Niemann, Health Officer, announced that the Suicide Prevention Update will be postponed to another meeting. No public comment was given.

MINUTES

Dr. Bedell asked if there were any corrections or additions to the January 25, 2024, minutes. There being no changes, the Board approved the minutes as written. No public comment was given.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Reaccreditation: Ms. Niemann announced that after completing the resubmittal of flagged reaccreditation documentation, public health is now at the site visit stage of the reaccreditation process. The virtual site visit is scheduled for April 10-11. The Board of Health will meet with the site visitors tentatively on April 11 at 9:00 am. In answer to a question from Justin Murgel, Ms. Niemann stated that there were no surprised documentation flags. Further board member discussion was had regarding the first accreditation site visit.

Variance Summary: Beth Norberg, Environmental Health Supervisor, presented an update on the variance process (on pages 10-13 of the board packet) in which she explained what a variance is, how a variance is governed, Board of Health role, and why we have annual reviews.

A quorum was established at 1:10 p.m.

Air Quality Update: Jay Plant, Sanitarian for the Environmental Health program, provided an Air Quality update (on pages 14-16 of the board packet and Attachment “A”) in which he highlighted ways to identify

wood smoke, the health effects of PM (particulate matter) 2.5, inversions in the Helena Valley, and the latest air quality data.

No public comment was given.

ACTION ITEMS

Annual Board of Health Conflict of Interest: Ms. Niemann presented the Conflict-of-Interest Policy for Boards of Health and Board of Health Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form (on pages 6-7 of the board packet) in which she highlighted the purpose of the policy and disclosure form. Ms. Niemann will have the two documents sent out to board members for signature. Commissioner Candace Payne made a motion to approve the Conflict-of-Interest Policy for Boards of Health as presented by staff. Mayor Harris seconded the motion. No public comment was given. Motion carried 6-0.

HEALTH OFFICERS REPORT

Ms. Niemann led board member training on Health Equity (on pages 18-22 of the board packet). After board member discussion, Mayor Wilmont Collins suggested to have the lunch and learns provided to public health staff open to all county employees.

No public comment was given.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Representative Mary Ann Dunwell supports the work of public health and asked to have the lunch and learns open to the public.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Mikael Bedell, Vice Chair

Drenda Niemann, Secretary