

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
316 N. PARK AVENUE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
Room 330
January 18, 2018**

Members Present

James Benish, chair
Commissioner Andy Hunthausen, vice chair
(Arrived @ 2:00 p.m.)
Mayor Wilmot Collins
Kammy Johnson (Arrived @ 1:40 p.m.)
Dr. Adron Medley
Jenny Eck (Arrived @ 1:17 p.m.)
Anne Weber
Jack Copps (Arrived @ 1:43 p.m.)

Staff Present

Melanie Reynolds
Jolene Helgerson
Eric Merchant
Frank Preskar
Gayle Shirley

Guests Present

Pat Christian, Helena Citizens Council

Members Absent

Scott St. Clair

Jim Benish, chair, called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. A quorum was established.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were made to the agenda.

MINUTES

Mr. Benish asked if there were any corrections or additions to the December 7, 2017, minutes. The Board approved the minutes as written.

INTRODUCTION

Melanie Reynolds, Health Officer, introduced new Board of Health Member, Helena Mayor Wilmot Collins.

ACTION ITEMS

Request for Approval of the Cooperative Agreement between Montana DPHHS and Board of Health-Food and Consumer Safety Contract: Eric Merchant, Disease Control and Prevention Division Administrator, requested approval of the Cooperative Agreement between Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and Board of Health (BOH) (see Attachment “A”). The purpose of the agreement is to establish a payment schedule for maximizing the disbursement of funds to the BOH to support inspections of licensed establishments and to determine which optional programs the BOH will conduct. The agreement is effective from January 1, 2018, through December 31, 2018. It will cover pools, spas, other water-feature inspections, and peer-to-peer retail food inspector training. Mr. Merchant outlined the changes in the 2018 Cooperative Agreement:

Public Accommodations

- In lieu of annual inspections, the health department will provide training in prevention of public health threats.
- Participation in the training will replace an inspection for the year.
- Establishments that participate in the training will be inspected the following year.
- Complaints will generate an inspection.

Trailer Courts and Campgrounds

- Trailer courts and campgrounds will be inspected before initial license validation and upon complaint.
- In lieu of an annual inspection, an evaluation will be completed on every non-public water supply associated with trailer courts and campgrounds for compliance with sampling and water quality standards.
- All trailer courts and campgrounds will be inspected every 3 years.

In answer to questions from Jenny Eck, Mr. Merchant stated that the peer-to-peer training will be conducted by licensed-establishment staff. Mr. Merchant acknowledged that at this time there are no inspection regulations related to Airbnb properties in Montana that he is aware of. Mr. Merchant said he would look further into this matter and email an update to the board.

Anne Weber made a motion to approve the Cooperative Agreement between Montana DPHHS and Board of Health-Food and Consumer Safety Contract. Jenny Eck seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

Hearing Officer Recommendation, Mr. Doug Liston:

Ms. Weber, Acting Hearing Officer, gave a brief account of the Liston variance hearing held on January 9, 2018. Ms. Weber recommended ratification of her recommendation to approve the variance. She said the request met all of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality criteria for granting a variance. In answer to a question from Mr. Benish, Frank Preskar, Sanitarian, stated that he expects about 27 more Sewell Tracts Subdivision variances to be requested over the next few years. Mr. Preskar explained the reasoning for the number of variance requests in the Sewell Tracts Subdivision. Mr. Benish moved to ratify the hearing officer recommendation for approval. Kammy Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-0.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Strategic Planning Proposal: Ms. Reynolds presented a timeline for strategic planning for board review (on page 13 of the board packet). Ms. Reynolds noted that, in response to accreditation feedback, more health department staff will participate in the process. Ms. Reynolds asked for BOH representation on the steering committee.

BOH Finance Committee: Ms. Reynolds announced that a Doodle request has been sent out to schedule the next BOH Finance Committee meeting.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

Mr. Merchant presented a handout on the number of influenza cases reported by week in Montana for the 2017-2018 flu seasons (see Attachment "B"). Mr. Merchant noted that, as of January 12, in Lewis and Clark County there have been 133 confirmed influenza cases, 10 hospitalizations, and no deaths. Statewide there have been 1441 influenza cases reported since the season began last fall, 239 hospitalizations, and 12 deaths. In answer to a question from Ms. Eck, Mr. Merchant stated that county employees and family members on their insurance receive the flu vaccine for free. The health department provides the flu vaccine at a cost of \$31 if not covered by insurance. Mr. Merchant also noted that the health department held free flu clinics at local schools during parent-teacher conferences. After further board member discussion, Ms. Reynolds suggested having an update on vaccines at a future board meeting.

Ms. Reynolds spoke briefly, on how the tobacco industry is targeting youth at the point of sale of its products. The department's Tobacco Use Prevention Program is scheduled to give a point-of-sale

presentation at the February BOH meeting. Ms. Reynolds suggested that the Board might want to consider writing a letter of support, recommendation, or a resolution regarding tobacco point of sale. Board members discussed the issue of increased taxes on tobacco products.

Mr. Benish will offer training on the culture of poverty at the Feb 1 all-staff meeting.

A web page has been created for Healthy Together, the community coalition that will work to produce our next community health assessment (CHA) and health improvement plan (CHIP). The community members involved in the coalition's steering committee represents PureView Health Center, Rocky Mountain Development Council, United Way of the Lewis and Clark Area, and St. Peter's Health.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pat Christian, 1323 Hauser Blvd, Helena MT, addressed her concerns for the removal of snow and ice on city roads. Mayor Collins acknowledged her concerns and stated that the City of Helena is working on different cost-effective methods of snow removal throughout the city.

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Jim Benish, Chair

Melanie Reynolds, Secretary