

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
1930 9th AVE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
Zoom Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
July 22, 2021**

Members Present

Justin Murgel, chair
Dr. Mikael Bedell, vice chair
Commissioner Andy Hunthausen (arrived @ 1:04 p.m.)
Mayor Jamie Schell
Rex Weltz
Lisa Kaufman

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann	Sarah Sandau
Laurel Riek	Jess Hegstrom
Kathy Moore	Caroline Patterson
A.C. Rothenbuecher	Jay Plant
Dorota Carpenedo	Dawn Sullivan
Jolene Helgerson	Lakin Girdner
Heather Parmer	Beth Norberg

Members Absent

Brie McLaurin
Mayor Wilmot Collins

Guests Present

Kammy Johnson, Acting BOH Hearing Officer

Justin Murgel, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. A quorum was not established.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Mr. Murgel announced that the Health Officer Report would be given after board member discussion. No public comment was given.

MINUTES

Mr. Murgel asked if there were any corrections or additions to the June 24, 2021 minutes. There being none, the Board approved the minutes as written. No public comment was given.

INTRODUCTIONS

Introduction of new board members Mayor Jamie Schell, Rex Weltz, and Lisa Kaufman along with introductions of new staff members Dawn Sullivan and Lakin Girdner were made. No public comment was given.

ACTION

Review COVID-19 Emergency Rules and Regulations: Ms. Niemann highlighted the COVID-19 HUB map of current numbers of confirmed, active, break through and recovered cases, daily new case incidences, weekly case incidences, and test positivity rates. The board made no recommended changes to the COVID-19 Emergency Rules and Regulations. No public comment was given.

Board Appointments for Fiscal Year 2022: Ms. Niemann enumerated the board positions that needed to be filled for FY2022. The Board made the following appointments:

- Justin Murgel-chair
- Lisa Kaufman-hearing officer
- Mayor Jamie Schell-representative on the Water Quality Protection District (WQPD)

Commissioner Hunthausen made a motion to elect Justin Murgel as board chair for FY2022. Mr. Wertz seconded the motion. No public comment was given. The motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Schell made a motion to elect Ms. Kaufman as the hearing officer for FY2022. Commissioner Hunthausen seconded the motion. No public comment was given. The motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Schell volunteered as the board representative on the WQPD. No vote was held.

Hearing Officer Recommendation, Ken Rosenbaum Variance:

Kammy Johnson, Acting Hearing Officer, and Jay Plant, Sanitarian, gave a brief account of the Rosenbaum variance hearing held on July 20, 2021 (see Attachment "A"). Ms. Johnson recommended approval of 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 Mayor Schell, Jay Plant said the treatment field trenches will be no more than 24 inches deep. The standard for the trenches is between 24 to 36 inches deep. In answer to a question from Commissioner Hunthausen, Mr. Plant said that the risk of a subsurface system washing way is low. There is potential of surface water leaching down into the system. In the case of a 100-year flood, most people would not be using their septic system. You are more at risk with an above ground system degrading due to flowing water. In answer to a question from Ms. Kaufman, Mr. Plant stated that the applicant's property meets all the setback requirements. Commissioner Hunthausen moved to ratify the hearing officer recommendation for approval. Mayor Schell seconded the motion. No public comment was given. The motion carried 6-0.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Interlocal Agreement Update: Ms. Niemann announced that the Interlocal Agreement negotiations are still underway. There is a small working group with representatives from the county, City of Helena, and the City of East Helena discussing the amendments to the interlocal agreement. With HB 121 signed into law, it shifted board authority to adopt rules and regulations to this local governing body and in our jurisdiction, as a City-County configuration, the entity needs to be identified. After guidance from the Montana Association of Counties and the League of Cities and Towns, the working group recommended that a representative from each entity would act as the governing body. The county, City of East Helena are in favor of this action. The City of Helena is still reviewing the recommendation. Once all have approved the recommendation and the representatives have been chosen, the amendments to the Interlocal Agreement can be made and adopted. In answer to a question from Mr. Murgel, Ms. Niemann said there is no time limit in HB 121 stating how long this process can take. No public comment was given.

FY 21 Year End Finance Report: Heather Parmer, Finance Coordinator, referenced the FY21 year-end comparison to budget and cash flow for July 2020 through June 2021 (see Attachment "B"). Ms. Parmer noted that the department is 100% through the fiscal year. Total revenue to date is \$2,457,634 or 103% of the amount budgeted; actual expenditures are \$2,769,096) or 106% of the amount budgeted. Revenues are under expenditures by \$311,463; total ending cash is \$653,597. Commissioner Hunthausen commended Ms. Parmer for her work on the budget presented to Commissioners for review and approval. No public comment was given.

Suicide Prevention Program Update: Jess Hegstrom, Suicide Prevention Coordinator and Caroline Patterson, Suicide Prevention VISTA gave a program update on the Suicide Prevention Coalition efforts and Safer Communities Montana lethal means initiative (on pages 13-25 of the board packet). No public comment was given.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

Ms. Niemann discussed the fourth annual report submitted by the health department to the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB), PHAB’s recommendation, and the next steps in reaccreditation on pages 28-46 of the board packet. No public comment was given.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY TOPIC NOT ON THE AGENDA

No public comment was given.

The meeting adjourned at 2:18 p.m.

Justin Murgel, Chair

Drenda Niemann, Secretary