

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
316 N. PARK AVENUE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
Lewis and Clark City-County Building
May 23, 2019**

Members Present

James Benish, chair
Commissioner Andy Hunthausen, vice chair
Mayor Wilmot Collins
Dr. Mikael Bedell
Tyler Ream
Justin Murgel
Scott St. Clair
Kammy Johnson
Jenny Eck (Arrived @ 1:02 p.m.)

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann Laurel Riek
Jolene Helgersen Jordan Moore
Eric Merchant Heather Parmer
Jacqueline Isaly
Gayle Shirley
Kathy Moore

Guests Present

Members Absent

Scott St. Clair

Jim Benish, chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was established. Board members introduced themselves.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were made.

MINUTES

Mr. Benish asked if there were any corrections or additions to the April 25, 2019, minutes. The Board approved the minutes as written.

INTRODUCTIONS

Drenda Niemann, Health Officer, introduce new board member Dr. Mikael Bedell, a family practitioner with St. Peter’s Health Medical Group.

ACTION ITEMS

Approve and Recommend LCPH Budget to the BOCC: Ms. Niemann and Heather Parmer, Finance Coordinator, presented the proposed FY2020 Lewis and Clark Public Health budget to the board (pages 8-9 of the board packet). The Board of Health is responsible for recommending a health department budget to the Board of County Commissioners for approval. Ms. Niemann highlighted the budget summary revenue and expenditures. In answer to a question from Jenny Eck, Ms. Niemann said that FY2020 revenue will be spent down to keep the reserved revenue from exceeding the legal threshold. Ms. Eck made a motion to recommend the FY2020 budget to the County Commissioners for approval. Kammy Johnson seconded the motion. The motion carried 8-0.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Quality Improvement Update: Kathy Moore, Environmental Services Division Administrator and Chair of the Quality Council (QC), gave a brief update on the council’s goals, infrastructure, current and past QI projects, and challenges (see Attachment “A”). In answer to a question from Ms. Eck, Laurel Riek,

Licensed Establishment Program Supervisor, explained that her program chose to do a customer-service QI project because the department had received a few complaints about sanitarians not returning phone calls immediately. The QI workgroup determined that a root cause of the problem was that sanitarians often are out of the office working in the field. The workgroup surveyed customers and determined that they were willing to wait up to two business days to get a return call. Because of the QI project, sanitarians have initiated automatic email responses to this effect.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness Report: Brett Lloyd, Emergency Preparedness Planning Coordinator, provided an update on a 2019 Family Preparedness Fair that is scheduled for September 14, 2019 (see Attachment “B”). Mr. Lloyd discussed the goals, objectives, format and benefits of the event. Mr. Lloyd said a previous preparedness fair, held in March 2019, was a huge success. He is working with the Elkhorn COAD (Community Organizations Active in Disasters) to make the fair an annual event. Gayle Shirley, Communications Manager, told the board about the Passport to Preparedness kids’ event that occurred at the fair in March.

Healthy Together: Community Health Improvement Planning Process: Ms. Shirley presented the completed Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) (pages 11-30 of the board packet). She said implementation of the plan will rely heavily on the work of community coalitions. The Healthy Together Task Force will track the progress of the plan. Links to the CHIP and the Community Health Report are located on the Healthy Together webpage. In answer to a question from Commissioner Hunthausen, Ms. Shirley said that the final CHIP was provided to all those who worked on the plan and promoted on the health department website and Facebook page. She noted that the Healthy Together Steering Committee is responsible for keeping the coalitions on track.

HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT

Mr. Merchant provided a measles update (see Attachment “C”) and noted that 880 individual cases of measles had been confirmed in 24 states as of May 17, 2019. The measles outbreak that occurred in Clark County, Washington, has been declared over, with no new cases occurring over six weeks. Unfortunately, measles has now spread to three Puget Sound counties in Washington.

Mr. Merchant also provided a brief pertussis and flu update (see Attachment “D”). Mr. Merchant will provide an email follow-up on the effectiveness of the pertussis vaccine.

Suicide-prevention activists are challenging county businesses and organizations to breach the “military/civilian divide” by participating in a new cultural awareness campaign starting on Memorial Day. The Military Strong Campaign is a collaboration of the Lewis and Clark Suicide Coalition and a local “Mayor’s Challenge” group working to reduce suicides among service members, veterans, and their families. The campaign involves cultural competency training and social media challenges.

There being no public comment, the meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m.

Jim Benish, Chair

Drenda Niemann, Secretary