

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
1930 9th AVE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
Zoom Meeting, 1:00 p.m.
October 28, 2021**

Members Present

Dr. Mikael Bedell, vice chair
Mayor Wilmot Collins
Mayor Jamie Schell
Commissioner Andy Hunthausen
Lisa Kaufman
Brie MacLaurin
Katherine Weber
Rex Weltz

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann	Beth Norberg	Deborah Ortiz
Laurel Riek	Heather Parmer	Charity Krebs
Kathy Moore	Valerie Stacey	Vivi Tyler
A.C. Rothenbuecher	Joel Ebert	Julie Bir
Dorota Carpenedo	Rae Brown	Nina Heinzinger
Jolene Helgerson	Pete Schade	
Damian Boudreau	Rachel Riddle	

Guests Present

Charles Lane, Deputy County Attorney

Members Absent

Justin Murgel, chair

Commissioner Andy Hunthausen called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

No changes were made. No public comment was given.

MINUTES

Mr. Hunthausen asked if there were any corrections or additions to the September 23, 2021 minutes. There being none, the Board approved the minutes as written. No public comment was given.

STAFF INTRODUCTIONS

Introduction of new staff members Deborah Pena-Ortiz, Rachel Riddle, Rae Brown, Nina Heinzinger, Charity Krebs, Julie Bir, Pete Schade, Valerie Stacey, and Joel Ebert were made. Drenda Niemann, Health Officer, announced that the most recent quarterly Employee Recognition Award was awarded to CONNECT Referral and Systems Improvement Coordinator, Julie Bir.

ACTION ITEMS

Variance Request, Jane Gehring 5940 Aaron Drive, Helena, MT: Lisa Kaufman, Hearing Officer, gave a brief account of the Gehring variance hearing held on October 28, 2021 (on pages 8-9 of the board packet). Ms. Kaufman recommended approval of the variance. She said the request met all of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality criteria for granting a variance. Mayor Jamie Schell moved to ratify the hearing officer recommendation for approval. Mayor Wilmot Collins seconded the motion. No public comment was given. The motion carried 8-0.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION

Quarterly Finance Update: Heather Parmer, Finance Coordinator, referenced the FY22 year comparison to budget and cash flow for July 2021 through September 2021 (on pages 11-12 of the board packet). Ms. Parmer noted that the department is 25% through the fiscal year. Total revenue to date is \$269,250 or

10% of the amount budgeted; actual expenditures are \$611,473 or 23% of the amount budgeted. Revenues are under expenditures by \$342,222; total ending cash is \$310,832. No public comment was given.

WIC Update: A.C Rothenbuecher, Community Health Promotion Division Administrator gave a Women’s, Infant, and Children Supplemental Nutrition Program (WIC) update (on pages 13-18 of the board packet).

Reaccreditation Update: Julie Bir, Systems Improvement Coordinator, announced that LCPH will be applying for reaccreditation. The senior leadership team is currently reviewing Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Version 22 and will determine if we will use this version or the 2020 version. Submittal for reaccreditation will take place in June 2022. Until then, staff will work to complete the documentation showing evidence of meeting the standards and measures for the 10 domains needed for reaccreditation. Lewis and Clark Public Health is one of seven health departments in Montana that is accredited. Two of those seven health departments have completed reaccreditation. In answer to a question from Commissioner Hunthausen, Ms. Niemann stated that she hopes that more opportunities will arise for grant funding by being reaccredited.

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, test positivity rates, vaccine information and progress. In answer to a question from Commissioner Hunthausen, Ms. Niemann noted that there is less testing opportunities in our community due to the federal funding for free testing coming to an end. Public Health is using federal funds to create a free COVID-19 testing site. The testing site will be operational as soon as staffing is acquired. No public comment was given.

Interlocal Agreement Update: Ms. Niemann announced that Interlocal Agreement negotiations are almost complete. The local governing body will consist of 2 county commissioners, 2 city commissioners, and the mayor of East Helena. Final edits to the amendment to the Interlocal Agreement are being made and will go before each of the governing bodies for final approval.

Commissioner Hunthausen asked if there was any public comment.

Mary Ann Dunwell- State Representative thanked the Board of Health, public health, and St. Peter’s Health for all of their hard work during this time.

There being no public comment on items not mentions above, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Andy Hunthausen, County Commissioner

Drenda Niemann, Secretary