

**LEWIS AND CLARK CITY-COUNTY
BOARD OF HEALTH – MINUTES
316 N. PARK AVENUE, HELENA, MONTANA 59601
Lewis and Clark City-County Building
September 26, 2019**

Members Present

Justin Murgel, chair
Commissioner Andy Hunthausen, vice chair
Mayor Wilmot Collins
Scott St. Clair
Dr. Mikael Bedell
Tyler Ream

Staff Present

Drenda Niemann
Jolene Helgerson
Eric Merchant
Kathy Moore
Gayle Shirley
Frank Preskar

Members Absent

Kammy Johnson
Jenny Eck
Brie Oliver

Guests Present

Pat Christian, Helena Citizens Council

Justin Murgel, chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

REVIEW OF AGENDA

Mr. Murgel announced that agenda item #4-Inclusiveness Policy and Video would be discussed during the review of the performance measures. He also noted a typing error on agenda item # 2. It should say August 22, 2019, not July 25, 2019.

MINUTES

Mr. Murgel asked if there were any corrections or additions to the August 22, 2019, minutes. The Board approved the minutes as written.

ACTION ITEMS

Hearing Officer Recommendation, Mr. Lee and Debra Wolfe Variance:

Mr. Murgel, on behalf of Hearing Officer Kammy Johnson, read the hearing officer recommendation from the Wolfe variance hearing held on September 23, 2019. Mr. Murgel noted that Ms. Johnson recommended approval of the variance. He said the request met all of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality criteria for granting a variance. In answer to a question from Scott St. Clair, Frank Preskar, Sanitarian, said the variance is for a business on a half of acre with a small number of employees. No more than 100 gallons per day of residential-strength wastewater will be discharged to the system. He also noted that a new variance would be needed if the property became a residential home. Commissioner Andy Hunthausen moved to ratify the hearing officer recommendation for approval. Mayor Wilmot Collins seconded the motion. The motion carried 6-0.

BOARD MEMBER DISCUSSION:

Semiannual Review of Strategic Plan Performance Measures & Inclusiveness Policy and Video: Drenda Niemann, Health Officer; Eric Merchant, Disease Control and Prevention Division Administrator; and Kathy Moore, Environmental Services Division Administrator each reviewed their division's strategic plan performance measures (see Attachment "A" & "B"), highlighting specific program goals, objectives, and activities and discussing their challenges and successes. In answer to a question from Mayor Collins,

Ms. Niemann said that a social worker from our Home Visiting Program will work closely with detention officers, who will ask specific intake questions of parents entering the criminal justice system that will allow our social worker to begin working with that parent using Circle of Security. In answer to a question from Mr. Murgel, Ms. Niemann said that the Health Department is actively engaged with agencies on the need for affordable housing in the community. In answer to a question from Mr. St. Clair, Tyler Ream said that three schools built in the past two years have “green-coded” air return systems, but he was not sure if older schools have any type of HEPA filtration systems installed.

Inclusiveness Policy and Video: Ms. Niemann said that to further Public Health’s mission and strategic plan, the department created an Inclusiveness Work Group to build knowledge and understanding of what it means to be inclusive of all individuals and foster a culture of inclusivity. Ms. Niemann discussed the walk audit that occurred in the Murray Building and the department-wide Inclusiveness Policy (pages 33-34 of the board packet). She also presented a YouTube video titled “We’re In It Together: How Lewis and Clark Public Health Is Building a Culture of Inclusion.” The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors filmed it at the Health Department. The video can be found on the Lewis and Clark Public Health You Tube channel via the link on the department website.

Board Training: Board members watched a brief University of Michigan training video titled “Public Health Primer B.”

PHAB Report-Next Steps: Ms. Niemann highlighted the results of the department’s annual report updating the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) on work we have completed since becoming accredited (pages 29-32 of the board packet). A suggested area of improvement was to have more staff involvement during the revision of our Quality Improvement Plan. PHAB also provided some resources to help with our processes and outcome measures.

HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT

Mr. Merchant discussed the summary data for the 2018-2019 Montana Flu Season (see Attachment “C”) and encouraged all to get an annual flu shot.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Pat Christian with the Helena Citizens Council addressed the Board on behalf of the Complete Count Census Committee. She encouraged Public Health to collaborate with the Complete Count Census Committee by promoting outreach and education materials to the community regarding the upcoming census count. Commissioner Hunthausen discussed how important the census is to the State of Montana.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Justin Murgel, Chair

Drenda Niemann, Secretary