

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

April 1, 2021

7:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

Bryon Reed, Commissioner, Chairman
Bill Leake, Teton County, Trustee
Blair Dance, Commissioner
Leah Madsen, Commissioner
Shayne Young, Commissioner
Barbara Nelson, MD, Vice Chair
Greg Shenton, Commissioner
Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner
Wayne Butts, Commissioner

STAFF MEMBERS

Geri Rackow
James Corbett
Angy Harwood
Kellye Johnson
Amy Gamett

1. Call Board Meeting to Order

Chairman Reed called the meeting order at 7:00 a.m. This meeting is being held virtually and it is being streamed live through EIPH's YouTube channel. EIPH staff is present at the Idaho Falls office where there is also a space for the public to view in person.

2. Approval of the Consent Agenda

MOTION: Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the April 1, 2021 Consent Agenda.

SECOND: Commissioner Shenton

ACTION: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Legislative Update

Chairman Reed, Mr. Leake and Ms. Rackow provided information on Senate Bill 1060 and House Bill 316.

4. Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Planning

- Ms. Rackow reports EIPH is moving forward with budget planning. They are also reviewing the state Change in Employee Compensation (CEC) guidance and developing a plan.
- The draft budget will be presented at the Board of Health meeting on April 29, 2021.

5. COVID-19 Situational Report

a. Regional Hospital Report

- David Hoffenberg provided an update for Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center, Idaho Falls Community Hospital, and Madison Memorial Hospital. All the hospitals have seen an uptick in COVID admissions in the last month.
- EIRMC is averaging 35-40 COVID patients, with 25 admitted at the present time. Of these, 13 are in the ICU on ventilators. Patients are from all over the region including Bear Lake, Caribou, and Teton Counties as well as Teton County, Wyoming.
- Madison Memorial is averaging 2-3 COVID patients. They currently have 4 on their Medical/Surgical floor and 1 in ICU.
- Idaho Falls Community Hospital currently has 18 COVID patients; 5 are in the ICU and 3 are on ventilators. Mr. Jackman reported to Mr. Hoffenberg that IFCH has had 5 COVID patients who have had at least one dose of vaccine within 14 days of being diagnosed.
- Mr. Hoffenberg stated that the hospitals anticipate an increase of case due to the recent Spring Break and expressed the need for everyone to remain diligent with mitigation strategies until herd immunity is reached.
- Ms. Rackow noted that our regional hospitals are experiencing a higher number of admissions than hospitals in other districts.

- Mr. Hoffenberg explained EIRMC's process of accepting patients from other areas. As a regional trauma center, they will always treat the patients when they have the ability and capacity before diverting them to other hospitals.
- Hospitalizations include individuals of all ages.

b. COVID-19 Data Review

- Mr. Corbett reviewed EIPH's COVID Data Dashboard.
- We have seen increased cases in Bonneville, Madison, and Jefferson counties, which can be attributed to a variety of reasons: fewer people wearing masks (potentially due to the mask orders being lifted); people who are ill and not isolating themselves from others in the household or workplace; small family/friend gatherings; as well as large activities such as sporting events and tournaments.
- We have had reports of two positive variant cases in our health district. Variant cases are being tracked by the state and reported on their dashboard at coronavirus.idaho.gov.

c. Vaccination Rollout Update

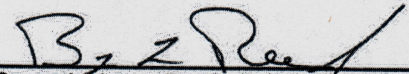
- Ms. Gamett reviewed Idaho's Vaccination dashboard. Over 447,000 vaccines have been administered in the state with 84,000 in District 7. Idaho's supply of vaccine is increasing each week.
- Everyone aged 16 years and older is eligible to receive the vaccine.
- Ms. Gamett reviewed the V-Safe and Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) which are used to report adverse reactions to the COVID-19 (and other) vaccines and provided information on the safety of the vaccine.
- Ms. Gamett reviewed information on Idaho's vaccine breakthrough cases. A breakthrough case is a person who tests positive for COVID-19 at least 14 days following completion of the vaccination series.

In response to a question about mental health concerns, Ms. Rackow acknowledged that mental health issues people may be experiencing due to the pandemic are certainly a concern and that we've had mental health professionals present to the board over the past year. Free resources are available at www.ioem.idaho.gov/covidhelpnow.

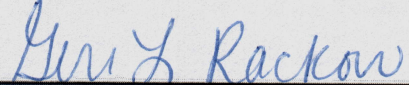
Announcement:

Ms. Rackow reported that the Idaho Association of District Boards of Health (IAB) Annual Meeting will be held on June 17, 2021. The event is being hosted by South Central Health District in Twin Falls. Board members may attend virtually or in-person. More information will be shared as it becomes available.

Chairman Reed adjourned the meeting at 8:35 a.m. The next meeting will be held on April 29, 2021 at 7:00 a.m.



Commissioner Bryon Reed, Chairman



Geri L. Rackow, Secretary