

BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
August 20, 2021
9:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

Commissioner Bryon Reed, Chairman
 Commissioner Brent Mendenhall, Vice Chair/Trustee
 Bill Leake
 Commissioner Blair Dance
 Commissioner Greg Shenton
 Commissioner Leah Madsen
 Commissioner Shayne Young
 Commissioner Wayne Butts

STAFF MEMBERS

Geri Rackow
 Amy Gamett
 Angy Harwood
 Cheryl O'Connell
 James Corbett
 Kellye Johnson
 Steven Thomas

1. Call Board Meeting to Order

Chairman Reed called the meeting order at 9:04 a.m.

2. Approval of the Consent Agenda

MOTION: Commissioner Young made a motion to approve the August 20, 2021 Consent Agenda.

SECOND: Commissioner Dance

ACTION: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. COVID-19 Situational Report

a. Statewide Update

Dr. Christine Hahn, Idaho State Epidemiologist, reviewed Idaho's COVID-19 current trends and concerns. Cases and hospitalizations are rising. Additional information can be found at coronavirus.idaho.gov.

b. COVID-19 Data Review

James Corbett provided an overview of the EIPH COVID-19 Data Dashboard. The dashboard is located on the EIPH website at eiph.idaho.gov. The dashboard is update Monday through Friday. Mr. Corbett answered questions from the Board members.

c. Regional Hospital Report

Casey Jackman, Idaho Falls Community Hospital, reported on behalf of our regional hospitals.

Madison Memorial

- They are seeing 3-5 COVID-19 patients per day. They are also seeing an increasing demand for testing.
- Staffing is an issue; they have had to transfer patients to EIRMC and IFCH due to the lack of staff.

Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center

- They currently have 17 COVID-19 patients, with 9 in the ICU. They are currently utilizing 70% of their ventilators.
- They have adequate supplies, but staffing is a concern.

Idaho Falls Community Hospital

- They currently have 15 patients, with 3 in the ICU. They are utilizing 42% of their ventilators.
- They have accepted patients from Northern and Southern Idaho as well as Washington state.
- They have no issues with supplies; but are at 90% capacity based on available staffing.



d. Vaccination Update

- Ms. Gamett reviewed vaccinations rates for the counties within our health district.
- She provided information on recommendations for the additional dose of vaccine for moderately and severely immunocompromised people. EIPH is currently providing this service.
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is currently reviewing the need for booster doses for the general population.
- EIPH has been holding their Back-to-School clinics, with COVID-19 vaccine being offered at most of them with the school's approval.
- Ms. Rackow thanked the staff for all their hard work. EIPH has given over 60,000 COVID-19 vaccines.

e. EIPH Ongoing Response

- Ms. Rackow provided information on the CDC recommendations and our past response plan. The plan was devised to slow the spread of the virus.
- Mr. Corbett reviewed CDC's COVID Data Tracker. This allows people to access information by state and county.
- Ms. Rackow feels that EIPH's continued focus should be on promoting and providing the vaccine, as well as continuing to educate the public on mitigation practices such as masking and distancing.
- EIPH will continue to provide information and answer questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccine.
- Children under 12 are not yet eligible for COVID vaccines so other mitigation measures are important to protect them. Each local school board has the authority to put protocols in place for its district.
- Discussion by the Board. No action was taken.

4. Director's Report

a. Recruitment of EIPH Board of Health Physician Representative

Dr. Barbara Nelson's term on the Board ended in June so we will now begin the process of refilling that board seat as outlined in EIPH's Board Bylaws. Ms. Rackow has drafted a letter that will be sent out to physicians notifying them of the opportunity. A press release will also be sent out. The board agreed to have a committee consisting of Chairman Reed, Vice Chairman Mendenhall, and Commissioner Dance review applicants and present a final list of candidates to the Board in September.

b. Update on HB316 Implementation

The Health District Directors recently met with representatives from Idaho Division of Human Resources, Division of Financial Management, State Controller's Office, Office of Group Insurance, and the Governor's office to begin working through the implementation of HB316. There are still many questions to answer related to operationalizing the changes made by the legislation. Ms. Rackow will continue to update the Board as the meetings are held.

c. Idaho Association of District Boards of Health – Annual Meeting/Resolutions

Moved to September meeting agenda

d. Bonneville County HVAC Replacement Project

The Bonneville county office's HVAC system is failing. The system is 15 years old and in need of replacement. A mechanical engineer has been hired to design a replacement system and once it is complete at the end of September, we will open bids for the installation of the system. Bids will be open for 30 days. With the current demand for this type of services and possible supply issues, it could be spring before the project is completed. Ms. Rackow will keep the board updated on this project.

MOTION: Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to authorize Ms. Rackow to accept the lowest bid for the HVAC replacement project and to pay for the project out of the district's Capital Reserve funds.

SECOND: Commissioner Butts

ACTION: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5. Environmental Health Enforcement Action

a. Illegal Septic System

Ms. Johnson updated the board members on legal proceedings related to an illegally installed septic system. She reported that we are trying to work with the property owners to find a way to resolve the issue before it goes to court.

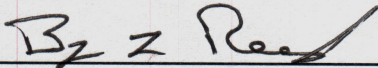
- b. Environmental Health Appeals and Request for Hearing Policy
Ms. Johnson reviewed the Board Policy on how hearings and appeals are handled in our health district. She answered questions of the board members.

6. Fiscal Report

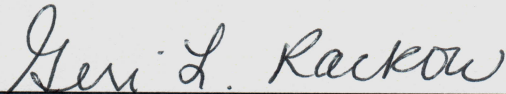
- a. FY2022 Year-to-Date Financial Report
This report was included in the consent agenda.
- b. Change in Investment Fund
Moved to September meeting
- c. FY2019-2020 Audit Update
Mr. Thomas provided a brief update of the current Legislative Audit. The audit is not yet complete, but we are not hearing of any significant issues being identified at this point. Once the final report is available, Mr. Thomas will report back to the Board.

7. Region 7 Behavioral Health Board Meeting

Following participation in the R7BHB meeting and a discussion with R7BHB's Chairman, Sam Hulse, Chairman Reed adjourned the BOH meeting at 12:40. The next meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.



Commissioner Bryon L. Reed, Chairman



Geri L. Rackow, Secretary