



Chelan-Douglas Health District

200 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health Meeting Minutes – June 21, 2021

Board Members Present:

Dan Sutton, Douglas County Commissioner
Jill Thompson, Mayor, Town of Waterville
Marc Straub, Douglas County Commissioner
Jerrilea Crawford, Mayor, City of East Wenatchee

Kevin Overbay, Chelan County Commissioner
Tiffany Gering, Chelan County Commissioner
Ruth Esparza, Wenatchee City Council

Staff Present:

Luke Davies, Health Administrator
Chuck Zimmerman, CDHD Attorney
Veronica Farias, Health Communications Director

Malcolm Butler, CDHD Health Officer
Janet Perez, Board Secretary

Public Present

Meeting was held via Zoom and phone conferencing with members of the public listening to the meeting.

Meeting – Vice Chairman Kevin Overbay called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. Chairman Sutton arrived at the meeting shortly thereafter and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

Consent Agenda –

- a. Approval of the May 17, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of May Payroll in the amount of \$ 226,436.53
- c. Approval of May Benefits in the amount of \$ 78,018.23
- d. Approval of Payment of 2021 Vouchers No. 20210386-20210542
in the amount of \$ 939,957.08
- e. Approval of 2021 WorkFirst Children with Special Needs Contract

Commissioner Marc Straub moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented with the removal of the last expense payment voucher in the amount of \$140,746.02. Mayor Jill Thompson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Program Update –

a. Epidemiologist Update – Health Officer Dr. Butler
Cases are at 93 per 100,000 for the last 14 days. Immunity looks to be holding with minimal increases after reduced masking, Memorial Day, and Apple Blossom. Chelan County has the sixth highest percentage of eligible citizens fully vaccinated as compared to the other counties in the state. Douglas County is in fifteenth place.

Variants with higher “vaccine escape” will spread. The Delta Variant is spreading fast, but the Gamma variant is more concerning. The variants are attacking younger people and the unvaccinated population. Younger people are getting sicker and are having more long-term health consequences. There was a third documented case of in-school transmission at a basketball practice. There have been only three cases of documented transmission at a school throughout the school year. There was one outbreak at a long-term care facility involving one staff member, no further cases. There were four additional Covid-19 mortalities in May.

b. Vaccine Update – Administrator Luke Davies

Chelan and Douglas County are above 45 percent vaccinated. There was a significant increase in vaccinations in Douglas County in late May. This may be due to an increased number of H2A workers in the area. There was a small increase in COVID19 cases with Apple Blossom. Open air events help keep numbers down.

Vaccinated Census Tracking data is helping our Outreach team and mobile unit prioritize areas with low vaccination rates. The census data helps us look at data by zip code, ethnicity and age range. We are working with the five regions around Chelan-Douglas County and sharing the Vaccinated Census data so that they know which areas to focus on.

The Mass Vaccination site is experiencing approximately 100 registrations a day. The site will be shifting to be less resource intensive, and we will be using our mobile unit. We are working with providers to offer doses to patients without wastage.

Public Comment – No Public Comments

Board Discussion

a. Current Board and Future Board Composition (1152 Update)

The Board of Health packet included the Bill criteria for local board of health membership. Based on the legislation requirements, the smallest board allowed is eight individuals (two county commissioners from each county and four non-elected individuals). The number of non-elected appointed individuals serving on the Board is required to be at least equal to the number of elected officials serving on the Board. The State Department of Health is tasked with identifying criteria for the various categories of non-elected individuals and how the appointments will occur. An application needs to be available for the public to fill out. Vice Chair, Commissioner Kevin Overbay suggested the application be available in July and, open up membership and appoint members by October. The new board composition would take effect January 2022. Further discussion followed on the number of members on the board and the concern of full representation of cities in both counties.

- One suggestion included having a minimum of two county commissioners from each county and one elected representative from a city in Chelan or Douglas counties that would rotate on a regular basis with five non-elected positions for a total of 10 board members.

- Another suggestion was similar, but involved increasing the board size to 12 to enable regular participation by one elected city representative from each county.

b. Chelan-Douglas Health District re-opening proposal

We are onboarding and training new employees. We want to make sure we provide employees with adequate time off. We will increase our appointment services and continue to be closed through August 31. We plan to fully reopen on September 1.

c. Chelan-Douglas Indicators for COVID-19 restrictions

The Health District reserves the right to cancel such events if the Health Officer deems the risk of transmission or severe disease to be dangerously high, or hospital capacity for COVID care to be dangerously low. The Health Officer and the Health Administrator will use four metrics to

evaluate local risk levels prior to large outdoor events. A positive metric will trigger the Multi-Agency Coordinating Policy Group to review current Covid-19 status and trends to provide feedback to the Health Officer.

Vice Chair, Commissioner Kevin Overbay moved to approve the matrix for making a determination of whether a large outdoor event (over 1,000 anticipated crowd participants) should be cancelled be approved as presented by the Health Officer and included in the Board packet. Mayor Jill Thompson seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

d. Joint for Jobs Discussion

Governor Inslee and the Washington State Liquor and Cannabis Board announced allowance of Joints for Jobs for vaccine promotion. Commissioner Dan Sutton and Commissioner Kevin Overbay do not condone using alcohol or drugs to encourage community members to get vaccinated. Regionally, Local Health Jurisdictions have not prioritized these incentives, and to date, incentives including free marijuana have not been offered, nor are they planned. Commissioner Sutton requested to be kept informed on this issue.

New Business

a. Inventory for Surplus

We have created a list of items that are no longer functional and are taking up space. Health Administrator is proposing to surplus these items. Chair, Commissioner Dan Sutton advised for future surplus lists to include information regarding the number of years in service and whether the items are still operational.

Mayor Jill Thompson moved to declare the items listed in the Board packet memo surplus and to authorize the District Administrator to dispose of the items in the manner he deems most economically beneficial to the District. Mayor Jerrilea Crawford seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

b. Bilingual Compensation

Translation has been crucial during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Health District currently offers employees a dollar per hour if they are bilingual. We would like to offer additional compensation for employees who are certified through Washington State. The District Administrator proposal is to pay two dollars if an employee has two certifications and three dollars if they have all three certifications. This will help retain staff and encourage them to obtain the certifications.

Vice Chair, Commissioner Kevin Overbay moved to approve the bilingual stipend proposal of the District Administrator of \$2 per hour for 2 state certifications and \$3 per hour for all three state certifications. Commissioner Marc Straub seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

c. Acting/Interim Health Officer Resolution

Health Administrator, Luke Davies presented Resolution No. 2021-001 to bridge gaps for support from Health Officer Coverage in the absence of our Local Health Officer.

Commissioner Marc Straub moved to approve District Resolution No. 2021 – 001, authorizing the District Administrator to appoint acting Health Officers in the absence of the District Health Officer. Mayor Jill Thompson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

a. IT Infrastructure Improvements /Cybersecurity

We are using Cares Funding to supply our Covid-19 team with Laptops and needed equipment. We have engaged Enduris, our Insurance Company to investigate and look into the cybersecurity issues that we have, this is an ongoing investigation. We have secured as many areas as we can and have not had any more serious cybersecurity issues.

b. Ratify Purchase of Tri-Van Mobile Vaccination Unit

The Health District purchased a mobile unit to help treat and respond to Covid-19. The purchase price was \$150,000. Cares funding for 2020 -2021 was used to purchase the mobile unit.

Vice Chair, Commissioner Kevin Overbay moved to ratify the District purchase of the tri-van mobile vaccination unit. Mayor Jill Thompson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Reports

Fiscal/Human Resource Report – Health Administrator Luke Davies

Please welcome Diane Forhan, the new Fiscal-Operations Director; we are excited to have her join the Health District. Luke and Diane are working on reports due to the state and we are working on getting our accounts receivable to Covid -19 funding. We will have more updates at future meetings.

For the month of June, we will be on boarding nine new employees and one intern. We still have seven vacant positions to fill. We will be posting four new positions this week.

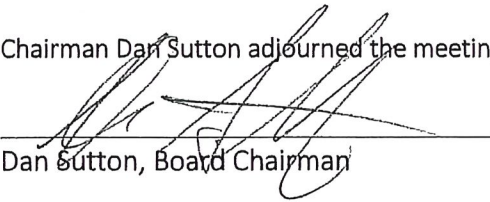
Personal Health Report – Cari Hammond gave the Personal Health report
Monthly report provided in the packet. Discussion followed.

Health Communications Report – Veronica Farias gave the Health Communications report and an update on the rebranding of the Health District website.
Monthly report provided in the packet. Discussion followed.

Health Administrator Report – Health Administrator Luke Davies

There is a national chlorine shortage. The counties are aware of the shortage. The shortage impacts our pool systems and potentially drinking water systems. The Department of Health is currently working on this issue.

Chairman Dan Sutton adjourned the meeting at 5:19 pm.


Dan Sutton, Board Chairman


Janet Perez, Board Secretary