



Chelan-Douglas Health District

200 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health Regular Meeting Minutes – May 16, 2022

Board Members Present:

Jerrilea Crawford, Mayor, City of East Wenatchee
Sharon Waters, Leavenworth City Council
Tiffany Gering, Chelan County Commissioner

Kevin Overbay, Chelan County Commissioner
Dan Sutton, Douglas County Commissioner
Marc Straub, Douglas County Commissioner

Staff Present:

Luke Davies, Health Administrator
Janet Perez, HR Specialist
Chuck Zimmerman, CDHD Attorney
Diane Forhan, Operations Director
Cari Hammond, Personal Health Director

Rob Eastman, Environmental Health Director
Veronica Farias, Communications Director
Kent Sisson, RERC
Hollie Casey, Clerk of the Board
Dr. James Wallace, Interim Health Officer

Public Present

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

Meeting – Chair Kevin Overbay called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m., and announced Item VI, Closed Session, will be removed from today’s agenda.

Consent Agenda –

- a. Approval of the April 18, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of April Payroll in the amount of \$259,189.81
- c. Approval of April Benefits in the amount of \$87,331.22
- d. Approval of Payment of 2022 Vouchers No. 20220310-20220401
in the amount of \$218,632.34
- e. Approval of the Contract Matrix

Mayor Jerrilea Crawford moved to approve the revised Consent Agenda. Commissioner Marc Straub seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Board Discussion –

No Board Discussion occurred today.

Public Comment –

No Public Comment.

New Business-

No New Business discussed today.

Unfinished Business

No Unfinished Business discussed today.

Reports

Fiscal Report – Diane Forhan provided the Fiscal Department report.

With 33% of the year complete, the District's revenue is at 28.9% of budget and the expenses are at 28.6% of the budget. Due to the delay of the indirect rate approval, the District held off billing for multiple 2022 grant reimbursements through the Department of Health. Last week the rate was approved and the fiscal department is working on catching up on the grant reimbursement billings. The fiscal staff is working on around \$700k in reimbursements to a sub-contractor for COVID vaccine clinic work for 2021. The June consent agenda will most likely show the vouchers paid to the sub-contractor. We will be seeking reimbursement from the Department of Health. The three vehicles the District ordered are running a little behind and will be expected in July and August. The accountant position has been filled and will start in late June. Mayor Jerrilea Crawford requested that the Visa card bill and charge slips be available for Board review monthly. Diane Forhan agreed to do that moving forward. More Board discussion followed.

Personal Health Report – Cari Hammond provided the Personal Health report.

Monthly report provided in the packet.

Health Communications Report – Veronica Farias provided the Communications Report.

Monthly report provided in the packet.

Environmental Health Report- Rob Eastman provided the Environmental Health report.

Monthly report provided in the packet. Board discussion followed.

Health Administrator Report –

Health Administrator, Luke Davies, reported that Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) allocations are being determined and we will soon see what that is going to look like. Luke Davies stated that the District is in the process of updating the Avian Influenza plan due to the presence of the flu across the US and cases in Washington State. He reminded everyone that bird owners, or those that interact heavily with birds, should report feeling ill. Also, people should report the discovery of any dead flocks of birds so that the Health District can investigate. The District is beginning the strategic plan, and will be looking to engage employees and the Board in this process. The IT modernization is in the process and implementing new MS Suite software. Luke will be out from May 18th-30th and former Interim Administrator Nate Weed of the State Department of Health will be stepping in for support while Luke is out. Board discussion followed.

Program Update –


- a. Epidemiologist Update
Interim Health Officer, Dr. James Wallace:

Dr. James Wallace began with an update on the BA2 virus. The cases are beginning to rise again in Chelan and Douglas counties with focus mostly on outbreaks and the most vulnerable population. While BA2 is ramping up, BA2.12.1, a variant of BA2, is becoming more predominant in the east and may overtake the BA2 and Omicron variant numbers in the northeast. While in Washington State, the west side of the state is currently seeing more cases than the east side of the state. We continue to watch the hospital rates as an indicator of case numbers. Hospitalization rates are climbing but death rates are trending downward. Washington State is about average with the US in numbers. Local school outbreaks increased in March, as expected, following the end of the masking mandate. However, there have not been as many cases as in January and February. Long term care facility outbreaks are still low due to required masking and the District's continued efforts to keep residents current on vaccine. Meanwhile, Hepatitis C appears to be on the rise; it is possible that these numbers are up due to the updating of numbers occurring post-COVID. STD numbers are also up possibly due to limited access to care during the last two years. Mental health illness numbers that were on the decline in 2020 and 2021, are on the rise. Smoke preparedness for the upcoming fire season is in the works to try to prevent and address poor air conditions. The Avian Influenza is appearing across the US and even present in some Washington State counties. There are no current reports of the flu in Chelan or Douglas counties.


Appreciation for outgoing Board Members and former Health Officer-

Chair Kevin Overbay presented former District Health Officer, Dr. Malcolm Butler, with an appreciation plaque for his service to the District. Dr. Butler received a round of applause and thanks for his service. Jill Thompson was absent so the Chair read the inscription on the plaque of appreciation to be provided to Jill Thompson and expressed gratitude for her years of serving on the Board. The Chair also expressed appreciation for Top Rojanasthien's service on the Board.

Chair Kevin Overbay declared the meeting adjourned at 3:55pm.



Kevin Overbay, Board Chair



Hollie Casey, Clerk of the Board