

# **Chelan-Douglas Health District**

200 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

**Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health** Regular Meeting Minutes - November 21, 2022

## **Board Members Present (quorum):**

Dan Sutton (3)

Marc Straub, Vice Chair (4)

Joseph Hunter (11)

Dr. Bindu Nayak (8)

Tiffany Gering (2)

Jerrilea Crawford (5)

Bill Sullivan (10)

Alma Chacon (9)

## **Board Members Absent:**

Kevin Overbay, Chair (1)

Sharon Waters (6)

Marissa Smith (7)

#### **Alternate Board Members Present:**

No Alternate Board Members present.

#### **Staff Present:**

Luke Davies, Health Administrator

Dr. James Wallace, Interim Health Officer

Diane Forhan, Operations Director

Cari Hammond, Personal Health Director

Veronica Farias, Communications & Outreach Director Kent Sisson, RERC

Rob Eastman, Environmental Health Director

Erin McCool, CDHD Attorney

Hollie Casey, Clerk of the Board

Chuck Zimmerman, CDHD Attorney

# Public Present -

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

#### Meeting -

Vice Chair Marc Straub called the meeting to order at 3:00pm and asked the Clerk of the Board to take roll call.

## Public Comment -

Members of the public from Chelan, Douglas, King, and Spokane Counties spoke of their stance on COVID vaccine safety for pregnant women, their fetuses and down syndrome as well as informed consent forms given to the public when the District administers the COVID vaccine.

#### Consent Agenda -

- a. Approval of the October 17, 2022 Board Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of October Payroll in the amount of \$276,892.52
- c. Approval of October Benefits in the amount of \$92,185.23
- d. Approval of Payment of 2022 Vouchers No. 20220834 -20220942 in the amount of \$546,154.05

## e. Approval of the Contract Matrix, dated November 21, 2022

Mayor Jerrilea Crawford moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and Commissioner Dan Sutton seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Jerrilea Crawford moved to remove item: b. COVID19 Vaccine Consent Forms, under Old Business, from the agenda. After Board discussion, Alma Chacon seconded the motion and the motion passed with four (4) in favor, two (2) against (Sullivan, Gering), and two (2) abstained (Sutton, Hunter).

## Program Update -

The Nurse Family Partnership update scheduled for this meeting has been rescheduled to the December meeting.

## Executive session per RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) -

The Board met with District legal counsel in executive session for twenty minutes to discuss pending litigation. The executive session began at 3:30pm and ended at 3:50pm.

#### Old Business -

# a. Audio Recording Legal and Cost Review

Health Administrator, Luke Davies, and Legal Counsel Chuck Zimmerman, discussed the pros and cons of the recording the meetings stating that it is a policy decision for the Board.

Board Member Bill Sullivan moved that the Chelan-Douglas Health District record Board Meetings and conduct a review in six months. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tiffany Gering. Board Members expressed concern with whether the recordings should begin in December 2022, or January 2023 and whether the recordings should be audio or video. Following discussion, the motion as stated, was approved unanimously.

### b. Budget 2023 Overview

Health Administrator, Luke Davies, reviewed the budget adjustments from the previous budget presented at the September Board meeting. The ARPA funding that was available during COVID will not be as available moving forward, due to COVID operations demobilizing. Luke noted that the full budget will be available for voting at the December meeting. Board discussion followed.

#### Reports -

## Health Officer Report -

#### Interim Health Officer, Dr. James Wallace:

Dr. Wallace reported that COVID levels are remaining low across the country. Some communities are experiencing some higher numbers for a short time and then going back down. Hospitalizations have decreased. Locally we are down with hospitalizations and overall numbers. Respiratory illnesses are prevalent this year so far and Dr. Wallace has been seeing quite a bit of this type of illness going through the communities. Medical professionals are seeing a lot of patients with respiratory concerns (Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV), common cold, influenza) and noted that RSV is especially dangerous for children under the age of two years. These respiratory illnesses are putting a strain on local medical facilities, due in part to

current shortages of common medications and supplies. Other illnesses of note in the local communities are strep and hand-foot-mouth disease. Dr. Wallace shifted to a short wildfire smoke update. The climate commitment act seeks to increase resources in the regions that need assistance with wildfire smoke the most. Dr. Wallace is hopeful the Wenatchee area will be put on the list to receive some of the resources.

## **Health Administrator Report** -

Luke Davies, Health Administrator, reported that the District is currently understaffed in a few key positions including HR. Luke assured the Board that some employees are currently training to keep up with HR needs from District employees as well as community members. Luke stated that he signed a three-year contract with Granicus, a public records system, and will be ready to use them for the public records request process in early 2023.

#### **Board Discussion -**

Board Member Bill Sullivan brought up discussion about a public records request that he previously submitted to the Chelan-Douglas Health District. Part of the records request was to obtain local death statistics. Board Member Sullivan was informed by the State Department of Health (DOH) that the records were not subject to disclosure under the Public Records Act due to Senate Bill 5332 that was passed in 2021. The Chelan-Douglas Health District has been working on obtaining local death statistics records.

Vice Chair Marc Straub declared the meeting adjourned at 5:10pm.

After the Meeting, the Board met in an exempt session to discuss collective bargaining (RCW 42.30.140(b)).

Kevin Overbay, Board Chair

Hollie Casey, Clerk of the Board