



Chelan-Douglas Health District

200 Valley Mall Parkway, East Wenatchee, WA 98802

Chelan-Douglas Health District Board of Health Regular Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2023

Board Members Present (quorum):

Marc Straub, Chair (4)	Marissa Smith (7)
Jerrilea Crawford, Vice Chair (5)	Bindu Nayak (8)
Kevin Overbay (1)	Alma Chacon (9)
Shon Smith (2)	Bill Sullivan (10)
Dan Sutton (3)	Joseph Hunter (11)
Sharon Waters (6)	

Board Members Absent:

Alternate Board Members Present:

Michael Peterson (7)	Kristen Hosey (8)
Carin Smith (9)	

Staff Present:

Luke Davies, Administrator	Rob Eastman, Environmental Health Director
Dr. James Wallace, Interim Health Officer	Diane Forhan, Operations Director
Kent Sisson, EPR	Chuck Zimmerman, CDHD Attorney
Veronica Farias, Communications & Outreach Director	Hollie Casey, Clerk of the Board

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 –

Chair Marc Straub called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM and requested the Board Clerk to take roll to document Board member attendance.

Approval of Agenda –

Dan Sutton moved to approve the agenda as presented. Joseph Hunter seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment – (3:30)

Chair Marc Straub explained that 20 minutes has been set aside for public comment and asked for those present in person and via Zoom who wanted to speak during public comment to identify themselves. Once Chair Straub identified the number of members of the public that wanted to speak, he allotted three minutes to each presenter.

- Kim Darlington of Douglas County spoke about being a previous pharmacist and her view of the COVID vaccine and the effects she observed while administering the vaccine.
- Lauri Buhler of Douglas County commented that the BOH is seeming to want to quiet the public's voice by shortening the minutes allowed for public comment, expressed her concern with harm caused by COVID vaccines and gave the Clerk of the Board handouts to pass to the Board.

- Joan Steichen of Douglas County spoke of her view of the COVID vaccine safety.
- Victor Estrada of Douglas County spoke of the local opioid/fentanyl and addiction crisis and deaths, and to inform the Board and public of the Narcan distribution boxes located in Okanogan, Chelan, and Grant counties.
- Lisa Templeton of King County spoke about her view on the COVID vaccine.
- Penny Quist of Grant County spoke of her experience with addiction in her family and the lack of services available to the public.

Consent Agenda – (21:42)

- a. Approval of the January, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of the January Payroll in the amount of \$290,412.67
- c. Approval of the January Benefits in the amount of \$106,748.55
- d. Approval of Payment of 2023 Vouchers No. 20230048 – 20230126 in the amount of \$171,837.06
- e. Approval of the Contact Matrix

Vice Chair Jerrilea Crawford moved to approve the Consent Agenda a - d with the addition to item e, the Contract Matrix, and adding Kevin Overbay to the January meeting minutes as being in attendance. Dan Sutton seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Program Update – (23:25)

Kent Sisson, the Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Director, gave a presentation of what the EPR program does and has been accomplishing for the District. Kent suggested that the Board Members attend the G402 class coming up on March 28th. He will send this information to Hollie to send out to the Board. Board discussion followed.

New Business – (40:10)

- a. HIPAA IT Security Policy (40:26)
Luke explained that this draft policy incorporates the hybrid status of the District. An updated version of this policy will be provided to the Board for review in advance of the March Board meeting. This will be an action item on the March Board meeting agenda.
- b. Travel Credit Cards for CDHD (45:00)
Diane explained that the District uses six credit cards with \$5,000 limits. There are more in-person trainings available to staff again and staff need to use the credit cards more than in the last few years. The District staff propose an increase in limits on two of the credit cards to \$10,000. Board discussion followed.

Board Member Bill Sullivan moved to approve increasing the credit card limits for two of the CDHD Credit Cards from \$5,000 to \$10,000. Board Member Joseph Hunter seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Reports - (52:30)

Luke Davies, Administrator (52:33)

Luke Davies explained he is implementing a change in how the Chelan-Douglas Health District and Administrative Reports will be provided to the Board at Board meetings. Luke shared highlights from Fiscal, Personal Health, Communications, Environmental Health, and Emergency Response Preparedness. Written program reports were provided in the packet.

Interim Health Officer, Dr. James Wallace (1:05:32)

Dr. Wallace shared a PowerPoint with the Board and public. COVID numbers remain low level, but are persistent and still causing some business closures. All in all, the numbers are better than in December. Respiratory illnesses are not as severe now as we saw earlier in the season, but schools are reporting absenteeism, just not as much as earlier in the season due to these illnesses. ERs are still experiencing capacity issues. Opioid overdose numbers are showing an increasing trend. This is largely being driven by fentanyl and other drug cocktails used with opioids. Methamphetamines were involved in over 50% of deaths in 2021. Board discussion followed.

Fiscal Report --

Diane Forhan, Operations Director

Report provided in the Board packet.

Personal Health Report --

Carl Hammond, Personal Health Director

Report provided in the Board packet.

Health Communications Report --

Veronica Farias, Communications & Outreach Director

Report provided in the Board packet.

Environmental Health Report --

Rob Eastman, Environmental Health Director

Report provided in the Board packet.

Emergency Preparedness Response --

Kent Sisson, Emergency Preparedness Response

Report provided in the Board packet.

Board Discussion- (1:35:25)

a. Fentanyl and Opiate Crisis- Joseph Hunter (1:35:30)

Joseph Hunter shared his own, personal addiction history and recovery and provided his personal insight on the crisis of opioids and fentanyl in our community. Joseph explained everything that he does daily to put harm-reduction resources out in the community. Joseph would like to continue this discussion with the Board to try to fix the 'gaps' in the community and work with the District on outreach and support. Board discussion followed.


b. Debrief of Wenatchee Pandemic Response Harms Conference- Bill Sullivan (2:10:00)

Board Member Bill Sullivan gave his summary of the recently held Wenatchee Pandemic Response Harms Conference Held on Jan 28th which he said was attended by approximately 500 people from Washington, Idaho, and Oregon. The event was over four hours long and featured multiple presenters who shared their views on how they or others were harmed by the government pandemic response. Bill said the conference was organized by Grass Roots Truth and Accountability Project of Washington and sponsored by Informed Choice of Washington. Bill shared that he was also an organizer for the event acting in his capacity as a private citizen. Board discussion followed.

Chair Marc Straub declared the meeting adjourned at 5:23 PM.



Marc Straub, Board Chair



Hollie Casey, Clerk of the Board