



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270
January 14, 2020

Board Members Present

Duane Mitchell – Commissioner
Ray Trumpower
Terry Meldahl
Melissa Boyer
Kari Johnson

Advisory Members Present

Deb Gilbert
Judy LaPan
Jacquelyn Free-Health Officer
Julie Brodhead
Heidi Moran – Recording Secretary
John Dynneson
Jeff Hintz

Board Members Absent

Shane Gorder – Commissioner
Loren Young- Commissioner

Advisory Member Absent

Janet Christoffersen
Stephanie Ler-Sanitarian

Guest: Kathy Helmuth, RCHD; Brittney Petersen

2:06 PM Duane Mitchell called the meeting to order.

Reviewed Agenda: The agenda was approved. Terry Meldahl made a motion to approve the agenda and Ray Trumpower 2nd the motion.

Minutes: The December minutes were approved. Terry Meldahl made a motion to approve the December minutes, Ray Trumpower 2nd the motion.

There was an introduction made at BOH. Brittney Petersen was introduced to the BOH as the new administrator for the Richland County Health Department.

Health Officer Report: Jacquelyn reported that there was a Whooping cough (pertussis) case that happened December 7th through December 31, 2019. Sidney Health Center was notified and emails have gone out. The schools were notified on January 7, 2020. Thirty-seven out of the forty-one names that were given have been contacted. Nineteen antibiotics were given and three testes were done due to symptoms of the case and all testes came back negative.

Health Department Administration Report: Judy LaPan reported on the flavored vaping products. She told the board that RCHD will be taking complaints and follow up with the complaints made on the Montana website.

The Board members gave some locations to investigate for the COOP (places to go if needed for relocation in a disaster). The places that were given are: old and new fire halls, old Reynolds, ShopKo

buildings, Fairview Fire Hall and Senior Center. Brittney Petersen will be reviewing the COOP and Hazard policies at the next meeting.

Kathy Helmuth, RN MCH/IZ attended the BOH with concerned children that are in Childcare and are not up-to-date on vaccinations. In December of 2018 the Childcare facility was not compliant with some of their children. Kathy contacted Mom of children and discussed the importance of the children to be immunized and also visited with Childcare provider. RCHD did get a letter form the Dr.'s office but it was not on an exemption form. In July 2019 Kathy met with Dr. and Nurse to review information and in August 2019 the Childcare provider did not enforce the rules and they had gotten a few shots in Dawson County but still was not up-to-date. Kathy would like the BOH input on this issue. Melissa made a motion that RCHD will call Lennie at Billings Licensers to request a complaint on the Childcare facility in Lambert, MT. Terry 2nd the motion.

Communicable Disease report for Richland County as of January 13, 2020:

1 Chlamydia

1 Pertussis

2019-2020 Richland INFLUENZA Season:

35 flu cases, **26 influenza B**, (1 hospitalization and 3 for 2020), the highest rates are in age groups 0-18yrs old and 25 to 64 year olds.

For the State: As of Jan 4, 2020 there are 1,208 cases and 78 hospitalizations, zero deaths in MT.

Julie gave a handout on what diseases we have seen in Richland County in 2018 and 2019. Please refer to hand out for preliminary year end. (CORRECTION to the # of Chlamydia was 39 not 30, and added 1 Hep C)

CDC Han on the 2019-2020 influenza season was sent out today regarding nationwide trend of the Flu B strain. A HAN was sent out regarding an outbreak of pneumonia of unknown etiology (PUE) in Wuhan China. The WHO, CDC, and DPHHS will be keeping an eye on this to see if it spreads nationwide.

Emergency Preparedness:

RCHD is completing PHEP Quarter 2 requirements. Julie met with health care providers to review the updated Administrative Rules of MT for Disease reporting. Three capability assessments are due in Quarter 3: #10 Medical Surge, #11 Non-pharmaceutical interventions, and #15 Volunteer Management. Julie will seek out partners to assist. These are overall assessment of how well our county does in performing preparedness and response actions. Each completed assessment will be reviewed and RCHD will develop a "work plan" looking at the priority requirements in the capabilities and list out what that RCHD needs to address first within our scope. A list of the rest of the requirements will be made to and a plan made to work with local entities to improve these will be done later.

This quarter requires the communicable disease plan to be reviewed with the checklist and signed off. The COOP plan will be reviewed during this quarter. There will be a LAB Webinar which give guidance in

updating and evaluating the Lab Sample Packaging and Transport Plan; the plan and the checklist need to be reviewed with LEPC and signed off with health officer.

Julie/RCHD will be hosting a Business Continuity Planning training on April 21, for free. She has over 30 people interested and is hoping to get at least 20 to register, she will send out the information to everyone again. Please pass on and or register.

Julie mentioned the 2020 Leadership Summit is March 19, 2020 at the Richland County Event Center. From 1pm to 4pm there will be a presentation by Ben Winchester and from 4pm – 6pm is the networking reception. Registration is free.

Program Report:

Judy reported for Northeast MT RSVP, (Retired Senior Volunteer Program). She went over the Annual Report for 2019 and highlighted some of the impact that volunteers make. She also went over the Program's focus areas.

Sanitarian Report:

Stephanie was called to be at the school in Fairview all day. Judy reported for her.

Stephanie said there is a conference call to discuss the updated school rules on January 21st, so she will learn more about where the lead testing issue stands. Stephanie assisted in the communications regarding the recent pertussis case. A letter was provided for school parents in Sidney; the newspapers received a press release; the information was read on the radio; information was posted on social media, and a LiveStories report was developed. In total, what we can track is that at least 4500 people saw the information on social media. Heather has started building a radon program, which includes handing out free radon test kits obtained from DEQ. There is no cost for the kit, postage, or lab testing. We've distributed 6 kits in just the first week. We expect that most tests will come back registering higher than the EPA action limit. We're hoping that those with high radon levels choose to mitigate. Local radon data is on LiveStories at www.tinyurl.com/RichlandCHNA.

County Attorney Report: absent

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Next meeting: February 4, 2020 at 2 PM