



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES  
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270  
May 11, 2020

Board Members Present

Duane Mitchell – Commissioner  
Shane Gorder – Commissioner  
\*Ray Trumpower  
Melissa Boyer  
Loren Young- Commissioner  
\*Kari Johnson  
Terry Meldahl

Advisory Members Present

Brittney Petersen  
Julie Brodhead  
\*John Dynneson  
\*Jacquelyn Free-Health Officer  
Stephanie Ler-Sanitarian  
Heidi Moran – Recording Secretary  
\*Janet Christoffersen

Board Members Absent

Advisory Member Absent

Deb Gilbert  
Jeff Hintz

Guest: Joe White (RCHD/CIA Corps), \*Jamie Larson (Fair Manager)

\* indicates who was present by phone

2:40 PM Duane Mitchell called the meeting to order.

Reviewed Agenda: The agenda was approved. Ray Trumpower made a motion to approve the agenda and Melissa Boyer 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Minutes: The April minutes were approved as read. Melissa Boyer made a motion to approve the April minutes, Terry Meldahl 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. The Special Board of Health Meeting minutes from March 30, 2020, April 27, 2020 and May 4, 2020 were approved as read. Kari Johnson made a motion to approve the Special Board of Health meeting minutes, Loren Young 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

Health Department Administration Report: Brittney Petersen went over the guidance for activities, and guidance for activities for using licensed establishment facilities. She mentioned that the Governor comes out with new guidance almost daily.

The Youth Rodeos are a go and there can be no spectators or concessions. Shane asked what the deference is if you have concessions or grab and go. Brittney will contact the Governor's office to get a clarification of definition between concessions and grab and go.

Jamie Larsen, Richland County Fair officer, would like to know what to tell people when she gets calls for cancellations and rescheduling of events. Stephanie will be working with Jamie to put together a generic guideline checklist to hand out when people want to have events. Jamie would also like to be contacted when people call about concerns of the Fair Grounds. When the checklist is completed please make sure to send the plan to Janet Christoffersen.

Shane asked about graduation parties. It was mentioned that we can't do anything if they are on private property. The Health Department has gotten calls from parents on how they can have a safe graduation party for their child.

Brittney reported on her follow up from the May 4, 2020 meeting. She mentioned that the Governor's plan for mass testing will be in 5 tiers. The tiers will look like this: 1) active symptoms, 2) long term care facilities, 3) Tribal population, 4) Asymptomatic testing starting with Community Health centers, and 5) State and Mental Health facilities. She did not find out how much test kits cost but for private testing it can range anywhere between \$50-\$100. The Board would like to know if the hospital needs help, do they have test kits and do they need more.

*Health Officer Report:* Jacquelyn reported that she is still actively testing for COVID-19. She mentioned that Amber with Sidney Health Center lab had 50 nasal kits and has 100 plus coming. She also mentioned that the frontline workers will be getting checked for antibodies. The hospital is doing testing on everyone before they go into surgery.

**Communicable Disease report for Richland County as of May 11, 2020:**

15 Chlamydia  
1 Pertussis  
2 Hep C Chronic (not 3 as one was a known case)  
2 LTB  
1 HIV  
1 Gonorrhea  
1 Crypto  
1 Malaria  
10 Dog Bites (1 person not from our County but dog is)  
1 Ecoli (#2 under investigation as of 5/1)  
1 salmonella  
1 Strep Pneumonia  
1 suspect Hep A (not a case – was a past infection)  
3 COVID-19 (domestic travel, close contact, and still being determined)

**2019- 2020 Richland County INFLUENZA Season:**

**4/13/2020:** 137 flu cases (7 hospitalization and 1 death), the highest rates are in age groups 0-18yrs old = 75 positives; 25 to 65-year-old = 46 positives. 28 out of the 137 flu cases had their

flu shot. There have been 43 people who have been given Tamiflu. 82 are Flu B, 53 Flu A, 1 was a suspect case so not tested, 1 was not typed,

**For the State:** As of April 11, 2020: 11,246 cases, 488 hospitalizations, and 17 deaths in MT.

**For the Nation:** As of April 4, 2020: CDC estimates: 39 million cases, 410,000 hospitalizations, and 24,000 deaths.

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) Worldwide:** 5/10/2020: **4,153,871** cases, **284,628** deaths.

**COVID-19 U.S.:** 5/10/2020: **1,340,643** positive cases, **79,935** deaths, **216,169** recovered

**COVID-19 MT:** - 5/11/2020: **459** cases, **16** deaths, **22,572** tested, **62** hospitalized, with **423** recovered. **20** active cases. **ND** - 1,518 cases, 36 deaths, 47,014 tested and 115 hospitalized. 846 recovered

### **Emergency Preparedness:**

Julie will be turning in the three capability assessments which are due May 15 for Quarter 3 PHEP deliverables: #10 Medical Surge, #11 Non-pharmaceutical interventions, and #15 Volunteer Management. The ICS Team is reviewing various RCHD plans that have been activated in this response process. We will list updates as identified during these reviews and updated plans. One plan being the Pandemic Flu Plan which will be due for the Quarter 4 deliverables in July along with Capabilities #8 (Medical Countermeasure Dispensing and Administration) and #9 (Medical Materiel Management & Distribution).

MTDPHHS put out deliverables to be done specifically for the COVID response by health departments; the first set is due Sept 30<sup>th</sup>.

### **MEETINGS**

The Business Continuity Planning training for April 21, has been postponed and hope to reschedule in the fall or next spring.

### **Sanitarian Report:**

Stephanie updated the Board of Health on the Richland County COVID-19 Response Activities She also reported on the information she got back from Survey Monkey on what the public was interested in receiving from the Health Department.

Stephanie is also reviewing applications food licenses. There are currently 4 in progress. She is working with the ELKS in Glendive on their new restaurant and is looking into a bar in Glendive that has not been licensed. They have did one septic review.

**County Attorney Report:** Janet mentioned that she met with Brittney, John and Mark to outline how complaints will be handled. She mentioned that education is what the State is doing 1<sup>st</sup> instead of giving violations.

**Old Business:** None

New Business: Shane mentioned that we will be meeting every Monday at 2:30 and to invite the Mayors of Sidney and Fairview and Jen Doty with Sidney Health Center to the next meeting.

Public Comment: None

Loren Young motioned to adjourn at 4:00 pm.

Next meeting: May 18, 2020 at 2:30 PM

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Duane Mitchell, Commissioner

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Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary