



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES  
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270  
March 14, 2023

Board Members Present

Loren Young  
Shane Gorder  
Duane Mitchell  
Terry Meldahl  
Melissa Boyer  
Ray Trumpower

Advisory Members Present

John Dynneson  
Brittney Petersen  
Stephanie Ler  
Jeff Hintz  
Heidi Moran  
Charity McLarty  
Jacquelyn Free  
Brandon Roth

Board Members Absent

Kari Johnson

Advisory Members Absent

Julie Brodhead

Guest

Jaylea Olson, RCHD, Drug Free Communities  
Kathy Helmuth, RCHD  
Jacey Hammer, Student Nurse

2:00 PM Loren Young called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Kathy Helmuth introduced Jacey Hammer, a student nurse who is getting her LPN through City College at MSU Billings.

*Reviewed Agenda:* The agenda was approved. Terry Meldahl made a motion to approve the agenda and Duane Mitchell 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

*Minutes:* The February 14, 2023, minutes were approved with no changes. Duane Mitchell made a motion to approve the February minutes with no changes, Ray Trumpower 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

**Health Department Administrator Report – Brittney Petersen**

General Health Department Updates –

Brittney reported that Richland County is the new lead agency for the WIC contract in Richland and Sheridan counties and that the contract is executed. The Volunteers in Action program

and Drug Free Communities grants have been submitted and next month the AmeriCorps grant will be submitted.

*Performance Management –*

Brittney went over how the Performance Management/QI system works and how we use it at RCHD.

Program Update – Drug Free Communities, Jaylea Olson

Jaylea spoke on all the events she, along with the DFC Coalition, have been doing out in the community. Cookies with Cops was held in Sidney and Fairview in December. At these events there were deputies, police, and highway patrol who assisted and connected with families. Volunteers in Action helped her bake 240 cookies for these two events.

Jaylea, in partnership with youth from Lambert High School, led the planning and facilitation of a Ghost Out. The event was very well received and had great reviews from parents, law enforcement, and teachers. The event concluded with an assembly and panel that consisted of first responders, a sheriff deputy, highway patrol, Jeff Kent from Wolf Point, and three EMTs from Lambert. Jaylea gave a pre- and post-test that showed students increased their knowledge of alcohol and the dangers of driving under the influence by 60%.

At the end of January, Jaylea attended the CADCA National Leadership Forum in Washington D.C. There she learned about drug potentiators (booster), alcohol, and dietary supplements. These are all sold at stores, gas stations, and smoke shops and they're here in Sidney. She talked on B-Pheynl-y-aminobutryic – acid and that the opioid epidemic is making its way to our area.

She displayed her Hidden in Plain Site room and mentioned that she will be taking this to area schools for parents to see.

**Communicable Disease -Julie Brodhead, RN - None**

**Health Officer Report:** Jacquelyn reported that she is seeing more strep throat, COVID is up and down, and that there is a stomach bug going around.

**Sanitarian Report:** Stephanie reported that she had a successful booth at Ag Days this month. She talked to people about hauling vehicles and about the funds available for reimbursement for junk mobile home disposal. There is a bill in the Legislature to remove the sunset date on that funding and make it permanent. She is able to allot 20% each year to disposal. This year it was \$6004, all of which has been spent already. She will be reworking the policy to allow for reimbursement of 1/3 of the allotment for 3 disposals, on a first-come, first-served basis each year to be fair. She will be reaching out to real estate agents with this information.

She also reported that the office had received land use and hotel complaints recently. Even when RCHD can't address the problem, people are grateful when they can be pointed in the right direction, especially with land use complaints.

Stephanie also visited with the director at the Food and Ag Development Center at Ag Days, and there is an opportunity to work directly with SB199 producers to ensure food safety is in their business plans.

The Health Department is doing a Customer Satisfaction Survey during the month of March. Many other surveys were reviewed to build RCHD's survey. The survey is given to everyone who visits the Department, is advertised on Facebook, and is in every employee's email signature. People should fill it out if they have used RCHD services in the previous 12 months. The Department will use the results for Performance Management and QI project planning. The goal was to have 30 surveys, and there were already 37 completed. Surveys were passed out to the Board members to fill out if they have used RCHD services.

**County Attorney Report:** Charity McLarty reported that they are seeing continued mental health and drug issues.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Shane Gorder mentioned that there will be a Job Fair coming up that the Chamber and Library are putting on.

**Public Comment:** None

Adjourn at 3:00 pm.

*Next meeting: Tuesday April 11, 2023, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm*

  
Loren Young, Board of Health Chairman

  
Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary

