



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270
April 11, 2023

Board Members Present

Loren Young
Shane Gorder
Duane Mitchell
Terry Meldahl
Melissa Boyer
Kari Johnson

Advisory Members Present

John Dynneson
Brittney Petersen
Julie Brodhead
Jacquelyn Free
Heidi Moran
Charity McLarty

Board Members Absent

Ray Trumpower

Advisory Members Absent

Stephanie Ler
Brandon Roth
Jeff Hintz

Guest

Breanne Josephson, Asthma Home Visiting Program
Jacklyn Damm, Tobacco Prevention

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

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

Minutes: The March 14, 2023, minutes were approved with no changes Terry Meldahl made a motion to approve the March minutes with no changes, Duane Mitchell 2nd the motion.

Health Department Administrator Report -Brittney Petersen

General Health Department Updates –

Program staff are working to complete our AmeriCorps competitive grant in the next week. Our new AmeriCorps member, Adela Keel, is working with the LAC on several behavioral health projects.

Performance Management –

During the month of March, we collected 100 Customer Satisfaction surveys from the community. We are currently analyzing feedback. An initial scan of results reveals very positive

feedback overall. At April's monthly staff meeting we will have a training related to customer service for all staff as a refresher.

Program Update – Asthma Home Visiting Program, Breanne Josephson

Breanne reported on the burden of Asthma on Montanans. 11% of MT adults and 6% of MT kids report having asthma. In 2021 it cost Montanans \$7.1 million in either asthma related hospitalization or ER visits.

Breanne mentioned that she currently has 11 patients in the MAP program: 8 kids, 2 adults, and 1 on-line from Wolf Point. She has 5 patients from Richland County. In January 2023 she had 3 patients graduate out of the MAP program and she gets most of her referrals from Dr.Swayne and Ericca Berry.

To be eligible for the MAP program is any individuals with a current asthma diagnosis that lives in MT.

MTUPP – Jacklyn Damm

Vaping 2021 YRBS data showed 55% of Richland County High School and 33% of Middle School students have tried vaping. 33% currently vape on a regular basis. 22% have tried to quit. Vape prevention presentations have been given to teachers and 7 th grade. Last spring before the end of the school year, I started presenting to 5 th grade classes before they entered Middle School in the fall.

This past year I have been collaborating with Jaylea Olson and Drug Free Communities, so, I will give an update from where she left off last month. As reported by Jaylea last month, the Lambert School Ghost Out was a huge success with a 60% increase in knowledge. Even though this is a DUI related activity, we included vaping prevention education in the activity. The Lambert Lion Student Council helped develop and implement this activity as it is a proven best practice that peer to peer education is the most effective.

Community Scan wrap up:

Each of the cannabis shops we visited received a packet of information regarding the Montana Clean Indoor Air Act. Smoking marijuana is included in the MT CIAA and I distributed information and signage that must be posted in every business stating the CIAA law. Vaping is not included in the CIAA and was tabled again this year during legislation. All Richland County and City of Sidney buildings, schools and the hospital have policies against vaping indoors. Any business can enforce their own policy to not allow vaping in their establishment and I offer assistance to those who would like to do so. It is difficult in our community to publicize this service because the majority of our community believes we already have a no vaping indoors law. I believe this is in partly due to a lot of our local news comes out of ND where their BREATHEEND laws include vaping.

Visited Smoke 2 O shops in Fairview and Sidney. They had several of the items available Jaylea purchased for the Hidden in Plain Sight room.

Visited Millers Corner: Large variety of vaping products, Kratom and Drug Potentiators (boosters). I was confused by the refillable flavored vapes because the FDA outlawed them and now, they only come in flavored single use vapes. My mistake was the difference between vaping nicotine and CBD oils. These three businesses also received CIAA packets as well.

Hidden in Plain Sight results: Parent/Teacher Conferences

Fairview – 16

Lambert – 11

Savage – 18 (made a good contact to work with Student Council as youth prevention leaders.)

Through with Chew was the 3rd week in February: The purpose of the campaign's "Through with the Chew Week" is to promote public awareness about the risks of smokeless tobacco. Lambert and Sidney Youth Prevention Peer Leaders handed out what Sidney designed as DipThis/Not That.

Quit Spit Kits were distributed to all dentists in Richland County. The problem with the Herbal snuff replacement is many youths are now using candy flavored pouches and not loose tobacco.

Communicable Disease -Julie Brodhead, RN - New reporting year (2023 Jan 1- Dec 31, 2023)

Report for April 11, 2023, meeting:

- Richland County Flu: **Season 2022-23** =208 cases with 13 hospitalized. Our vaccination records search show only 18 of the 208 were vaccinated. The last positive was in Feb.
- Montana Cases: Season to date, 10,782 cases, 546 hospitalizations, and 19 deaths have been associated with influenza as of April 7
- RCHD continues to serve as a hub for monkeypox vaccine for our region.
- School absenteeism reports over the last several weeks show moderate numbers of diarrhea, vomiting, sore throats, fever, colds, or fatigue.
- The COVID-19 public health emergency declaration will end on May 11, 2023. It will still be a reportable disease and we will still have to collect required information on each case. (Currently at 3046 for total)

COVID Vaccination Coverage:

Vaccination for Richland County: **4/7/2023:** fully vaccinated = 38% *

State of MT: **4/7/2023:** fully vaccinated = 53% *

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Grant year 2022-23 23rd Quarter deliverables due April 15th.

The following plans are to be reviewed 2022-23: Pandemic Influenza Plan, Communicable Disease Response Plan. RCHD will offer ICS 700, 800, 100 & 200 courses to all staff this spring. Board and Advisory Members are welcome to participate.

Eastern Healthcare Coalition will hold a meeting in Sidney on May 2nd beginning at 10 am. There will be a regional meeting all day in Miles City on May 18th to address key components of HICS with hands-on activities. The Coalition will be offering training on AVERT (Active Violence Emergency Response Training) and MHFA (Mental Health First Aid) to be scheduled around the eastern region. Sidney has offered to host 1-2 days of courses for AVERT with 3 classes offered daily. Maximum of 15 people in each 2-hour course. With the coalition sponsoring this, travel reimbursement is available. The cost is \$750 per class. I will let everyone know of dates.

RCHD needs input on: What type of community preparedness activities or courses are available or have been offered and what more is needed to prepare residents for local disasters? Training besides QPR, AVERT, MHFA, encouraging residents to sign up for CODE RED, weather awareness, shelter in place, evacuation planning, drills and exercises, readiness drills like I'm OK, Not Okay. Members were asked to send Julie ideas if they had any.

Health Officer Report: None

Sanitarian Report: None

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

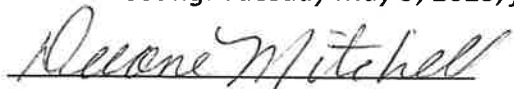
Old Business: None

New Business: None

Public Comment: None

Adjourn at 3:00 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday May 9, 2023, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm


Loren Young, Board of Health Chairman


Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary