



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270
April 19, 2021

Board Members Present

Loren Young- Commissioner
Shane Gorder – Commissioner
Duane Mitchell – Commissioner
Terry Meldahl
Ray Trumpower
Kari Johnson

Advisory Members Present

Jacquelyn Free, FNP
Brittney Petersen
Julie Brodhead
John Dynneson
Heidi Moran –Recording Secretary

Board Members Absent

Melissa Boyer

Advisory Member Absent

Janet Christoffersen
Jeff Hintz
Brandon Roth
Stephanie Ler-Sanitarian

Guests:

Heather Nevins, RCHD Breanne Josephson, RCHD MAP

2:32 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 March 22, 2021 minutes were approved with the changes to the COVID doses to 1221 and to add 1 animal bite to the Communicable Disease report. Kari Johnson made a motion to accept the minutes as amended, Shane Gorder 2nd the motion.

Health Department Administration Report: Brittney updated the Board on the County and Tribal Match Grant for Regional Crisis Stabilization. Richland County is submitting a grant in coordination with Daniels and Sheridan County. The overarching goals of the proposal are to increase training opportunities, evaluate current efforts and opportunities for improvement, and share learnings across counties. The grant closes April 22nd and awarded contracts start July 1, 2021.

Brittney reported that the one-dose Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine clinics have been paused. The CDC and FDA are actively investigating six cases of a rare type of blood clot that may be associated with the vaccine.

Brittney reported that 24% of Richland County has been fully immunized against COVID-19. For the month of April, 212 doses of COVID-19 have been given. COVID-19 clinics are still being reserved for Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Brittney mentioned that to date no vaccine doses have been wasted. In the coming months, Moderna will be sending a 13/14 dose vile instead of a 10-dose vile. There has only been a handful of clients who have not followed up with their 2nd dose. RCHD created an educational resource about common symptoms after the vaccine and also safe activities once clients are fully immunized to give to clients at their first dose appointment.

Policy Discussion/Department Policies: Brittney said there was nothing new to report.

Activity Checklist Review -Brittney mentioned that last month she briefly brought up the Activity Checklist for discussion. Shane Gorder asked that this item be put formally on the agenda for today. As a refresher, she would like the Board to revisit the need for the Activity Checklist as there are no current restrictions on events, only that all individuals are encouraged to take personal responsibility and follow CDC guideline for social distancing, wearing masks, and sanitizing. RCHD reviews and provides feedback on each submitted checklist. RCHD does not approve or disapprove events. Discussion amongst Board members varied, ranging from the importance of cleaning to the Checklist serving as a tool that encourages community members to plan the safest activity possible to the checklist not influencing activities at all. After much discussion, the Activity Checklist is no longer required. RCHD will provide guidance and a copy of the checklist to any community member that calls look for help in planning an activity.

Performance Management: Brittney reported that RCHD successfully submitted our annual PHAB accreditation report at the end of March. The report was accepted and now we are working on part 2, which is quality improvement and looking at COVID-19 and collaboration/working relations. This report is due May 6th. Heidi will send out Section 1 with the April meeting minutes.

Program Report: Breanne Josephson report on the Montana Asthma Program (MAP). She handed out an information graphics sheet on MAP comparing the whole state of Montana to what Richland County has been doing. Richland County has the most clients with 13. She has not been able to go into homes since the pandemic began, but will start to go back into homes this month. Breanne created a policy to follow COVID-19 guidelines. Her program can have up

to 15 patients and of those 7 can be adult. Most of her clients are low income. Our MAP serves Richland, Dawson, Wibaux, Fallon, Prairie, McCone and Roosevelt counties.

Heather Nevins reported that she has been doing the Comprehensive Cancer Program since the position has not been filled. She is at 70% for the cancer screening goal. She is working at getting a 100% by the end of June.

She continues working with Glendive Medical Center, Stockman Bank and Richland County Health Department on their Worksite Wellness programs. In June, Sidney Health Center and Richland County Health department are partnering to bring the Men's Health Screening back. She is writing a grant through the Foundation for Community Care to get FIT Kits for the screening. Jacklyn Damm will also be giving a Tobacco Presentation at the Screening. She mentioned that she has been working on the CONNECT-Referral System. This is a bidirectional referral network-meaning information flows two ways -that allows client contact information to be sent between providers. Some of the providers on CONNECT are: MAP-Montana Asthma Program, Montana Cancer Control Program-MCCP, Richland County MTUPP, Volunteers in Action, Family Planning, WIC, Pella Church, and there are a few getting their paperwork completed.

She reported that Tobacco has been partnering with the Drug Free Community Grant and with the activities the Dry Society has been doing in the schools. The Dry Society held a Zombie dance at Sidney Middle School and they had a great turnout with games, activities, education and a dance.

She handed out the Regional 13 Chronic Disease Prevention quarter report.

Health Officer Report: Jacquelyn Free had nothing to report.

Communicable Disease -Julie Brodhead

New reporting year (2021 Jan 3- Dec 31, 2020)

Report given on April 19, 2021

11 chlamydia

2 gonorrhea

5 Hep C (3 confirmed, 1 suspect, 1 may be old case and not be counted)

6 suspect LTBI LTB : -No disease in lungs so r/o Active, 1 needs test repeated, (0) taking meds,

4 Animal bites to humans (1 did start vaccine series but quit after 2nd)

184 COVID -19 Cases for 2021 (at # 1221 for total count for pandemic) (3 COVID deaths for 2021

16 totals so far) up 13 from last meeting

1 Hantavirus confirmed case

old Hep A - investigating NOT A CASE

0 Influenza for 2020-2021 flu season (October 2020- April 2021)

STATE OF MT -0 influenza since October 2020 for the 2020-21 flu season so far

We have been monitoring up to 0-12 contacts since the last meeting. (This means doing daily phone calls or texting to check on them for symptoms and follow up on testing needs). RCHD

has had 1 hospitalized person since last meeting. The automated texting system "SARA" for doing symptom checks by testing is working well.

4/19/2021 CURRENTLY RCHD: 5 active cases and 11 close contacts

Exposures from travel to funerals or others traveling in; or they were ill 1-3 months ago and did not test until now due to a medical procedure; or they have no idea how they got it and most persons only name members of household as being exposed if they are ill.

COVID-19 case numbers on the state map are behind as RCHD works to enter the data into the state system for it to show up on the count. RCHD is working hard at catching up in this reporting data area. Fluctuations noticed statewide on the map due to counties getting data entered - not new cases.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Worldwide: Johns Hopkins Map:

World-Wide:

2/22/2021 111,633,620 cases 2,471,494 deaths 192 countries

3/22/2021: 123,321,541 case 2,716,990 deaths, 192 countries, Rec 69,902,003

4/19/2021: 141,662,932 cases 3,024,099 deaths, 192 countries, 81,006,833 Rec

COVID-19 U.S.:

2/22/2021 28,168,735 cases, 499,902 deaths

3/22/2021: 29,821,403 cases, 542,382 deaths,

4/19/2021: 31,700,126 cases, 567,422 deaths

COVID-19 MT:

2/22/2021: 98,810 cases, (2,170 active) 1,341 Deaths, (tot hosp 4,527), c 78, rec 95,299

3/22/2021: 103,060 cases (1,003 active) 1414 deaths; (tot hosp 4,716) cur 49, rec 100,643

4/19/2021: 107,202 cases, (1008 active) 1,546 Deaths, (tot hosp 4,914) 55 cur hosp, rec 104,648

COVID-19 ND –

2/22/2021: c 94 ,312 cases, (active 710) 1438 deaths, (tot hosp 3860), current 30, rec 97,164

3/22/2021: 95,764 cases, (702 active) 1461 deaths, (tot hosp 3,910) cur 19 rec 99,538

4/19/2021: 98,320 cases, (1004 active) 1479 deaths, (tot hosp 4047) cur 35, rec 103, 322

Vaccinations for State of MT as 4/19/2021

3/22/2021 404,866 total shots given; 157,308 persons that have rec 2 doses so fully immunized.

4/19/2021: 643,283 total doses given, 278,888 persons that are fully immunized

There is a 28 day wait between first and 2nd dose for Moderna, 21 days for Pfizer, one shot for the Johnson& Johnson (Janssen) on hold as of 4/13/2021

Richland County has given 2882 total and 1,122 persons are fully vaccinated in the last 13 weeks as of 3/22/2021

4/19/2021: 4,188 total doses given, 2,025 fully immunized, 1st dose administered to 2,345 (Map updates once a week for county totals)

Public Health Emergency Preparedness:

We will begin working on our COVID AAR (after action report) to identify improvements and strengths in the process of both disease case investigation and response with vaccination efforts.

PHEP deliverables for April 15 were turned in on time for 3rd quarter.

NEW 4th quarter deliverables include:

- Work with access and functional needs group, including hosting a meeting
- Review and update the pandemic flu plan and the emergency medical countermeasures plan and share with partners
- Finalize RCHD AAR/IP procedure/plan
- Start promoting volunteer registry and update volunteer activation plan.
- Work with DES on doing assessments for emergency assistance facilities in the county.

We will have our regional contractor meetings virtual this year stretched over 5 Fridays beginning this month.

Julie continues to meet with the Eastern Regional Healthcare Coalition on purchases that benefit the region with the purchase of H.A.M. radio bases with handheld for hospitals and offer the training.

Ray asked about the Business Continuity Planning Class (MGR-381) as this would be good timing to try to host again, Julie will look into this.

Sanitarian Report:

No report.

County Attorney Report: Janet Christoffersen absent

Old Business: None

New Business: Brittney, Jaime and Breann met briefly to discuss the 2021 Fair.

Public Comment: None

Terry motioned to adjourn at 3:30 pm.

Next meeting: May 17, 2021 from 2:30 pm to 4 pm

Duane Mitchell
Duane Mitchell, Commissioner

Heidi Moran
Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary