



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270
July 13, 2021

Board Members Present

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

Advisory Members Present

Jacquelyn Free, FNP
Brittney Petersen
Julie Brodhead
Stephanie Ler-Sanitarian

Board Members Absent

Advisory Members Absent

Jeff Hintz
Heidi Moran
Brandon Roth
John Dynneson
Janet Christoffersen

Guests:

2:00 PM Duane Mitchell called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Reviewed Agenda: The agenda was approved. Shane Gorder made a motion to approve the agenda and Melissa Boyer 2nd the motion.

Minutes: The June 21, 2021 minutes were approved with no changes. Ray Trumpower made a motion to approve the June minutes with no changes, Loren Young 2nd the motion.

Health Department Administration Report: Brittney Reported

General Health Department Updates –

RCHD has a sufficient supply of Moderna at this time. It will outdate in September and October. RCHD was able to get 100 doses of Janssen from Roosevelt County Health Department with an outdate of 08-07-2021. We are being told that we will probably not get a new supply of Janssen into Montana until "sometime in August". RCHD anticipates not having Janssen available for at least part of the month of August due to manufacturing issues. We are still waiting for approval of Moderna for 12 years and older.

Shane asked for clarification of Biden's "door to door" proposal, having received several calls from concerned residents that COVID vaccine would be brought door to door. Stephanie said the intent of the outreach was to bring vaccine information, not actual vaccines, under the auspices that low vaccination rates in some parts of the country were due to lack of access rather than vaccine hesitancy. Ray said he understood that it was supposed to be "trusted individuals" being the information, not necessarily the Health Department. Shane said he thought Governor Gianforte was supporting the thought that Montana does not need door-to-door vaccine information. Brittney confirmed that RCHD will be sending out a mailer to all residents with both testing and vaccine information shortly. Terry asked if Montana universities are requiring COVID vaccines. Duane said House Bill 702 prevents that requirement.

Stephanie presented COVID-19 vaccine data. Richland County is at approximately 35% vaccinated among the eligible population of about 8700 people. The increase in vaccinated individuals in Richland County from May to July was also included.

Performance Management – Stephanie presented an update on her COVID-19 vaccine outreach project involving water bottle distribution. She expects a 10% increase in each age category, and we are currently at about a 5% increase since May, 2021.

Communicable Disease -Julie Brodhead

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

Report given on July 13, 2021

13 chlamydia

4 gonorrhea

1 syphilis

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

8 suspect LTBI LTB: 2 taking meds

16 Animal bites to humans

1 high level of lead in an infant

1 norovirus case (8 others ill at the daycare lasted ~5 days)

1 Hantavirus case

1RSV

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

COVID -19 Cases for 2020-2021:

#1246 for total count for pandemic (4 COVID deaths for 2021 total 18 deaths)

Working on finalizing numbers for 2020 Count – moving cases to correct year based on symptom onset date. We have been monitoring up to 6 contacts since the last meeting. (This means doing daily phone calls or texting to check for symptoms and follow up on testing needs). Richland County had 1 hospitalized person since last meeting.

6/21/2021 CURRENTLY RCHD: 1 new today active case and 2 close contacts,

Exposures from travel to funeral or others traveling to SD, WA, travel to Hawaii, COVID-19 case numbers on the state map are correct with RCHD.

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

World-Wide:

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

5/17/2021: 163,181,275 cases 3,381,740 deaths *

6/21/2021 178,597,032 cases 3,868,164 deaths Vaccines 2,635,674,733

COVID-19 U.S.:

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

5/17/2021: 32,950,200 cases, 586,077 deaths

6/21/2021 33,543,765 cases 601,854 deaths

COVID-19 MT:

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

5/17/2021: 110,723 cases 1,055 active, 1598 deaths, hosp 5,157, c hosp 63, rec 108,070

6/21/2021: 113,225 cases, 454 active, 1652 deaths, hosp 5,446, c hosp 44, rec 111,119

COVID-19 ND:

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

5/17/2021: 109,135 cases (707 active) 1504 deaths, (tot hosp 4,211) cur 28; Rec 106,924

6/21/2021: 110,571 cases 206 active, 1523 deaths, (tot hosp 4344, cur hosp 19), Rec – 108,842

Vaccinations 6/21/2021 = 615,971 doses given for 47.5 % of population

Vaccinations for State of MT as 4/19/2021

3/22/2021: 404,866 total shots given; 57,308 persons that have rec 2 doses -fully immunized.

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

5/17/2021: 771,705 total doses given, 369,505 persons that are fully immunized.

6/21/2021: 852,515 total doses given; 420,329 persons fully immunized for 46%

There is a 28 day wait between first and 2nd dose for Moderna, 21 days for Pfizer, one shot for the Johnson& Johnson (Janssen)

Richland County VACCINE Administered (Eligible population 8,978)

3/22/2021: 2,882 total and 1,122 persons are fully vaccinated in the 13 weeks

4/19/2021: 4,188 total doses given, 2,025 fully immunized, 1st dose administered to 2,345

5/17/2021: 4,782 total doses given, 2,338 fully vacc, 1st doses admin 2,667, we are at 26%

6/21/2021: 5576 total doses given, 2,885 fully vac, 1st dose admin 3031, at 32%

(Map updates once a week for county totals)

Richland County has had one Variant in 2021 -- B.1.429 California Variant
Disease staff will be pulling data for local numbers and reports.

Raw data on COVID Cases in county school: # of Staff = 52, # of Students =120 for a total of 172 cases in the County during 2020-21 school yr.

Noted state-wide 4 animals tested positive for rabies; closest was in Dawson which was a bat. State-wide 39 persons have had post exposure prophylaxis recommended after having an animal bite exposure. RCHD will try to do some education on animal bites and the response to them to prevent unnecessary vaccinations given to those who get bit, there is a 10 day window to watch the domestic animal for rabies symptoms. RCHD wants to prevent needless destroying of animals and expensive treatment to humans.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness:

Julie invited the Board to a FEMA course titled "Improving business' financial literacy and management to support post-disaster economic recovery" virtually on July 20th from 9-3. An introductory Public Information Officer training is offered virtually on Monday July 19th from 1-5PM. Julie will have this on in the RCHD conference room.

Health Officer Report: Jacquelyn Free had nothing to report. Duane thanked Jacq for attending.

Sanitarian Report:

Stephanie reported that she will be returning to inspections as predicted and has seen an increase in people seeking food licenses.

County Attorney Report: Absent

Old Business: No old business

New Business: Brittney asked if it was acceptable to skip the August meeting. There were no objections.

Public Comment: None

Kari motioned to adjourn at 2:50 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 14, 2021 from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm


Duane Mitchell, Commissioner


Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary