



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270
September 13, 2022

Board Members Present

Shane Gorder
Duane Mitchell
Melissa Boyer
Ray Trumpower

Advisory Members Present

Brittney Petersen
John Dynneson
Julie Brodhead
Stephanie Ler
Heidi Moran
Jeff Hintz
Charity McLarty

Board Members Absent

Loren Young
Terry Meldahl
Kari Johnson

Advisory Members Absent

Brandon Roth
Jacquelyn Free

2:20 PM Shane Gorder called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

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

Minutes: The July 12, 2022, minutes were approved with no changes. Ray Trumpower made a motion to approve the July minutes with no changes, Melissa Boyer 2nd the motion.

Health Department Administrator Report

General Health Department Updates –

Our Drive Through Flu Clinic is Thursday, September 29th, from 10AM to 6PM at the Richland County Fire Hall in Sidney. Once again, the Drive-Through Clinic will serve adults only, and offers both regular and high-dose flu shots. No other shots will be given during this clinic.

We are continuing to develop our Community Health Assessment using CASPER data, other state, and national data. At this month's Communities in Action Steering Committee, we will present initial CASPER data and make plans for finalizing the Community Health Assessment, and then starting our Community Health Improvement Plan, with input from Richland County residents.

The state is working to make the CONNECT referral system live in the very near future. As a reminder, the CONNECT referral system is a bidirectional referral network that allows client information to be sent between service providers. It is a secure, web-based system. The goal of the system is to ensure referrals can be made easily and increase client uptake in services. RCHD has been a part of CONNECT for several years. Heidi Moran and Brittney Petersen are the new leads for this program going forward. Once CONNECT is live again, we will continue the work of Heather Nevins to review how to make a referral with current sites, and in the future sign up new providers and agencies.

New COVID Vaccines –

PFIZER BIVALENT BOOSTER (approved for ages 12 and older)

- Individuals 12 years of age and older are eligible for a single booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent if it has been at least two months since they have completed primary vaccination or have received the most recent booster dose with any authorized or approved monovalent COVID-19 vaccine.

MODERNA BIVALENT BOOSTER (approved for ages 18 and older)

- Individuals 18 years of age and older are eligible for a single booster dose of the Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine, Bivalent if it has been at least two months since they have completed primary vaccination or have received the most recent booster dose with any authorized or approved monovalent COVID-19 vaccine.

The **monovalent** mRNA COVID-19 vaccines are NO LONGER authorized as booster doses for individuals 12 years of age and older. Existing EUAs have been updated. Appointments for monovalent Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna boosters in people 12 years of age and older must be rescheduled to a date when locations have the bivalent COVID-19 vaccines available.

COVID-19 vaccine administration for children aged 6 months-11 years should continue following published ACIP recommendations for primary series and booster doses.

Performance Management –

- RCHD continues to host internal trainings for staff. Last month, Brandon Roth, DES, presented on Code RED at our staff meeting, including walking us all through how to sign up and answered questions.

Communicable Disease -Julie Brodhead, RN - New reporting year (2022 Jan 2- Dec 31, 2022)

Report for Sept 13, 2022, meeting

- See Spreadsheet for Disease Reports for data as of 9/12/2022
- Richland County Flu: we will be entering into Flu season during first week of Oct
- RCHD will be holding the Drive Through Flu shot clinic for adults on Sept 29, 2022, from 10 am -6 pm at the Sidney Fire Hall, BOH members invited to come see the process.

- As of September 9, 2022, there has been five cases of monkeypox/orthopoxvirus reported in Montana.
- As of 09/03/2022, Montana has 0 confirmed cases of West Nile virus (WNV) infection in humans this season. Nationally, as of 09/06/2022, 135 cases of WNV have been confirmed in 26 states, 11 deaths.

COVID -19 Cases for 2022:

Shane Gordon

- See Spreadsheet for COVID comparisons from local to global level.
- 9/12/2022 – Richland: ²⁸⁴⁰~~2720~~ total cases, 36 deaths, (up 214 since July meeting).
- As of 9/12 Richland County had 5 hospitalized since the July 12, BOH meeting.
- Omicron Variant BA.5 has been identified as the dominant variant in MT.

Vaccination Coverage: (since May meeting, we added infant age group)

Vaccination for Richland County: population eligible 11,043. (new pop #)

5/8/2022: 10,023 total doses given, 4,261 fully vaccinated = 41%; 4,501 with one dose
 7/8/2022: 10,361 total doses given, 4,307 fully vaccinated = 42%; 4,557 with one dose
 9/9/2022: 10,633 total doses given, 4,346 fully vaccinated = 39 %; 4,613 with one dose

Vaccinations for State of MT:

5/8/2022: 1,461,270 doses given, 563,762 fully vaccinated = 55%
 7/8/2022: 1,503,681 doses given, 568,265 fully vaccinated = 56%
 9/9/2022: 1,537,733 doses given, 573,761 fully vaccinated = 53%

Vaccinations for State of ND:

5/8/2022: 1,077,885 doses given. 58.4% with one dose, 54.3% fully vaccinated
 7/8/2022: 1,109,004 doses given. 57.9% with one dose, 53.9% fully vaccinated (primary series done)
 9/6/2022: 1,137,386 doses given. 58.5% with one dose, 54.5% fully vaccinated (primary series done)

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The Quarter 4 deliverables were turned in for July 15, 2022.

Grant year 2022-23 1st Quarter deliverables due October 15th and include:

- Continual review and updating of plans-such as the Communicable Disease and Flu Plans
 Offsite Influenza Clinic with POD set up, POD box inventory and Security Plan
- COOP (Continuity of Operations Plan) training course: FEMA IS 1300 Introduction to COOP
- CERC and an ICS training or refresher course

UPCOMING Training: Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication Operations Course

Tentative plans for RCHD and DES to host this training called CERC Operations Course – 2 full days of hands-on learning and doing. Possibly on October 18 & 19, in Sidney, at the Extension Conference room. MORE INFORMATION TO COME.

Health Officer Report: Absent

Sanitarian Report: Stephanie reported that we received the Junk Vehicle Grant for \$34,020 and she had Commissioner Gorder sign it to accept the funds. The funding comes from people registering their vehicles. If you have ideas on how to use the funding, please contact Stephanie.

County Attorney Report: Charity McLarty introduced herself. She mentioned that she has 2 support staff and Lane Johnson that work alongside Charity in the County Attorney's Office.

Old Business: None

New Business: Shane asked if the Migrant Clinic is still opened in Fairview. Brittney replied yes, it is and that it has had some turnover. They now have new staff, a provider, and a nurse.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn at 2:55 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, October 11, 2022, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm



Shane Gorder, Commissioner



Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary