



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270
September 14, 2021

Board Members Present

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

Advisory Members Present

Jacquelyn Free
Brittney Petersen
Julie Brodhead
Stephanie Ler

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. Kari Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda and Terry Meldahl 2nd the motion.

Minutes: The July 13, 2021 minutes were approved with no changes. Terry Meldahl made a motion to approve the July minutes with no changes, Ray Trumpower 2nd the motion.

Health Department Administration Report: Brittney Reported

General Health Department Updates –

RCHD is beginning to work on the regional Crisis Diversion Grant between Richland, Daniels, and Sheridan County. This small grant will go towards 3 workshops – one in each county – to assess the current system in each county to support mental health services. In Richland County, Jessica Gilbert, several AmeriCorps members, with help from our LAC Action group, are taking the lead on these activities.

Commissioner Mitchell swore in the first several AmeriCorps members at the beginning of the month. As mentioned in July, RCHD has an opportunity to expand our program to several other

counties this grant year. Stephanie Reynolds, our AmeriCorps Director is continuing to recruit and place members at interested host sites as applications come in. Stephanie Reynolds will present at our November Board of Health Meeting.

Aileen Helms is our new Chronic Disease Prevention Specialist. Aileen started with the Department in July and is a great addition to our Department.

RCHD will continue our COVID Walk-In Clinics every Tuesday from 12:30 – 3:00pm. If a community member needs an earlier or later time on a Tuesday, we are more than happy to accommodate. RCHD now offers all three vaccines each Tuesday - The one-dose (Janssen) Johnson and Johnson vaccine and the two-dose Moderna and Pfizer vaccines. We are offer two Pfizer Friday's for adolescents 12 and up and their parents on September 24 and October 15 from 10-12:30 and 10-2:30 respectively.

Stephanie presented COVID clinic attendance and vaccination data. Clinic attendance has increased significantly since early August and each age category has seen approximately a 10% increase in vaccinated individuals.

Performance Management – The Department Quality Improvement team, led by our Accreditation Coordinator, has begun to work on Section I and II of our Annual Report, which is due in October and December respectfully. This report is an opportunity to showcase our continued quality improvement activities throughout 2021.

Communicable Disease -Julie Brodhead

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

Report given on Sept 13, 2021

20 chlamydia

5 gonorrhea

1 syphilis

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

9 suspect LTBI, LTB: 2 taking meds

20 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

1 RSV

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: Year 2020 = 1061 cases with 14 deaths

Cases for 2021:

#1460 for total count for pandemic (4 COVID deaths for 2021 for a total 18 deaths)
AS of 9/13/2021 there have been ~ 401 cases. With an increase of ~185 between 8/13 and 9/13 compared to 22 cases between 7/14/ and 8/12

Since August 16th we have 6 persons hospitalized out of county and Sidney Health Center has had up to 7 individuals in the hospital with a COVID diagnosis at one time. Many ER visits for shortness of breath, dehydration. High fevers up to 104 in adults and children have been reported.

Raw data on COVID Cases in county schools: two staff, and about 30 school aged kids. Anecdotally, our county has seen positives cases that are partially or fully vaccinated, and hospitalized. Richland County has had two variants -alpha and delta - in 2021.

9/13/2021: 70 active cases

Exposures from travel, visitors, and events.

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

World-Wide:

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

7/12: 187,157,549 cases, 4,036,762 deaths, Vaccines given 3,461,308,592

9/13/2021: 225,244,735 cases, 4,639,280 deaths, Vaccines given 5,719,029,358

COVID-19 U.S.:

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

7/12/2021: 33,883,819 cases, 607,432 deaths

9/13/2021: 41,221,266 cases, 662,106 deaths, Vaccine given 379,458,988

COVID-19 MT:

6/21/2021: 113,225 cases, 454 active, 1652 deaths, hospitalizations 5,446, hospitalizations 44, recovered 111,119

7/12: 114,325 cases 466 active, 1674 deaths, hospitalizations 5,555, current hospitalizations 51, Recovered 112,185

9/13/2021: 134,935 cases, 7, 589 active, 1,842 deaths, hospitalizations 6,725, current hospitalizations 351, recovered 125,504

COVID-19 ND:

6/21/2021: 110,571 cases 206 active, 1523 deaths, (total hospitalizations 4,344, current hospitalizations 19), Recovered – 108,842

7/12/2021: 119,858 cases, 253 active, 1532 deaths, total hospitalizations 4,357, current hospitalizations 8, recovered 109,173

9/13: 122,736 cases, 2,815 active, Deaths 1573, (total hospitalizations 4,880) current hospitalizations 109, Recovered 118,348

Vaccinations

6/21/2021 = 615,971 doses given—43.5 % of population with one dose, 38.3% fully vaccinated

7/12: 631,458 doses given, 39.9% or 300,159 persons fully vaccinated

9/13/2021 = 703,121 doses given, 49.6 % with one dose, and 42.7 % fully vaccinated

Vaccinations for State of MT

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%

7/12/2021: 874,859 doses, 434,242 persons fully vaccinated, for 47%

9/13/2021: 969,223 total doses given; 473,730 persons fully immunized for 51%

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 vaccinated, 1st doses admin 2,667, we are at 26%

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

7/12: 5721 given, 2983 fully vaccinated, 1st dose administered 3,124, 33% fully vaccinated

9/13/2021: 6490 total doses given, 3,343 fully vaccinated, 1st dose administered 3,605, 37% fully vaccinated

(Map updates once a week for county totals)

FAIR booth was a success, rabies training in Miles City on September 8 was well attended. RCHD will plan to do education on animal bites and the response to them to prevent unnecessary vaccinations.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness:

Deliverables for 1st

There are several deliverables for 1st Quarter, including an After Action Report for COVID-19 Response – Board was asked to provide feedback related to improvements in public health's response going forward. In addition, RCHD will evaluate our risk communication plan during the response.

Health Officer Report: Jacquelyn Free had nothing to report.

Sanitarian Report:

Stephanie reported that she reviewed the Truck Wreck Protocol and made no changes. It will be shared with Law Enforcement and DES. She also reported that the Drive Thru Flu Clinic is September 30th and advertisements are scheduled.

County Attorney Report: Absent

Old Business: No old business

New Business: Commissioner Gorder shared that a specific group would like to present and ask for a resolution for Richland County to be a Sanctuary for unborn children. Several Board members articulated that the Board of Health was not the correct platform for this topic or request.

Public Comment: None

Kari motioned to adjourn at 2:50 pm.

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



Duane Mitchell, Commissioner



Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary

