



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES  
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270  
October 11, 2022

Board Members Present

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

Advisory Members Present

Brittney Petersen  
John Dynneson  
Julie Brodhead  
Brandon Roth  
Heidi Moran  
Jeff Hintz

Board Members Absent

Terry Meldahl

Advisory Members Absent

Charity McLarty  
Jacquelyn Free  
Stephanie Ler

Guest: Lesley Thiessen, WIC and Family Planning

2:00 PM Shane Gorder called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

*Reviewed Agenda:* The agenda was approved. Loren Young made a motion to approve the agenda and Kari Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

*Minutes:* The September 13, 2022, minutes were approved with the change of COVID 19 Richland County total cases to 2840 instead of 2240. Duane Mitchell made a motion to approve the September minutes with the change, Kari Johnson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

**Health Department Administrator Report**

*General Health Department Updates –*

Our Drive Through Flu Clinic was held Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, from 10AM to 6PM at the Richland County Fire Hall in Sidney. The Drive-Through Clinic only served adults and offered both regular and high-dose flu shots. No other shots were given during this clinic. We saw 326 clients this year, compared to 400 last year. This was a partnership between Health Department, Fire Hall, Public Works, and Volunteers in Action. There were 9 volunteer nurses with 20 additional volunteers. There was a Hot Wash done after the clinic and plans are already put in place for next year. Mary Ann will be going out to surrounding area Senior Centers and schools in the month of October to do offsite Flu Clinics.

*Performance Management –*

- RCHD continues to host internal trainings for staff. In October This month we will conduct an all staff Hot Wash of our Drive Through Flu Clinic, reviewing project outcome forms, and discussing the Mandatory Safety Training.

*Program Report-Lesley Thissen, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and Family Planning*

- Lesley reported that the Family Planning numbers are down from last year. Last year there were 116 clients compared to 106 for new year. She mentioned that October is Domestic Violence Awareness month, and she will be having her Pumpkin contest again this year.
- For WIC Lesley reported the average WIC clients per month is 137 and this puts us a little above average. WIC benefits have increased: For children it is \$25, pregnant moms are \$44, and fully substantially breast feed moms are \$49.
- Baby Formula is better to find but the specialty formula is still harder to find.
- Lesley does site visits to the grocery stores.
- Lesley applied for and received the Moms Mini grant that will help educate the importance of Iron.

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

Report for Oct 11, 2022, meeting

- See Spreadsheet for Disease Reports for data as of 10/7/2022
- Richland County Flu: We had a positive flu A on 9/29 but not confirmed, so 0 cases. MT State has reported confirmed 6 cases (4 H1N1, 2 H3N2) with one hospitalized before start of flu season which is Oct 1<sup>st</sup>.) Flu shots are Quad- it covers 4 different strains.
- As of October 7, 2022, there has been six cases of monkeypox/orthopoxvirus reported in Montana. RCHD is a hub for vaccine for regional area as needed.

**COVID -19 Cases for 2022:**

- See Spreadsheet for COVID comparisons from local to global level.
- 10/7/2022 – Richland: 2,872 total cases, 36 deaths, (up from 32 since Sept meeting).
- As of 10/7 Richland County had 3 hospitalized since the Sept 12 Board of Health meeting.
- Omicron Variant BA.5 continues as the dominant variant in MT.

**Vaccination Coverage:**

Vaccination for Richland County: population eligible 11,043.

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  
10/7/2022: 10,721 total doses given, 4,355 fully vaccinated = 39%; 4,622 with one dose

Vaccinations for State of MT:

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%  
**10/7/2022:** 1,559,611 doses given, 575,598 fully vaccinated = 53%

Vaccinations for State of ND:

7/8/2022: 1,109,004 doses given. 57.9% with one dose, 53.9% fully vaccinated (primary series)  
9/6/2022: 1,137,386 doses given. 58.5% with one dose, 54.5% fully vaccinated (primary series)  
**10/7/2022:** 1,174,844 doses given. 58.6% with one dose, 54.5% fully vaccinated (primary series)

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Grant year 2022-23 1st Quarter deliverables due October 15<sup>th</sup>.  
This next quarter deliverables will include the After-Action Report from the Drive Through Flu Clinic and continued review of plans.

**UPCOMING Training:** Crisis and Emergency Risk Communication Operations Course: NOT SCHEDULED. We are considering a spring course if there is community interest.

**Remind text Test on 10/6/22 review** – 8 out of 11 responded within 24 hours which is ~73%, 10/11 within 72 hours which is ~91%. 100% response as of today 10/11! Remember to answer back no matter what. I will have the county attorney to sign up at next meeting.

**Health Officer Report:** Absent

**Sanitarian Report:** Absent

**County Attorney Report:** Absent

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** Shane and John spoke about the new Trec 84 scanner that is now at the Sheriffs office. This scanner can do a body cavity search in three seconds. Several Montana counties currently use this scanner.

**Public Comment:** None

Adjourn at 2:35 pm.

*Next meeting: Tuesday, November 15, 2022, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm*

  
Shane Gorder, Commissioner

  
Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary

