



To Protect and Promote the Health and the Environment of the People of Kittitas County

**KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)  
Meeting Minutes  
February 21, 2019  
Commissioners' Auditorium  
10:00 am**

**Present**

**Board of Health (BOH):**

Cory Wright, Brett Wachsmith, Rich Elliott, Laura Osiadacz

**Absent:** John Asriel M.D.

**Board of Health Advisory Committee (BOHAC):**

Nancy Pfeiffer, Community Health of Central Washington, Alicia Vialoco, Community Health, Carin Thomas, Central Washington University

**Public Health:** Candi Blackford, Amy Fuller, Holly Erdman, Audi Martinez, Samantha Cox, Tristen Lamb, Jesse Cox, Liz Whitaker, Kasey Knutson, Samantha Cox, Mark Larson M.D.

*Meeting called to order at 10:01 am*

**Introductions**

Introductions were completed.

**Minutes**

Motion to approve the January 17, 2019 Board of Health meeting minutes

**Motion 02-01: Motion to the January 17, 2019 Board of Health meeting minutes. Rich Elliott moved to approve the January 17, 2019 Board of Health meeting minutes. Brett Wachsmith second. All approved. Motion 02-01 carried to approve the January 17, 2019 Board of Health meeting minutes.**

**Public Comment**

Public Comment open at 10:02 am

Public Comment closed at 10:02 am

**BOHAC update**

Tristen Lamb noted that there was no BOHAC meeting this month. Instead BOHAC members were invited to attend the HPV presentation at the hospital that was given by Dr. John Merrill- Steskal.

Ms. Lamb thanked Dr. Merrill- Steskal for the informative presentation.

## **Department updates**

### **Administrator update**

Tristen Lamb stepped to the microphone and updated the board members on the following:

- The Washington State Department of Health continues to update local health departments on the measles outbreak. Currently there are 64 cases in Washington State.

### **Contracts and Agreements:**

Ms. Lamb noted that there were several contracts that had gone through the BOCC for approval this month.

### **Staffing updates:**

- Jesse Cox is the new Environmental Health Supervisor.
- The Environmental Health Specialist position is posted and interviews will start today.

### **Accomplishments:**

- The Kittitas County Public Health Department recently applied for a grant by Kasey Knutson, Chelsey Loeffers, and Amy Fuller. The department was awarded \$60,000/year for five years through the Local State Physical Activity Nutrition (LSPAN) grant from DOH.
- Kittitas County Health Network (KCHN) assisted KCPHD in another grant application. The department was awarded \$5000 for work done by Amy Fuller to help build the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) that is implemented in partnership with the Kittitas County Health Network (KCHN).

### **Program updates:**

- Nea Alfaro worked with Ellensburg School District and Kittitas Schools to provide information about vaping. According to the 2016 Healthy Youth Survey, Kittitas County High School seniors report using e-cigarettes or vape devices at twice the rate of cigarettes.
- Our Water Resources staff worked closely with the Water Transfer Workgroup to add some parcels above the KRD canal to our over the counter program.
- The Water Transfer team also worked with Benton County to provide details and information about our water program to help Benton County during the implementation of their new water program.
- Health Promotion and Assessment staff presented during the Leadership Kittitas County's Social and Health Services Day. Judy Love emailed Kudos to staff for their presentations.

### **Admin updates:**

- Tina Rowan, KCPHD's Fiscal Analyst, has been working closely with Judy Pless, Auditor's Office, to complete year-end financial requirements. She received Kudos from Ms. Pless for the hard work she put into calculating this year's indirect rate.
- Staff completed another great all staff retreat on January 25.
- Dr. Larson and Tristen Lamb were interviewed by Dr. John Merrill-Steskal for a radio show on Ellensburg Community Radio.

## **Health Officer Update**

Dr. Mark Larson reported on the current outbreak of Measles in Washington State and that there are 64 confirmed cases. There are 63 in Clark County and 1 in King county. The outbreak has cost Washington state over one million dollars. Dr. Larson discussed a couple of bills that would remove the personal exemption clause and make it mandatory for vaccinations. Dr. Larson also briefly touched on the following topics:

- Discussed TB and Rural Tuberculosis Day that is on March 25, 2019.
- Discussed legislation and gun control in Washington State and Sheriff Dana's statement about gun laws that will be taking effect this year.
- There is money from the state to help surrounding counties get rid of deceased cows that died during the recent cold weather.

- Air quality has been good in Ellensburg, but Yakima is under a burn ban. Dr. Larson discussed future air quality issues and that he will bring further information to the board in.
- There was brief discussion about vaccinations in Kittitas County in response to Dr. Larson's information on the measles outbreak.

## **Business**

### **2018 Annual Report presentation**

Tristen Lamb reviewed the 2018 Annual Report, which is not final yet, looking for feedback from the board. The 2018 Annual Report reviews the roles of the Board of Health Advisory Committee, Board of Health, public health staff and programs, and data represents work in those programs over the last few years. The board had a few recommendations for edits to the report. The department will make some changes to the report and send out to the editing committee and will then send out a final version.

### **KCPHD staff in DC**

Audi Martinez, Health Promotion Specialist, recently attended training in Washington DC about Youth Substance Abuse Prevention. There were great speakers and state representatives attending this training. Ms. Martinez was able to meet with our own Washington State representatives and discuss needs. Ms. Martinez also reported that it was nice to see both the democratic and republican party agree that our country is in a drug crisis and that funding for prevention was well spent and will continue to be a priority.

### **Water in Kittitas County**

Samantha Cox presented on water in Kittitas County. Ms. Cox discussed hydrogeology in Kittitas County and how it relates to wells in our area. There are over 10 aquifers in Upper County and 2 aquifers in Lower County. Holly Erdman stepped to the microphone and discussed areas in the county where there are low flow wells. Ms. Cox reviewed the steps to obtaining water in Kittitas County:

- Individual Well Site Review
- Water Mitigation
- Adequate Water Supply Determination Form
- Meter Installation/Inspection

### **All Staff Retreat update**

Tristen Lamb briefly reviewed the 2019 All Staff retreat agenda. It was a full day filled with required annual trainings and some ice breakers in between. Some of the trainings presented were HIPAA, Blood Borne Pathogens, ACE's, Air Quality monitors, and a Quality Improvement, Dashboard, and Assessment update.

### **Bright Beginnings update**

Liz Whitaker reported on the status of Bright Beginnings (Head Start) after giving a brief history of how it came to be in Kittitas County. Due to financial issues, Bright Beginnings for Kittitas County will transfer to out of state leadership of the program. The transfer should be smooth and complete in the middle of March.

### **Developmental Disabilities (DD) Report**

Kasey Knutson reviewed the DD program background and how the program and funding was turned over to the health department to manage in 2012. After turnover in the program the health department staff, decided to include the program within Health Promotion. There are currently unspent funds in this program and there is discussion about putting a coffee stand in the county that is run by people with developmental disabilities.

Other

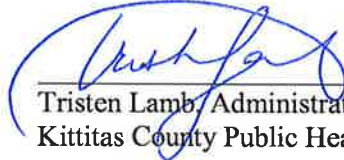
Rich Elliott discussed the future possibility of prescribed burns that may happen in the near future and how that will impact air quality.

Meeting adjourned at 11:46 am



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Cory Wright, Chair of the Board of Health



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Tristen Lamb, Administrator  
Kittitas County Public Health



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Candi Blackford, Clerk of the Board of Health