



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

**KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)
Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2021
WebEx
10:00 am**

Present

Board of Health (BOH): Cory Wright, Brett Wachsmith, Dede Utley, John Asriel M.D

Absent: Laura Osiadacz

Public Health: Audelia Martinez, Cambron Walker, Candi Blackford, Erin Moore, Jesse Cox, Joseph Rainwater, Kasey Knutson, Kate Johnson, Katie Odiaga, Tristen Lamb, Mark Larson M.D., Mackenzie Carter, Tina Rowen, Lianne Bradshaw, Marie Betts

Other: Julie Peterson, KVH

Meeting called to order at 10:03 am

Introductions

Introductions were completed.

Minutes

Motion to approve the July 15, 2021 Board of Health meeting minutes.

Motion 08-01: Motion to approve the July 15, 2021 Board of Health meeting minutes. Cory Wright moved to approve the July 15, 2021 Board of Health meeting minutes. Dede Utley second. All approved. Motion 08-01 carried to approve the July 15, 2021 Board of Health meeting minutes.

Public Comment Opened at 10:05 am

Public Comment Closed at 10:05 am

BOHAC Update

Tristen Lamb stated that Board of Health Advisory Committee did not meet since last Board of Health meeting. Meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 13th, 2021, to discuss ESSHB 1152 implementation, COVID19 Vaccine Assessment, and Department Budget.

KVH Hospital Update

Julie Peterson, KVH, updated the board on the following topics:

- Hospital capacity (Statewide and in Kittitas County)
- KVH staff capacity
- Governor's vaccine mandate for healthcare workers, must be fully vaccinated by October 18, 2021
- KVH public message, masking, vaccines, and social distancing

There was discussion regarding building temporary facilities to help the hospital capacity issues in Washington State, as well as what constitutes of a medical or religious vaccination exemption in healthcare workers and how the vaccine mandate may have some effects on staffing. There was also discussion regarding visitor policy and elective surgeries in KVH.

Department updates

Health Officer Update

Dr. Mark Larson updated the board on the following topics:

- Kittitas County COVID-19 cases in Washington State and Kittitas County
 - Vaccinated vs. unvaccinated
- Vaccination, transmission, and hospital rates in Kittitas County
- Delta COVID-19 variant
- Masking and vaccine mandate
- School Guidelines
- 3rd doses and booster doses
- Large events

There was discussion about what is considered a large gathering, and when people should get tested after attending a large gathering. There was also discussion about whether there will be one variant after another, and if vaccines will be effective against the new variants, as well as if there has been a push for more local control regarding COVID-19 guidelines.

Director's Report

Ms. Lamb updated the board on the following topics:

- Staffing updates
 - Joe Rainwater-Cummings accepted EH Specialist position, transitioning from Health Promotion
 - Tina Rowan will retire on August 31st, 2021
- Health Order issued: Mountain River Trails Community to remove solid waste material
- Department updates
 - KCPHD is participating in Public Health Workforce Interests and Needs Survey
 - All Staff retreat/COVID debrief in January

Business

Covid-19 Vaccine Outreach Update

MacKenzie Carter and Cambron Walker updated the board on the following topics:

- Vaccination rates in Kittitas County
- Vaccine outreach efforts in Kittitas County
- COVID-19 vaccination outreach survey

There was discussion about sources of data points, FDA approval for Pfizer vaccine, and access for Johnson & Johnson vaccine in Kittitas County.

Environmental Health Education Update

Erin Moore updated the board on the following topics:

- Change to the on-site sewage program to increase efficiency
- Updating on-site sewage and water codes
- EH website updates
 - Spanish Food Safety documents

Draft 2022 Preliminary Budget Review & Environmental Health Fee

Ms. Lamb presented the Kittitas County Public Health preliminary budget information and Environmental Health Fees and tentative timeline to the board.

Meeting adjourned at 11:41 am



Brett Wachsmith, Chair of the Board of Health

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Audelia Y. Martinez, Clerk of the Board of Health



Tristen Lamb, Director
Kittitas County Public Health