

KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)

Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2021

WebEx

10:00 am

Present

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

Absent:

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

Other:

Meeting called to order at 10:03 am

Introductions

Introductions were completed.

Minutes

Motion to approve the August 19, 2021 Board of Health meeting minutes.

Motion 09-01: Motion to approve the August 19, 2021 Board of Health meeting minutes. Cory Wright moved to approve the August 19, 2021 Board of Health meeting minutes. Dede Utley second. All approved. Motion 09-01 carried to approve the August 19, 2021 Board of Health meeting minutes.

Public Comment Opened at 10:05 am

Mike Lowe, Chairman of Kittitas School District School Board, gave a public comment regarding his concern over the credibility of the information that is coming out of the Kittitas County Public Health Department regarding the COVID-19 outbreak the Kittitas School District.

Public Comment Closed at 10:09 am

BOHAC Update

Tristen Lamb stated that Board of Health Advisory Committee met before the Board of Health meeting. They welcomed a new member from Aging and Long-Term Care. The group discussed sign up for Board of Health meeting attendance. There was an update regarding the COVID-19 Vaccine Assessment for Kittitas County. Ms. Lamb provided a summary of the 2022 budget and there was discussion of E2SHB 1152 implementation and the future role of BOHAC.

Department updates

Health Officer Update

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

- COVID-19 case rates and percent positive in Kittitas County
- Percent of Kittitas County population vaccinated at 51%
- KVH hospital capacity
- COVID-19 within schools

There was a question and discussion regarding the public comment from Mr. Lowe.

There was a question and discussion around large community events coming up, and if organizers have reached out the public health for guidance to mitigate spread of disease.

Director's Report

Ms. Lamb updated the board on the following topic:

- Official 9-month resignation notice from Tristen Lamb

Business

Covid-19 Vaccination Planning and Tabletop Summary

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

- Vaccination efforts in Kittitas County
- Vaccine booster doses, third doses, and pediatric vaccines.
- Tabletop exercise summary

There was a question and discussion about the reception of the traveling clinic was at the fair.

E2SHB 1152 Implementation Recommendation – Information Only

Tristen Lamb let the Board of Health know that due to E2SHB 1152, she will be making the recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners that the Board of Health expand by recruiting two new members that either are public health practitioners, consumers of public health or other community stakeholder.

There was a question and discussion on the qualifications that each new BOH candidate should have.

2022 Budget Updates

Ms. Lamb presented to BOH an updated budget summary 2022:

- Public health department awarded COVID-19 Health Equity grant
- Additional Law and Justice grant for car seat purchases
- Slight increase in funding for solid waste enforcement
- Foundational public health services funding increase

Dr. Merrill-Steskal Presentation


Dr. Merrill-Steskal gave a presentation on COVID-19 vaccinations, specifically mRNA vaccines.

There was a question and discussion on natural immunity vs. vaccine immunity

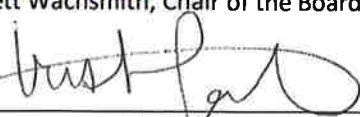
There was a question and discussion on the timeline for the emergency approval for vaccination of children ages 5-11 years of age.

There was a request for next meeting that there is an update on vaccine breakthrough and how that affects our community.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm


Audelia Y. Martinez, Clerk of the Board of Health


Brett Wachsmith, Chair of the Board of Health


Tristen Lamb, Director
Kittitas County Public Health