



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

KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)
Meeting Minutes
November 28, 2023
Commissioners' Auditorium
1:00pm

Present

Board of Health (BOH): Brett Wachsmith, Dede Utley, Laura Osiadacz, Cory Wright

Public Health: Candi Blackford, Chelsey Loeffers, Cambron Walker, Kate Johnson, Audi Martinez, Dora Beukelman, Kasey Knutson, Lianne Bradshaw, Mackenzie Carter, Whitney Wheelock, Mark Larson M.D., Erin Moore, Katie Odiaga

Other: Robin Read, Board of Health Advisory Committee/Kittitas County Health Network, Doug Fessler, Kittitas County IT Department, Danielle Bertschi, Fire District 6 Community Health Program manager, Dawn Bass, Community Builders

Meeting called to order at 1:00 pm

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve October 19, 2023, Board of Health meeting minutes as presented.

Motion 11.01: Motion to approve the October 19, 2023, Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Brett Wachsmith moved to approve the October 19, 2023, Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Laura Osiadacz second. All approved. Motion 11.01 carried to approve the October 19, 2023, Board of Health meeting minutes as presented.

Public comment open at 1:01 pm

Public comment done at 1:01 pm

Department Updates

Director/Administrative Officer Report

Brief updates this month to reserve time for 1/10th agenda items. Ms. Loeffers noted that the packet contains a Community Health Improvement update, and asked the board to review it and let her know if there are questions.

Staffing Updates

- 12 applicants for PH tech position and the department is working with Human Resources to schedule interviews with applicants this Friday.
- The department is adding a temporary position – Community Health Project Specialist to help out CD team.

BOH Recruitment

- In December will be welcoming Danielle Bertschi to the Board. Mrs. Bertschi started orientation last week.

- One applicant for current vacancy. The interview is scheduled with BJHAC for December 7th. The Board of Health Advisory committee hopes to have a recommendation to bring forward at the December BOH meeting.

Departmental Updates

- Flu and COVID Vaccine Clinic was a great success! The department gave 316 vaccines.
 - 100 Adult Covid
 - 155 Adult Flu
 - 6 Child Covid
 - 55 Child Flu
- Environmental Health stakeholders have been notified of changes to the fee schedule. There have been some questions but no negative feedback.
- Two staff completed additional in depth week long FEMA training. Kasey Knutson completed the All-Hazards Public Information Officer training, Candi Blackford completed Logistics Section Chief training.

Program Updates

- Audi Martinez and Cambron Walker were invited to participate in a panel at Rural Health Conference due to excellent work on the COVID-19 Rural Health Equity Grant.
- In partnership with KVH and KCHN, KCPHD recently provided a free screening, both in person and remote, for the documentary Unseen. The documentary is an unfiltered glimpse into the lives of parents caring for children and adults with disabilities or complex medical needs.

Health Officer Report

Mark Larson M.D. reported that respiratory illnesses are up. Kittitas Valley Hospital is currently seeing a lot of influenza A. Influenza seems to have arrived earlier than normal. There is still COVID in the community. Mark Larson M.D was encouraging those older than 60 to be vaccinated for RSV, if they have not already done so.

Quarter 3 Department Finance Update

Katie Odiaga reported on the departments 2023 Budget vs. Actuals and reviewed the 3rd quarter update on revenue/expenses.

Other Business

Request to set a joint BOH/BOCC public hearing on December 21, 2023, at 10:00am to consider the approval of the Kittitas County Public Health Fee Schedule and Policy

Chelsey Loeffers requested approval to set a joint BOH/BOCC public hearing on December 21, 2023, at 10:00 am to consider the approval of the Kittitas County Public Health Fee Schedule and Policy.

Motion 11.02: Motion to approve a joint BOH/BOCC public hearing on December 21, 2023, at 10:00am to consider the approval of the Kittitas County Public Health Fee Schedule. Brett Wachsmith moved to approve a joint BOH/BOCC public hearing on December 21, 2023, at 10:00am to consider the approval of the Kittitas County Public Health Fee Schedule. Laura Osiadacz second. Motion 11.02 carried to approve a joint BOH/BOCC public hearing on December 21, 2023, at 10:00am to consider the approval of the Kittitas County Public Health Fee Schedule.

1/10th of 1% Advisory Board presentation of recommended funding proposals

Erin Moore presented the 1/10th of 1% Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Tax Advisory Board 2023 RFP Process and recommendations. Mrs. Moore reviewed the timeline:

- May 2023- First meeting.
- June 2023-Board reviews and adopts by-laws.
- July 2023- Board reviews and approves Request for Proposals (RFP) document and process.
- August 2023- Board of County Commissioners reviews and approves RFP.

- September 2023- RFP released to the community for one month.
- October 2023-Board reviews proposals and prepares its recommendations to the Board of Health (BOH).
- November 2023- BOH reviews and makes its recommendations to the BOCC for final approval.
- December 2023- Awardees notified so that projects can begin in January 2024.

The RFP was published on September 1 and closed on October 9th. The board members reviewed and scored the applications and met to review the proposals. There were 11 applicants:

- Community Builders
- Comprehensive Healthcare
- CWU
- Ellensburg Ski Team
- Kittitas County Friends of Animals
- Kittitas County Jail
- Kittitas County Recovery Community Organization
- NAMI Kittitas
- Northwest Expressive Arts Response
- Quiet Cadence
- Valley Play Museum

Mrs. Moore briefly reviewed each applicant's proposal and amounts requested in proposals. Mrs. Moore reviewed with the board the Advisory Boards recommendations. Lastly, she reviewed the next steps:

- Publish all documents for consent agenda by November 30, 2023.
- December 5, 2023, approval at Board of County Commissioners Consent Agenda.
- Notify Awardees.
- Route Professional Services Agreements through contract process.
- Board of County Commissioners approve and sign final Professional Services Agreements.
- Mail Final contracts to awardees.

Commissioner Wright and Commissioner Wachsmith thanked Erin for taking over this project and all of hard work. Laura Osiadacz asked if any of the advisory board wanted to step to the podium to speak.

Debbie Bogart, Advisory Board member, stepped to the microphone and gave kudos to the advisory board members. There were hard discussions and they made hard decisions. Mrs. Bogart thanked Erin Moore for stepping in and filling a gap. Mrs. Bogart also thanked the board for approving funding for this cause.

Doug Fessler, Advisory Board member, stepped to the microphone and thanked Erin Moore for stepping in. This was a difficult process to take in all the information and decide as to who/what gets funding. Mr. Fessler felt that there were ways to improve the review process to make this easier for the board but felt that getting started was important.

Mark Larson MD, Advisory Board member, stepped to the microphone and noted that he would have liked to see more proposals from schools, but the eleven proposals received took this seriously. It takes a lot of time to put a proposal together for funding that may or may not be granted.

Dede Utley, Board of Health member, discussed the creation of the 1/10th of 1% committee in 2018. Recommendation after reviewing the proposals and kept the years of knowledge in mind when making her recommendations. Recommendations based on short term tangible results, clear goals and long-term systemic change along with Smart Goals.

Dede Utley recommended four projects: Kittitas County Jail, Comprehensive Health Care, Community Builders, and Central Washington University for the 1/10 of 1% funds to the BOCC Board. Brett Wachsmith second.

Dede Utely discussed the four projects recommended for funding and why she recommended those projects. The group discussed the fund balance and funds already allocated for 2024.

Commissioner Wachsmith was inclined to amend the motion to use the remaining balance to fund other projects. Since the clock is ticking, he would recommend not reserving these funds. Commissioner Wright discussed the sunset clause and how this measure was passed, and it was not unanimously supported in approval, but in spirit. Commissioner Wright noted that while all members wanted to see this happen there were different thoughts about how this should be implemented. Commissioner Wright noted that funding should be tied to defined work and outcomes and not using funds as seed money to start something new.

Commissioner Osiadacz noted that coming into the meeting she was prepared to accept the advisory board's recommendations, but after listening to Mrs. Utley's recommendations she has changed her mind. After the group discussion she is prepared to support the motion recommendation.

Commissioner Wright recommended the advisory board help create indicators for measuring outcomes. Mrs. Loeffers noted that some indicators for mental health outcomes will not be seen for decades but could have the assessment coordinator work with group to discuss possibilities for this type of information.

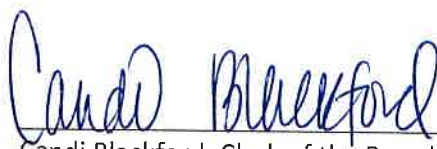
Motion 11.03: Motion for recommendation of projects to be funded. Dede Utely recommended four projects: Kittitas County Jail, Comprehensive Health Care, Community Builders, and Central Washington University for the 1/10 of 1% funds to the BOCC Board. Brett Wachsmith second. All approved. Motion 11.03 carried to recommend four projects: Kittitas County Jail, Comprehensive Health Care, Community Builders, and Central Washington University for the 1/10 of 1% funds to the BOCC Board. All approved. Motion 11.03 carried to recommend four projects: Kittitas County Jail, Comprehensive Health Care, Community Builders, and Central Washington University for the 1/10 of 1% funds to the BOCC Board.

The next step will be to bring the recommendation to the Board of County Commissioners Agenda Session on December 5, 2023.

Meeting concluded at 1:56 p.m.


Cory Wright, Commissioner, Chair


Chelsey Loeffers, Director
Kittitas County Public Health


Candi Blackford, Clerk of the Board of Health