



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270
July 12, 2022

Board Members Present

Shane Gorder
Kari Johnson
Loren Young
Terry Meldahl
Duane Mitchell

Advisory Members Present

Brittney Petersen
John Dynneson
Julie Brodhead
Stephanie Ler
Heidi Moran
Brandon Roth
Jacquelyn Free

Board Members Absent

Melissa Boyer
Ray Trumpower

Advisory Members Absent

Janet Christoffersen
Jeff Hintz

Guests: Kathy Helmuth, RCHD – Maternal and Child Health and Immunization

2:02 PM Shane Gorder called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

Reviewed Agenda: The agenda was approved. Duane Mitchell made a motion to approve the agenda and Terry Meldahl 2nd the motion.

Minutes: The May 10, 2022 minutes were approved with no changes. Loren Young made a motion to approve the May minutes with no changes, Kari Johnson 2nd the motion.

Health Department Administrator Report

General Health Department Updates –

- Susan Herman is our new office manager, transferring from the Clerk and Records Office.
- We successfully conducted our CASPER (Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response), on June 8. We covered 34 clusters with staff, volunteers, and AmeriCorps members. We held a hot wash the morning after CASPER to capture suggestions for improvements the next time. Allie, our AmeriCorps team lead, is working on a first draft of our Community Health Assessment, using CASPER data, along with other reputable data sources, including the County Health Rankings.

Program Report – Maternal and Child Health and Immunization, Kathy Helmuth
Immunizations

- Continue to do clinics by appoints but will take walk-ins
- Caught up on reminder/recalls
 - Numbers had dropped but seem to be picking up
- COVID vaccine integrated into routine clinic days and is well received
 - Moderna 6 months – 5 years
 - Pfizer 5 years old – 11 years old
 - Both for 12 years and older
- Childcare rule changes coming
 - Draft will be sent in the future
 - Related to legislation passed – HB 334 and HB 702
- Expect more legislative changes next session

MCH BG

- Fortunately, we were able to utilize this funding for COVID work for the past 2 years
- FICMMR
 - Using suicide prevention as the required activity
 - 1 pending case to review
 - 1 case death certificate needs completing
- WIC
 - Potential changes – we may become the lead agency - we do the work already for the most para.
- New pediatrician starting at SHC August 1, 2022
- Senior Centers
 - Back out to all except Lambert
 - Lambert restarted today

Performance Management –

- RCHD continues to host internal trainings for staff. The HIPAA training in May was a successful refresher for staff. Upcoming trainings include DES and how to sign up for Code Red and a refresher on project outcome forms and a few other internal processes.

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

Report for July 12, 2022 meeting

- See Spreadsheet for Disease Reports for data as of 7/8/2022
- Richland County Flu: 68 cases for the year, 76 for the season, 7 hospitalizations for season. Our last 2 cases came after the June 4th final season report.
- MT State flu Season to date, 6341 cases, 241 hospitalizations, and 9 deaths have been associated with influenza.6/04/2022; Lab reports show Influenza A statewide, minimal Influenza B showing up. *Note: flu season is from 10/1/2021- 5/31/2022.*

- RCHD will be holding the Drive Through Flu shot clinic for adults on Sept 29, 2022 from 10 am -6 pm at the Sidney Fire Hall
- *Highly Pathogenic Avian influenza A H5N1 (from infected wild birds can spread to people who have close contact with them) – 1 human infection from 4/28/2022. As of 7/8 - NO human case in MT; HPAI was detected in 42 various avian species in MT.*
- No cases of Monkeypox in Montana as of 7/8

COVID -19 Cases for 2022:

- See Spreadsheet for COVID comparisons from local to global level
- 7/8/2022 – Richland: 2,626 total cases, 36 deaths, (up 79 since May)
- As of 7/11 Case count is 2732 with 9 active cases
- As of 7/8 Richland County had 6 hospitalized since the May 10, BOH meeting
- Omicron Variant BA.5 (nicknamed Ninja) has been identified in McCone County. This variant spreads easily, and it doesn't care about past vaccinations or illness. Richland Co sends a few samples to the state which conducts the variant testing.

Vaccination Coverage: (since May meeting, we added infant age group)

Vaccination for Richland County: population eligible 10,310

4/11/2022: 9,931 total doses given, 4,242 fully vaccinated = 41%; 4,485 with one dose

5/8/2022: 10,023 total doses given, 4,261 fully vaccinated = 41%; 4,501 with one dose

7/8/2022: 10,361 total doses given, 4,307 fully vaccinated = 42%; 4,557 with one dose

Vaccinations for State of MT:

4/11/2022: 1,433,885 doses given, 561,097 fully vaccinated = 55%

5/8/2022: 1,461,270 doses given, 563,762 fully vaccinated = 55%

7/8/2022: 1,503,681 doses given, 568,265 fully vaccinated = 56%

Vaccinations for State of ND:

4/11/2022: 1,051,996 doses given. 58.2% with one dose, 54.0% fully vaccinated

5/8/2022: 1,077,885 doses given. 58.4% with one dose, 54.3% fully vaccinated

7/8/2022: 1,109,004 doses given. 57.9% with one dose, 53.9% fully vaccinated (primary series done)

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The Quarter 4 deliverables will be turned in July 15, 2022.

Grant year 2022-23 1st Quarter deliverables due October 15th and include:

- Continual review and updating of plans-such as the truck & train wreck protocol
- COOP training course FEMA IS 1300 Introduction to COOP
- CERC and an ICS training or refresher course
- Attend training on new health alert network system at the Public Health Summer Institute in Billings, July 21-22, 2022

On June 15th, Julie & Brandon met with 7 access & functional needs (AFN) partners. We discussed results of a Survey that went out to them ahead of time with questions on recovery after the pandemic. 22 responses out of ~35 to the survey. Julie gave the overview of survey results such as the top stressors with pandemic which were mental health -worry, anger; jobs/staffing issue; constantly changing guidance. We reviewed top choices for workshops to address stressors and we reviewed what types of disasters would impact their agency the most and which one would they like to do a tabletop on. Survey results attached to minutes.

Brandon explained LEPC, CodeRED, and the importance of reviewing & testing plans.

Outcomes: 1. plan for a workshop about compassion fatigue (RENEW– understand, prevent, and treat Compassion Fatigue and Burnout, by Journey’s Consulting) in the next year. 2. Build partners & assist in connecting those wanting Mental Health First Aid or QPR training. 3. Plan to have a tabletop or drill with the group based on long term power outage or evacuation in the future. 4. Invited several interested partners to come to LEPC meetings as guess.

Health Officer Report: Jacquelyn Free had nothing to report.

Sanitarian Report: Stephanie reported that in January 2022 RCHD got 2100 COVID test kits to hand out and as of July 12, 2022 there is less than 600 left. She reviewed the Truck Wrecks Policy and said she will be doing inspections at the upcoming Fair.

County Attorney Report: Absent

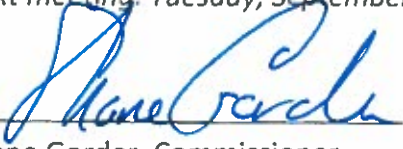
Old Business: None

New Business: Shane reported that Janet Christoffersen’s, RC County Attorney, last day will be August 31, 2022.

Public Comment: None

Adjourn at 2:40 pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 13, 2022 from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm



Shane Gorder, Commissioner



Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary

