

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on **Thursday, February 27, 2025** was called to order by Commissioner Amber Waldref, Chair, at 2:40 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

**PRESENT**

Commissioner Amber Waldref, Chair  
 Council Member Michael Cathcart, Vice Chair  
 Commissioner Josh Kerns  
 Board Member Monica Blykowski-May, MD, MBA  
 Board Member Patricia Kienholz

**ABSENT**

Commissioner Mary Kuney  
 Board Member Charlie Duranona

**CITIZEN INPUT**

No citizen input was received.

**BOARD REPORTS**

- The chair is visiting representatives in Washington D.C. to discuss public health funding.
- The Executive Committee met and set the agenda.
- The BOH Budget & Finance Committee met and reviewed the agency’s vouchers and financial reports.
- The BOH Policy & Education Committee did not meet.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Consists of items considered routine, which are approved as a group. Any member of the Board may request to remove an item from the Consent Agenda to be considered separately.

Meeting Minutes: January 30, 2025  
 2025 Vouchers paid: January 1-31, 2025

---

AP Vouchers:	#266223 - #266368	#266375 - #266477	
AP EFTs	EFT B&O DEC 2024	EFT TSRENT 125	3,042,998.17
Payroll Warrants:	#1165030- #1165040	#116294 - #1165295	
Advice Numbers:	#DD87173 - #DD87439		\$1,282,257.73
Advice Numbers:	#DD87440 - #DD87712		\$1,274,456.20
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,599,712.10</b>

**Motion:** To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

**Motion/Second:** Kerns/Blykowski-May

**Approved:** Unanimously

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board adjourned at 12:40 p.m. for 15 minutes for an executive session pursuant to RCW §42.30.110(1)(i). The Board did not discuss labor negotiation guidance pursuant to RCW §42.30.140(4)(b).

**MEETING RECONVENED**

The meeting was reconvened at 12:55 p.m. No action was taken.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Resolution #25-01 Re: Adopting the 2025-2030 Spokane Regional Health District Strategic Plan – Lola Phillips, Deputy Administrative Officer

**Motion:** To approve the resolution as presented.

**Motion/Second:** Kienholz/Blykowski-May

**Approved:** Unanimously

## **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT – Lola Phillips, Deputy Administrative Officer**

- The Board received a report on Treatment Services financials and services the program provides.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT – Kim Kramarz, Finance Director**

- The Board received an overview of the 2025 budget, how the budget is set and how reserves are used. The total agency budget is \$57 million. Salary and benefits (\$30 million) are almost half of the agency's budget.
- For the November financial report, there is \$18.8 million in reserves with \$1.5 million maintained in the Board of Health emergency fund. The agency expects a \$2 million surplus for 2024.

## **HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Francisco Velázquez, MD, SM, FCAP, Health Officer**

- There are 442 whooping cough cases in the State of Washington with one fatality. Spokane has the highest number of cases (101) in the state.
- Shigella is trending down. SRHD staff are working with shelter providers to inform and educate about the disease.
- COVID-19 is in the community but not as high as in the past. Influenza rates are high. RSV cases are increasing but not at the high rates recorded last year.
- SRHD staff are tracking the measles outbreak in Texas. Nine new cases have been identified in New Mexico.
- The Quality-of-Life survey, mostly funded by external partners, will begin in March.

## **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Lola Phillips, Deputy Administrative Officer**

- The Board received a report on active, proposed legislation.

## **AGENCY REPORTS**

- Gallagher's Human Resources & Compensation Consulting representatives provided a report on SRHD's 2025 compensation study, its methodology, and approach for the study.

Board Member Blykowski-May departed the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

## **BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN**

- Commissioner Waldref requested presentations be placed in the Board packets.
- Council Member Cathcart requested the BOH Executive Committee discuss moving agency reports after the action items.

## **NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. on March 27, 2025

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner Amber Waldref, Chair

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ann Pitsnogle, Recording Secretary