

The special meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on **Wednesday, August 20, 2025**, was called to order by Commissioner Amber Waldref, Chair, at 10:08 a.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
Commissioner Mary Kuney
Board Member Monica Blykowski-May, MD, MBA
Board Member Charlie Duranona
Board Member Liz Henry
Board Member Patricia Kienholz

ABSENT

CITIZEN INPUT

Citizen input was received and placed into the meeting record.

BOARD REPORTS

- The BOH Budget & Finance Committee met and reviewed vouchers and discussed the proposed SRHD budget.
- 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: June 26, 2025
2025 Vouchers Paid: June 1-30, 2025

Voucher Numbers: #267422 - 267617	EFT B&O May 2025 and EFT TSRENT 0625	\$ 2,154,828.11
Payroll Warrants:	#1175155 - 1175162, 1176107-1176117	
Advice Numbers:	#DD89899 - DD90171	\$1,225,424.30
Advice Numbers:	#DD90172 - DD90443	<u>\$1,141,714.66</u>
TOTAL		\$4,521,967.07

Motion: To approve the Consent Agenda as presented.

Motion/Second: Cathcart/Kerns

Approved: Unanimously

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT – Alicia M. Thompson, DrPH, LMSW, Administrative Officer

- Forest Burchinal, Information Technology Specialist, Steve Heidal, Building Maintenance Specialist, and the Information Technology staff were recognized for their work at SRHD.
- The SRHD Annual BBQ will be held on September 16 from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Board members were invited to attend.
- Spokane County has requested the agency reduce its budget from \$500,000 to \$1 million dollars. Staff are working to reduce their budgets. Budget reduction scenarios will be presented at the September 25, 2025, board meeting.

- The Administrative Officer has reached out to the Kalispel Tribe, Spokane Tribe, Native Project and the Healing Lodge of the Seven Nations for tribal representation on the board. The board bylaws are being updated to reflect the changes in the law regarding membership.
- The building masonry work will be completed Friday, August 22, 2025.
- The Treatment Services program had a surplus of \$339,550 at the end of June. Beginning September 6, the program will be open on Saturdays and will be strictly for dosing.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Kim Kramarz, Controller

- The state audit has been ongoing since May. The accountability audit is now starting. Board members will be invited to the audit exit conference when it is complete.
- Division budget reviews have begun. The board will receive its first review of the proposed 2026 budget and 2026 fee schedule at the September Board meeting.
- As of the end of June, expenses are at 45% and revenue is at 42%. The reserve balance is at 21% with a total of \$18.2 million in reserves.
- The agency has three discretionary funding streams: Local Government Assistance (LGA) at \$2.88 million, Foundational Public Health Services Reinforcing Capacity funds (FPHS RC) \$2.10 million, and the Spokane County contribution \$2.05 million.

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

- There have been 240,000 cases of the Chikungunya virus globally.
- There has been one diagnosed case of measles in Spokane county and there have been potential exposures to the public between August 12-15, 2025. There have been 1,356 cases in the U.S. with three deaths.
- There have been potentially hundreds of TB exposures at Eastern State Hospital, and the communicable disease program is working to identify exposures.
- There has been one rabid bat identified in Spokane County. Human and animal health advisories are posted on the SRHD.org website.
- Alicia Kreuzter, BSN, RN, Nurse Family Partnership Program Manager, published recently in the Spokane Medical Journal.
- In 2024, there were 253 lead cases identified. The statewide measurement has been reduced which will increase the number of cases expected this year.

AGENCY REPORTS

- The board received a report on cyber security from Naci Seyhanli, Cyber Security Officer in the IT program.

ACTION ITEMS

Election of Board of Health Vice Chair – Commissioner Waldref, Board Chair

Motion: To approve Council Member Cathcart as the Vice Chair for 2025.

Motion/Second: Kerns/Kienholz

Approved: Unanimously

Amending the SRHD Board of Health Bylaws to Update the Members of the Board – Michelle Fossum, SRHD Legal Counsel

Motion: To approve the bylaws as presented.

Motion/Second: Cathcart/Kuney

Approved: Unanimously

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board adjourned at 11:38 a.m. for 30 minutes for an executive session pursuant to RCW §42.30.110(1)(g) and RCW §42.30.110(1)(i). Legal counsel was asked to remain for the executive session. At 12:08 p.m., the Board Chair requested an extension of the executive session for an additional ten minutes. At 12:18 p.m., the Board Chair requested an extension of the executive session for an additional ten minutes. At 12:28 p.m., the Board Chair requested an extension of the executive session for an additional five minutes.

MEETING RECONVENED

The meeting was reconvened at 12:33 p.m. No action was taken.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK-IN

- There was no board member check-in.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for 12:30 p.m. on September 25, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:36 p.m.

APPROVED:

Commissioner Amber Waldref, Chair

Date: _____

Ann Pitsnogle, Recording Secretary