

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **May 28, 2020** was called to order by Mayor Ben Wick, Chair, at 12:30 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Mayor Ben Wick, Chair
 Commissioner Al French
 Commissioner Mary Kuney, Vice Chair
 Commissioner Josh Kerns
 Councilmember Breean Beggs (*arrived at 12:45 p.m.*)
 Councilmember Karen Stratton (*arrived at 12:45 p.m.*)
 Councilmember Betsy Wilkerson (*arrived at 12:45 p.m.*)
 Councilmember Linda Thompson
 Mayor Kevin Freeman
 Board Member Chuck Hafner
 Board Member Jason Kinley, ND

ABSENT

Board Member Andrea Frostad

CITIZEN INPUT

Due to Governor Inslee’s March 24, 2020 proclamation prohibiting in-person meetings and limiting meetings to action items that are routine, necessary or in response to COVID-19 and the public health emergency, only written public comment was accepted. Written comment was sent to all Board of Health members and has been entered into the record.

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: April 30, 2020
 2020 Vouchers paid: April 1-30, 2020

Voucher Numbers:	#253524 - #253744	Mar 2020 B&O Excise Tax	\$ 1,421,431.65
Payroll Warrants:	#1079245	1079548 - #1079552	
Advice Numbers:	#DD56656 - #DD56911		\$990,308.07
Payroll Warrants:	#1080434- #1080444		
SRHD	#3072-3074		
Advice Numbers:	#DD56912 - #DD57166		\$926,639.37
		TOTAL	\$1,916,947.44

Motion: To approve the April 30, 2020 meeting minutes as presented.
Motion/Second: Freeman/Hafner
Approved: Unanimously

Motion: To approve the April 1-30, 2020 vouchers as presented.
Motion/Second: Kuney/Kerns
Approved: 9 Yea /1 abstain (Thompson)

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution #20-06 Requesting the Spokane County Board of County Commissioners to Allocate Necessary Funding to SRHD to Cover Costs to Combat the COVID-19 Pandemic Through December 31, 2020 from the CARES Act, FEMA Funding and/or Other State and Federal Funding – Mayor Ben Wick, BOH Chair

No motion was made on Resolution #20-06.

The SRHD Administrative Officer will provide a report to the Spokane County Board of County Commissioners on the need for funding to support the COVID-19 response. The Board will hold a discussion prior to September if funding for SRHD has not been addressed. The BOH Budget and Finance Committee will draft a funding document, which includes the health district funding history, that will be reviewed by the SRHD Executive Committee and brought to the Board for consideration.

CHAIR REPORT – Mayor Ben Wick

Health District staff were recognized for their work in the COVID-19 response and assisting Spokane County in entering Safe Start Washington Phase 2.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Amelia Clark, Administrative Officer

- A contract has been signed by SRHD to utilize a recruitment firm to hire a deputy administrator for the agency.
- May 29, 2020 is the last day of operations for the Emergency Operation Center (EOC). Most of the COVID-19 response will be SRHD's responsibility.
- A COVID-19 Recovery Group has been established that will monitor the public health metrics response.
- There will be a standing COVID-19 report on the BOH agenda throughout the response.
- The fairgrounds testing site will close on June 9. Testing will be completed by partners (CHAS Clinics). The COVID-19 isolation center will be relocated on June 1. The agency is working with partners to have alternate care facilities if needed.
- The Health District is increasing staffing for COVID-19 case investigation. SRHD is partnering with WSU, Providence, MultiCare, Kaiser and CHAS for care coordination.
- SRHD will begin contract tracing June 3 and will provide direct infection prevention support to skilled nursing facilities.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Robert Lutz, MD, MPH, Health Officer

- The Board received an update on current COVID-19 disease outbreak in the Spokane region.
- Washington State has received 75% of swabs and 60% of viral transport media for COVID-19 response promised by the federal government.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- The BOH Budget & Finance Committee reviewed the financial reports and COVID-19 expenses last week. There is a budget deficit due to COVID-19 expenses that will be offset by CARES funding the agency will receive.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

- Councilmember Thompson recognized the written comment received about actions of Board members and requested the Board review its roles and responsibilities at an upcoming meeting. Chair Wick acknowledged a report on the topic has been scheduled for an upcoming meeting.
- Mayor Wick recognized the work of SRHD's Public Information Officer, Kelli Hawkins, and requested the Health District improve its ability to hold press conferences at the agency. The Administrative Officer commented the agency has already began work to improve capability within the agency.

- Councilmember Thompson requested crisis numbers for mental health and domestic violence be prominently displayed during broadcasted press conferences. It was requested a link to the domestic violence website also be included. Kelli Hawkins, SRHD PIO, noted technology is limited for displaying numbers but numbers can be displayed in the comments.
- Commissioner Kuney recognized Lyndia Wilson who received an award, which has been named after her, from the Domestic Violence Network for domestic violence advocacy.

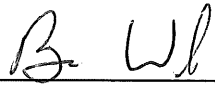
NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on June 25, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

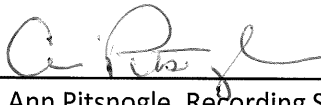
There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

APPROVED:



Mayor Ben Wick, BOH Chair

Date: 6/25/20



Ann Pitsnogle, Recording Secretary