

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **September 24, 2020** virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic was called to order by Mayor Ben Wick, Chair, at 12:30 p.m.

PRESENT

Mayor Ben Wick, Chair
Commissioner Mary Kuney, Vice Chair
Commissioner Al French (*arrived at 12:52 p.m.*)
Commissioner Josh Kerns
Council President Breean Beggs
Councilmember Karen Stratton
Councilmember Betsy Wilkerson
Councilmember Linda Thompson
Mayor Kevin Freeman
Board Member Andrea Frostad (*departed at 2:28pm.*)
Board Member Chuck Hafner
Board Member Jason Kinley, ND

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 was entered into the record.

CHAIR REPORT – Mayor Ben Wick

- Reappointed Board Member Chuck Hafner was welcomed to the Board.
- A moment of silence was held for Councilmember Stratton’s mother, Lois Stratton, who recently died.
- Amelia Clark was recognized for her one-year anniversary at the Health District.
- Adobe-Sign will be used for all documents needing BOH signature.

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: July 30, 2020
2020 Vouchers paid: August 1-31, 2020

Voucher Numbers:	#254403 -#254583	\$ 651,124.61
Payroll Warrants:	#1087256 - #1087261	
Advice Numbers:	#DD58710 - #DD58985	\$1,051,057.44
Payroll Warrants:	#1088515 - #1088525	
Advice Numbers:	#DD58986 - #DD59268	\$918,328.15
	TOTAL	\$1,969,385.59

Motion: *To approve the consent agenda as presented.*
Motion/Second: *Hafner/Stratton*
Approved: *Unanimously*

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution #20-09 Re: 1) Providing the SRHD Administrative Officer Authority to Legally Bind SRHD for All Contracts and Procurements Related to Federal Funds; and 2) Authorizing the SRHD Finance Manager to Act as a Designee in the SRHD Administrative Officer's Absence

Motion: To approve Resolution #20-09 as presented.

Motion/Second: Thompson/Hafner

Approved: Unanimously

Resolution #20-10 Adopting a Reserves Allocation Policy

Motion: To approve Resolution #20-10 adopting a reserves allocation policy.

Motion/Second: Thompson/Kinley

Approved: Unanimously

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Amelia Clark, Administrative Officer

- Eastern Washington University recognized nine SRHD staff, who were alumni of the university, for responding to the COVID-19 pandemic. Board Members were encouraged to review the article.
- The HIPAA breach did not include any social security information. Legal counsel did not recommend providing credit monitoring. Additional passwords on personal health information (PHI) and staff education were provided to staff due to the event.

COVID-19 RESPONSE REPORT

- There is a spike in COVID-19 cases due to the Labor Day Weekend. Over the last two months, there have been 100 deaths. There are outbreaks in 13 long-term care facilities. There are cases in churches, large gatherings, and colleges. Healthcare occupancy is at 64% and ICU at 74%.
- The Health District is providing mental health, suicide awareness and vaccine education campaigns as part of the COVID-19 response.
- The Health District is reviewing its COVID-19 after-action review and will report its improvement plans.
- Agency staff are working on mental health access and equitable vaccination distribution plans.
- Emergency response staffing is at eight per 100,000 with some staff still working overtime. The Public Health Institute is assisting the agency by providing 18 case investigators.
- The Catholic Charities isolation center has opened. My Place and Catholic Charities combined capacity is approximately 100.
- The Health Officer and Epidemiology staff are meeting weekly with Spokane area schools. SRHD staff have provided outreach to 1,500 businesses. Four community health workers are working at My Place to help populations with disparate health impacts.
- The Quality of Life survey will be sent in October and will compare pre-and-post COVID-19 quality of life.
- SRHD's Data Center is developing an Essence system dashboard to follow behavioral health concerns in the community.
- Spokane Indians Baseball Organization's call center is assisting SRHD with school and parent questions and Spokane City Librarians are researching care coordination models from other agencies.

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

- Spokane Public Schools will begin in-person school instruction on October 5 starting with Kindergarten through second grade. Schools can have sports if following the current guidelines. Additional school guidelines are expected next week.
- Four individuals have been interviewed for the Washington State Department of Health, Secretary of Health position. The goal is to have the new hire before January 1, 2021.

FINANCIAL REPORT

- Moss Adams representatives provided a report on the SRHD Finance Program organizational assessment. The SRHD Board of Health Budget & Finance Committee had reviewed the report and recommended a full board report.

AGENCY REPORTS

- The Board reviewed the proposed 2021 SRHD budget. A balanced budget will be presented at the October meeting. The Administrative Officer will meet with Board of County Commissioners on Monday for further budget discussions. Mayor Freeman has completed a request from the Board to provide information on how local jurisdictions can assist Spokane County in funding of the Health District. The report is currently being reviewed by Spokane County Commissioners.
- The Board received a report on COVID-19 expenses year-to-date.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

- Regarding the recent BOH citizen appointment, Councilmember Wilkerson requested the agency consider appointments to the Board that represent equity. Commissioner Kuney replied that Board Member Hafner was reappointed to complete his position term after resolving matters that prevented him previously. Commissioner Kuney had received comments about the reappointment and responded accordingly.
- Councilmember Thompson requested opportunities to expand committees within the Health District to reflect community diversity and inclusion and which offered leadership roles. She also requested an additional community member at-large position on the Board.
- Councilmembers Wilkerson and Thompson are planning a regional youth conversation with a focus on race and equity. Information will be shared with the Board.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board adjourned at 2:14p.m. for 15 minutes for an executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i).

MEETING RECONVENED

The meeting reconvened at 2:30 p.m. No action was taken.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on October 29, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm

APPROVED: *B Wick*
 Mayor Ben Wick, BOH Chair

Date: 10/29/20

 Ann Pitsnogle
 Ann Pitsnogle, Recording Secretary