

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on **Thursday, May 30, 2024** was called to order by Commissioner Josh Kerns, Chair, at 12:37 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Commissioner Josh Kerns, Chair
Commissioner Amber Waldref, Vice Chair
Council Member Michael Cathcart
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 Executive Committee of the Board of Health (ECBOH) met and set the agenda for the Board meeting.
- The BOH Budget & Finance Committee met and discussed items for consideration at today’s meeting.
- The BOH Policy & Education Committee had no report.

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 25, 2024
2024 Vouchers paid: April 1-30, 2024

Voucher Numbers:	#264100 - #264367	\$ 3,925,865.72
Advice Numbers:	#DD82327 - #DD82585	\$1,102,072.25
Payroll Warrants:	#1154632 - #1154634	
Advice Numbers:	#DD82586 - #DD82947	\$1,322,019.19
Payroll Warrants:	#1155384 - #1155395	
	TOTAL	\$6,349,957.16

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented.

Motion/Second: Blykowski-May/Cathcart

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). Legal counsel and the Administrative Officer were asked to remain for the session. At 12:56 p.m., the BOH chair requested an extension of the executive session for an additional 10 minutes. At 1:06 p.m., the BOH Chair requested an extension of the executive session for an additional 10 minutes. At 1:16 p.m., the BOH Chair requested an extension of the executive session for an additional 10 minutes.

MEETING RECONVENED

The meeting was reconvened at 1:28 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Amendment to the Administrative Officer Contract Clarifying Professional Continuing Education Benefit – Michelle Fossum, SRHD Legal Counsel

Motion: To approve the contract amendment as presented.

Motion/Second: Waldref/Cathcart

Approved: Unanimously

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

- The agency has created an internal Opioid Crisis workgroup to improve communication between programs, eliminate duplication of efforts, and build synergy with community partners.
- VillageReach has been selected as the agency's strategic plan facilitator. The process will include employees, Board members and community partners.
- Step one of the Treatment Services feasibility study has begun. Results will be brought forward for Board consideration in September.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Kim Kramarz, Finance Director and Controller

- The 2023 annual report was filed on May 29. The audit has not been scheduled but can be held after June 1. The 2025 budget development begins June 1.
- April expenses are at 31% and funding is at 29.6%. Unassigned reserves are at 21%. Total reserves are \$16.6 million.

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

- Since May 2003, there have been over 800 human cases of avian influenza worldwide with a 52% mortality rate. There is one case in Texas and two in Michigan. The second case in Michigan has respiratory symptoms which is different from the typical presentation of conjunctivitis. SRHD staff are providing education on the illness to local poultry and cattle farmers.
- There are 276 cases of pertussis in Washington State with several cases in Spokane County. Information has been shared with childcare providers and schools on the illness.
- The Fentanyl Roundtable has begun work on its identified goals. The SRHD Data Center is documenting current resources which will be shared with the workgroup and then shared with the community by mid-June.
- There have been 188 syphilis cases this year and cases are expected to surpass the 2023 number of 380 cases. There have been six cases of congenital syphilis. A public awareness campaign has been launched and training has been given to providers, emergency rooms, and urgent care facilities.
- A three-part series on PFAS has been started and the agency is participating in community events on the subject.

AGENCY REPORTS

- Naci Seyhanli, Security Analyst in the Information Technology Program, provided a report on the agency's cyber defense strategies and initiatives.

Board Member Blykowski-May departed the meeting at 2:32 p.m.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

- Council Member Cathcart is working on edits to the smoking in public places resolution that may be brought forward to the next Board meeting.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

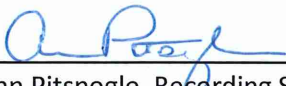
The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on June 27, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.

APPROVED: 
Commissioner Josh Kerns, Chair

Date: 6-27-24


Ann Pitsnogle, Recording Secretary