

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on **Thursday, June 27, 2024** was called to order by Commissioner Josh Kerns, Chair, at 12:34 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  
Commissioner Mary Kuney  
Board Member Patricia Kienholz

**ABSENT**

Council Member Michael Cathcart  
Board Member Monica Blykowski-May, MD, MBA  
Board Member Charlie Duranona

**CITIZEN INPUT**

No citizen input was received.

**BOARD REPORTS**

- The Executive Committee of the Board met and set the agenda for the meeting.
- The Board of Health (BOH) Budget & Finance Committee met and discussed the fee policy, staff training, conference room fees and the request for proposals (RFP) for the Treatment Services electronic health records system.
- The BOH Policy & Education Committee met but no members were available to report.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board adjourned at 12:40 p.m. for five 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.

**MEETING RECONVENED**

The meeting reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

**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: May 30, 2024  
2024 Vouchers paid: May 1-31, 2024  
Settlement Agreement

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Voucher Numbers:	#264368 - #264553	264556 – 264602	
EFTs:	EFT B&O April 2024	EFT TS RENT 0624	\$1,923,528.52
Advice Numbers:	#DD82948 - #DD83202		\$1,164,642.97
Payroll Warrants:	#1155982- #1155984	1156233 - 1156233	
Advice Numbers:	#DD83203 - #DD83457		\$1,123,335.97
Payroll Warrants:	#1156414 - 1156423		
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,211,507.46</b>

**Motion:** To approve the consent agenda as presented.

**Motion/Second:** Kuney/Waldref

**Approved:** Unanimously

## **ACTION ITEMS**

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

- The agency's Executive Leadership Team recently attended the Outward Mindset training.
- The Moss Adams internal controls assessment is ongoing, and the team has been interviewing division directors and staff.
- The VillageReach contract is fully executed, and strategic planning meetings will be scheduled with staff, Board members and community partners soon.
- The agency is moving forward with an RFP for an electronic health records system for Treatment Services.
- There have been nine SRHD, two WSU researcher and three townhall listening sessions related to the Treatment Services Feasibility Study. Better Health Together (BHT) and SRHD are working together to coordinate three in-person sector specific community listening sessions. SRHD's Equity team with guidance from the Data Center will be collecting feedback from Treatment Services clients. BHT will collect data from community members who may have received or sought services. Meetings have been held with Behavioral Health Group and CHAS. Meetings will be held with CAMAS and MulitCare.

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

- Agency expenses are at 39.1% and funding is at 36.4% through May. Public Health Appropriations and Foundational Public Health Services funding will be received in July. The unassigned fund balance is at 20%. Total reserves are \$16.2 million.
- The 2025 budget development process will begin in July and the 2023 audit will begin soon.

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

- There has been one child in India and one in Australia who contracted Avian flu and needed significant care. One death in Mexico has been report. There have been no human-to-human transmissions yet.
- There have been seven confirmed Pertussis cases in the last 15 days.
- The Fentanyl Roundtable has completed its resource mapping which will be sent to partners for review next week. SRHD will maintain the tool and update it quarterly. The roundtable will next look at reimbursement, bridge/recovery housing and youth and young adult prevention.
- The SRHD team is working on a syphilis awareness campaign. There have been seven congenital syphilis cases reported this year.
- SRHD and EWU are working on a mosquito surveillance project to detect West Nile Virus. A provider alert will be released on dengue fever. There have been 2,000 cases reported in the U.S. Except cases in Florida and Puerto Rico, all have been in people who have traveled abroad.
- The Data Center was invited to present nationally on its opioid dashboard. The goal of the dashboard is to share timely and complete data on opioid events.
- The Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response team participated in a tabletop exercise with community partners identifying gaps in the Power Safety Shutoff Plan.
- The Immunization team is completing a five-year grant to provide vaccine outreach to the Slavic population, and is continuing to work with schools on an immunization dashboard.
- The SHAPE Coalition is convening community partners to meet and prioritize public health challenges. The team has worked on hepatitis C and syphilis.

### **AGENCY REPORTS**

- Kelli Hawkins, Public Information Officer & Government Affairs Director, provided a report on wildfire smoke campaign efforts.
- The BOH Roles and Responsibilities report was moved to the July Board of Health meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN**

- The Board requested legal counsel draft changes to the bylaws to address questions about and interest from individuals to provide verbal public comment.
- NALBOH Conference information and benefits of attending were shared. Board members who would like to attend were asked to contact Dr. Thompson. – Commissioner Waldref

**NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on July 25, 2024.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:57 p.m.

APPROVED:

  
Commissioner Josh Kerns, Chair

Date: 7-25-24



Ann Pitsnogle, Recording Secretary