

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on **Thursday, December 5, 2024** was called to order by Commissioner Josh Kerns, Chair, at 12:36 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
Council Member Michael Cathcart
Board Member Monica Blykowski-May, MD, MBA
Board Member Patricia Kienholz

ABSENT

Board Member Charlie Duranona

CITIZEN INPUT

Written and verbal citizen input was received.

BOARD REPORTS

- The BOH Executive Committee met to set the Board agenda.
- The BOH Budget & Finance Committee met and reviewed vouchers, the financial report, proposed contracts, and the Treatment Services proforma and proposal that will be discussed at the Board meeting.
- The BOH Policy and 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: October 31, 2024
2024 Vouchers paid: October 1-31, 2024

Voucher Numbers:	#265530 - #265788	EFT B&O Sep2024	EFT TSRENT 1024	\$ 3,429,031.50
Advice Numbers:	#DD85567 - #DD85833			\$1,187,645.31
Payroll Warrants:	#1162323 - #1162326			
Advice Numbers:	#DD85834 - #DD86101			\$1,164,602.26
Payroll Warrants:	#1162822 - #1162833			
			TOTAL	\$5,781,279.07

Motion: To approve the consent agenda as presented.
Motion/Second: Kuney/Waldref
Approved: Unanimously

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Board adjourned at 12:50 p.m. for 10 minutes for an executive session pursuant to RCW §42.30.110(1)(i). Dr. Thompson and legal counsel were asked to remain for the executive session. At 1:00 p.m., the BOH chair requested an extension of the executive session for an additional 10 minutes. At 1:10 p.m., the BOH Chair requested an extension of the executive session for an additional five minutes. At 1:15 p.m., the BOH Chair requested an extension of the executive session for an additional five minutes.

MEETING RECONVENED

The meeting reconvened at 1:24 p.m. No action was taken.

ACTION ITEMS

Election of 2025 Chair – Commissioner Kerns, Board Chair

Motion: To approve Commissioner Waldref as the Board Chair for 2025.

Motion/Second: Kuney/Cathcart

Approved: Unanimously

Election of 2025 Vice Chair – Commissioner Kerns, Board Chair

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

Motion/Second: Kuney/Waldref

Approved: Unanimously

Resolution #24-12 Adopting the 2025 Board of Health Legislative Agenda – Lola Phillips, Deputy Administrative Officer

Motion: To adopt the 2025 Board of Health Legislative Agenda.

Motion/Second: Cathcart/Blykowski-May

Approved: Unanimously

Treatment Services Feasibility Study Step One Decision – Dr. Alicia M. Thompson, DrPH, LMSW

Motion: To defer consideration of Item D to the March meeting keeping it on the agenda as a report in January and February to provide an update on items reported by the Administrative Officer and for changes at the state level.

Motion/Second: Cathcart/Kienholz

Rejected: Unanimously

Motion: To defer action on the agenda item to a date to be determined and have monthly updates as part of the Administrative Officer report and agenda report items on a quarterly basis.

Motion/Second: Kerns/Blykowski-May

After discussion, Commissioner Kerns withdrew the motion. Council Member Cathcart seconded the withdrawal.

Motion: To defer Action Item D to the December 2025 meeting of the Board of Health and keeping with monthly updates as part of the Administrative Officer Report and agenda reports on a quarterly basis with a more in-depth update on the Treatment Services Feasibility Study and implementation of items presented as part of the PowerPoint.

Motion/Second: Kerns/Kienholz

Approved: 5 yea/1 Naye (Waldref)

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

- The following staff were recognized for their exemplary work: Hailey Clawson, Jacey Bacon, Joy Pangelinan, Jen Hansen, Keith Harris, Maddy Jarrard, Brendon Minton, Jackie Dunn, Amy Jennings, Kelli Hawkins, Brandon Heide, Ben Porter, Termaine Turntine, Travis Opel, Steve Heidal, Jasmina Kahvedzic, and Terry Kerr.
- The proposed SRHD strategic plan will be brought forward to the Board in February. The Board will be invited to a special virtual staff forum on January 9 for an overview of the strategic plan.

FINANCIAL REPORT – Kim Kramarz, Controller and Finance Director

- The budget is 77% of expenses and 79% of revenue. The agency expected \$300,000 in interest this year but has received \$434,000 due to rate increases. Unassigned reserves are \$14 million (25% of budget) and total reserves are \$18.8 million.

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

- A pertussis outbreak was declared two weeks ago in Spokane County. There have been 1,500 cases statewide. Spokane County is in a high-density case rate area.
- Product recalls include cucumbers from Mexico, Kirkland organic eggs and McDonald eggs.
- All products in the listeria outbreak have been recalled and destroyed. The investigation has been closed.
- The 2024-2025 Community Health Needs Assessment will be reported to the Board in January.
- The Data Center has been working with community partners, Spokane Valley and City of Spokane to create a dashboard to better understand homelessness and programs that exist to provide support.

Councilmember Cathcart departed the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

- Board Member Kienholz provided information from the County Leaders' Conference she recently attended.


NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on January 30, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

APPROVED:


Commissioner Amber Waldref, Chair

Date: 1/30/25



Ann Pitsnogle, Recording Secretary