

## **REPORT FOR THE BOARD OF HEALTH**

### Administration Committee Meeting

Regular meeting of March 25, 2020

**Committee members present:** Scott Bader, Elisabeth Crawford, Christine Frizzell, Sam Low, Jeff Vaughan

**Committee members absent:** None

**Staff present:** Shawn Frederick, Tracey Kellogg, Ragina Gray, Rich Son, Linda Carl

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The meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m.

#### **Motions passed at this meeting:**

- Approved the minutes for the regular meeting of Feb. 26, 2020
- Approved vouchers and Res. 20-08 authorizing March 2020 Health District expenditures, and forwarded to the full Board on consent
- Approved Finance Manager's report for January 2020, and forwarded to the full Board as a written report
- Adopted Res. 20-09 approving the Snohomish Health District to serve as its own custodian of funds, and forwarded to the full Board for action
- Authorized the Administrative Officer to approve filling two budgeted positions for full-time public health nurses in the maternal child health program, and forwarded to the full Board on consent
- Authorized the Administrative Officer to approve filling budgeted, vacant position for a 1.0 FTE environmental health specialist in the food safety program, and forwarded to the full Board on consent

#### **Briefings**

*Review the committee's purpose and scope of authority document (no staff report)*

Mr. Frederick reviewed the edits and noted most were grammatical or administrative changes. Verbiage was added to allow telephonic committee meetings. The committee had no additional edits or changes to their scope of authority document.

#### *Update on COVID-19*

Mr. Frederick reported that in Snohomish County there are 713 confirmed/probable cases and 18 deceased. Every city in the county has at least one reported case. About 52% of the cases (374) are recovered. The Health District is continuing case investigations with our epidemiologists making contact. We continue to try to contain the disease process by quarantining those without symptoms so they don't infect others. About 77% of the cases are identified as community acquired.

We've expanded testing capabilities by adding drive-through testing this week in conjunction with DOH and other partners. We tested 125 on Monday, 220 on Tuesday, and 225 expected today. We received 2,000 tests, with a limit of 250 per day (per FEMA and HHS direction).

We've entered into a unified command with DEM. We're working with the County and public/private partners regarding medical surge planning. The Navy hospital ship was rerouted to California, but we're identifying sites for 1,000 beds—the majority of which would be in King County, but also in Pierce and Snohomish Counties. The Health District is providing assistance to the human services element within

the unified command (ESF6), such as assessment and final planning of isolation sites. We're working with LHJs for coordinated care regarding patient movement across county lines.

We've implemented social distancing measures at the Health District, with many staff working from home. Staff continues to accomplish other necessary work, such as addressing the Hep A outbreak.

In response to committee questions, Mr. Frederick reported that no staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. ESF6 at the unified command is focused on the homeless and vulnerable populations; planning for isolation sites is part of this. There is a need for personal protective equipment, and we're in contact with DEM to obtain more for first responders, including healthcare workers. DEM is taking the lead on collecting donated supplies. There were two additional deaths as of last night's report; Mr. Frederick noted there is a lag in reporting.

Last week DOH agreed to take on all investigations so that we can focus on high-density clusters and long-term-care facilities. However, DOH is sending a portion back to us because they're unable to keep up with the caseload. We're looking at ways to increase staff to help address this.

**Next meeting date:** Wednesday, Apr. 22, at 3:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.