

**Meeting Minutes**  
**December 17, 2020**  
**Regular Meeting**

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call/video.

**Committee members present via Zoom**

Megan Dunn  
John Joplin  
Jared Mead  
Dan Rankin  
Linda Redmon

**Committee members absent**

None

**Additional Board members present**

Stephanie Wright

**Guests present**

From the Office of the Washington State Auditor: Kristina Baylor, Program Manager; Angélique Thompson, Audit Lead; Amanda Robinson, Audit Supervisor

From the Community Equity Advisory Board: John Agyapong and Clarence Shaw

**Staff present**

Shawn Frederick, Chris Spitters, Heather Thomas, Nicole Thomsen, Pam Aguilar, Ragina Gray, Katie Curtis, Tracey Kellogg, Pia Sampaga-Khim, Linda Carl

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**Call to Order**

The regular meeting of the Program Policy Committee was called to order by committee chair Ms. Linda Redmon at 3:02 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

**Roll Call**

Roll call was taken by Ms. Linda Carl who reported there was a quorum present.

**Arrivals/Departures**

Ms. Dunn arrived at 3:09 p.m. Mr. Rankin arrived at 3:25 p.m.

**Special Business**

*2019 audit exit conference with State auditors*

The auditors reviewed the 2019 audit results and reported that the financial audit showed no material misstatements. The grants audit and PHEPR audit received unmodified, clean opinions. The accountability audit showed no issues. Status of prior findings showed significant improvement and proactive work by the Health District. Once complete, the full audit will be available to the public on the State website.

## **Approval of Minutes**

It was moved by Mr. Dan Rankin and seconded by Ms. Megan Dunn to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 19, 2020. The motion passed with 5 yes votes, 0 no votes, 0 absent.

## **Briefing**

*Community Equity Advisory Board update (no staff report; N. Thomsen)*

The CEAB was formed August 2020 in support of the Board's Res. 20-17 Supporting Equity and Inclusion in Public Health within Snohomish County. This committee requested semiannual updates from the CEAB; the previous update was August 2020. Currently, the board is developing a comprehensive work plan, governance structure, and considering work on a translation policy. Ms. Nicole Thomsen and Ms. Pia Sampaga-Khim serve as staff liaisons to the board. Board members John Agyapong and Clarence Shaw, as members of the Steering Committee, spoke about the value and importance of equity.

*Committee work plan (no staff report; L. Redmon, D. Rankin)*

At the last committee meeting, Ms. Redmon and Mr. Rankin brought forward the priority list and agreed to move it forward to the Public Health Advisory Council for their input. Input from the PHAC included equity and climate change as top priorities, as well as making use of partnerships and communication efforts. Staff suggested creating a matrix of priorities and identifying where the Health District leads, partners, or supports the effort.

*Health Officer update (no staff report; C. Spitters)*

Dr. Chris Spitters reported that the number of positive cases continues to increase. As of Dec. 12, we were at 468 cases per 100,000 over the preceding 14 days, with younger adults showing the highest increase. Hospitalizations have leveled out at a census of about 100 countywide. LTCF cases have declined with about 25 new cases per week. Sixteen of the 17 skilled nursing facilities in the county remain in outbreak mode. Testing sites were expanded and now include Broadway, Everett Community College, Monroe, Lynnwood, and Sultan, with an average of 800 tests per day. The positivity rate is about 10%. Contact-tracing teams continue to work with individuals and workplaces, focusing on the most recent cases, which will have the greatest disease impact. The vaccine has arrived in the county and we'll begin phase 1 in healthcare settings among highest-risk staff—those directly involved with the care and treatment of COVID patients, as well as staff in those facilities. There will be four sites that will provide vaccinations to healthcare workers not in their employ. LTCF will also be included in phase 1. Thanksgiving did not appear to exacerbate the problem. The Governor released updated guidelines for schools and reinforced his previous policy for moving forward.

Mr. Shawn Frederick added that we're at 366 days of continued activation, with about 340 specific to COVID; this is the longest activation in the country. Mr. Mead reported that he's been in constant communication with the Governor's policy staff about gym guidelines.

## **Informational Items**

Ms. Redmon reviewed the upcoming meetings.

## **Next Meeting Date**

Thursday, January 21, at 3 p.m.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.