

Meeting Minutes
January 27, 2021
Regular Meeting

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call.

Committee members present

Scott Bader
Christine Frizzell
Sam Low
Nate Nehring

Committee members absent

John Joplin

Staff present

Shawn Frederick, Chris Spitters, Heather Thomas, Pam Aguilar, Tracey Kellogg, Ragina Gray, Katie Curtis, Nicole Thomsen, Michael Johnson, Linda Carl

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Administration Committee was called to order by Mr. Scott Bader at 3:31 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

Roll Call

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

Arrival/Departure

Mr. Nehring arrived at 3:40 p.m.; Mr. Bader departed at 4:42.

Agenda Additions

Mr. Frederick requested one addition to Briefings related to mass vaccination sites and a facility use agreement.

Special Business

Elect Chair and Vice Chair of committee for 2021

It was moved by Ms. Christine Frizzell and seconded by Mr. Sam Low to nominate Mr. Scott Bader as chair of the committee for 2021. The motion passed with 3 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 2 absent (Joplin, Nehring)

Mr. Low nominated Mr. Nate Nehring as vice chair. This item was deferred until Mr. Nehring is present to accept the nomination.

Confirm 2021 meeting schedule

The committee confirmed they will meet on the fourth Wednesday of every month at 3:30 p.m.

Review committee's purpose and scope of authority document

Mr. Shawn Frederick reviewed the document, which describes the committee's purpose.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Frizzell and seconded by Mr. Low to approve the minutes for the special meeting of December 2, 2020. The motion passed with 3 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 2 absent.

Action

Approve vouchers and Res. 21-06 authorizing January 2021 Health District expenditures, and forward to the full Board on consent (no staff report; T. Kellogg)

It was moved by Ms. Frizzell and seconded Mr. Low by to approve vouchers and Res. 21-06 authorizing January 2021 Health District expenditures, and forward to the full Board on consent. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent (Joplin).

Approve Finance Manager's report for November 2020, and forward to the full Board as a written report (SR 21-017; T. Kellogg)

Ms. Kellogg reported that the CARES Act billing of \$2M was just invoiced to the County and is not included in this report.

It was moved by Mr. Low and seconded by Ms. Frizzell to approve the Finance Manager's report for November 2020, and forward to the full Board as a written report. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent (Joplin).

Adopt Res. 21-07 designating Shawn Frederick as the District's agent to apply for and obtain Federal and/or State emergency or disaster assistant funds, and forward to the full Board on consent (SR 21-016; N. Thomsen)

FEMA is providing a grant funding opportunity for COVID-19-related expenses, including PPE, call center costs, and standup vaccination sites. Mr. Grant Weed has reviewed the agreement and flagged a few points for staff review, including the 25% match (which can come from CARES Act dollars and Medical Reserve Corps hours), as well as accounting practices. Res. 21-07 allows us to apply for these funds, if we choose to.

It was moved by Ms. Frizzell and seconded by Mr. Low to adopt Res. 21-07 designating Shawn Frederick as the District's agent to apply for and obtain Federal and/or State emergency or disaster assistant funds, and forward to the full Board on consent. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent (Joplin).

Authorize the Administrative Officer to apply for a DOH grant titled "Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Surveillance of Blood Levels in Children," and forward to the full Board on consent (SR 21-009; K. Curtis)

CDC has a grant opportunity for up to \$500K working with children and families regarding lead poisoning prevention. We previously ceased our lead-prevention program, and this grant would allow us to reestablish that with no added staff.

It was moved by Ms. Frizzell and seconded by Mr. Low to Authorize the Administrative Officer to apply for a DOH grant titled "Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Surveillance of Blood Levels in Children," and forward to the full Board on consent. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent (Joplin).

Authorize the Administrative Officer to apply for the HHS grant for "Advancing Health Literacy to Enhance Equitable Community Responses to COVID-19," and forward to the full Board on consent (SR 21-014; H. Thomas)

The Board was briefed last week on an HHS grant that will have a quick turnaround time for release, application, and award. The grant is for \$2M to \$4M and will be awarded to 73 different agencies for public health prevention measures related to COVID-19. It will be released sometime in mid-February and awarded by early March. The grant will allow us flexibility in education/outreach and to partner with

the Community Equity Advisory Board and other local partners. Staff requests Board approval to apply as soon as the grant becomes available.

It was moved by Ms. Frizzell and seconded by Mr. Low to authorize the Administrative Officer to apply for the HHS grant for “Advancing Health Literacy to Enhance Equitable Community Responses to COVID-19,” and forward to the full Board on consent. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent (Joplin).

Authorize the Administrative Officer to approve and sign the Memorandum of Understanding to extend the current contract with AFSCME through December 31, 2021, and forward to the full Board on consent (SR 21-015; P. Aguilar)

The AFSCME business rep has agreed to extend the contract through the end of 2021 with comp rates remaining the same unless other bargaining units receive a COLA increase. Wording regarding the Janis decision by the Supreme Court has been added, as well as the change of two PA1s to PA2s, which is in the 2021 budget.

It was moved by Ms. Frizzell and seconded by Mr. Low to authorize the Administrative Officer to approve and sign the Memorandum of Understanding to extend the current contract with AFSCME through December 31, 2021, and forward to the full Board on consent. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 0 absent (Joplin).

Authorize Environmental Health to discontinue providing testing services for drinking water samples, and forward to the full Board on consent (SR 21-012; R. Gray, B. Straughn)

Since 1991 the Health District has contracted with Edge Analytical for testing services of drinking water samples. Since that time, more drop-off sites have become available to the public, and we’ve seen a dramatic decline in use of our service. Additionally, the database we used is becoming obsolete. In March 2020 we temporarily discontinued the service when the front counter was closed due to COVID-19, and we’ve received no negative feedback. Should we elect to continue the service, the database will have to be updated. Staff proposes to permanently discontinue offering this service to the public.

It was moved by Ms. Frizzell and seconded by Mr. Low to authorize Environmental Health to discontinue providing testing services for drinking water samples, and forward to the full Board on consent. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent (Joplin).

Action

It was moved by Mr. Low and seconded by Ms. Frizzell to nominate Mr. Nehring as the committee’s vice chair for 2021. The motion passed with 4 yes votes, 0 no votes, and 1 absent (Joplin).

Briefings

State food code update and reciprocity changes (SR 21-011; R. Gray, B. Straughn)

The mobile food truck reciprocity law went into effect last March, requiring counties to honor permits issued by other counties. A review is still required, for which we charge \$195. However, the fee does not fit in the spirit of the law per legal counsel, and it will be removed from our fee schedule when it’s next reviewed by the Board.

Several new food codes went into effect on Jan. 15, and county food establishments were notified via email with a link to the updated food code. More changes will take effect by March 2022. A few big changes that went into effect this month include: lemonade stands are no longer considered a food establishment when operated by someone under 18 and for fewer than 30 days; dogs will be allowed inside breweries and taprooms that don’t sell food; and presence in mobile commissaries must be documented.

2021 legislative update (no staff report; N. Thomsen, H. Thomas)

Staff reviewed bills in the legislature related to public health and noted that the tracker includes hyperlinks to the bills. Ms. Heather Thomas sent an email to the Board regarding bills related to Board

of Health governance and funding. Staff will meet on Friday with our Snohomish County delegation. Should HB 1152 go into effect, it would eliminate the Health District in 2023; however, this might be intended as a conversation starter. Other options could be available, such as a city/county option or merger with other counties. Under this proposal, health officers would be state employees, appointed by the Secretary of Health. Mr. Low suggested the population threshold be lowered to 750K or 800K so Snohomish County will be exempt from changes. Mr. Nehring noted the County Council's opposition to the bill and asked if there's a middle ground. Other bills being tracked are those related to home kitchens, creation of a pandemic task force, a vape tax. A sugary beverage tax is being considered but the bill hasn't yet dropped. The Administration Committee offered to be available for a Zoom special meeting if needed to address these bills.

Health Officer briefing (no staff report; C. Spitters)

Dr. Chris Spitters reported that the two-week rolling case rate is going down, after a peak in mid/late December. Hospital admissions and LTCF cases are also declining. Deaths continue to occur but at a slower pace; there have been about 65 deaths in January. The numbers look good for getting kids back in school. If we continue with the downward trend, we could potential reach Phase 2 in the next several weeks. The vaccine should solidify this downward trend, although at this point it's too early to attribute the decline to the vaccine.

The B.1.1.7 strain from the UK is more transmissible than the current COVID-19 strain; two cases have been detected in our state. It likely will be the majority of COVID cases by this summer. The CDC continues to vet the data and estimates 0.2% of cases in our state will be this strain. Additionally, the strain from S. Africa could pose a bigger concern. We can control transmission through the current preventative measures and vaccinations. The serum from those recovered from COVID-19 are good for fighting the variant. Dr. Spitters suspects COVID-19 will look much like the flu in that we'll need to be vaccinated for different strains and get periodic boosters.

Supply of the vaccine continues to be an issue. We received 50K doses as of last week, with 42K administered (84%). We're well-positioned to distribute the vaccine once we have the supply.

In response to committee questions, Dr. Spitters noted that the contents of the second dose of the vaccine is not different than the first dose. Mr. Frederick noted we're working with Microsoft and the Governor's office on a software option for scheduling appointments. EMS is working to vaccinate those in settings such as adult family homes who are unable to travel to vaccination sites.

Mass vaccination sites and facility use agreement [added at beginning of meeting]

Mr. Frederick is working with a large manufacturer to secure space for up to 10K vaccinations per week. They've signed the agreement, and Mr. Frederick will do a walk-through tomorrow. Potentially, Angel of the Winds could be another high throughput site. The Arlington Airport site goes live this week.

Information Items

Next meeting date: Wednesday, Feb. 24, 3:30 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m.