



**Snohomish Health District
Board of Health Minutes
February 9, 2021**

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call/video.

Members Present

Scott Bader, Councilmember, Everett
Elisabeth Crawford, Councilmember, Mukilteo
Megan Dunn, County Councilmember
Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, Councilmember, Edmonds– BOH Vice Chair
Christine Frizzell, Councilmember, Lynnwood
John Joplin, Councilmember, Brier
Anji Jorstad, Councilmember, Lake Stevens
Sam Low, County Councilmember
Kyoko Matsumoto Wright, Mayor, Mountlake Terrace
Jared Mead, County Councilmember
Nate Nehring, County Councilmember
Dan Rankin, Mayor, Darrington
Linda Redmon, Councilmember, Snohomish
Jeff Vaughan, Councilmember, Marysville

Members Absent

Stephanie Wright, County Councilmember – BOH Chair

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 3:07 p.m. via Zoom conference call by Board member Nate Nehring.

Roll Call

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

Arrivals/Departures

Ms. Dunn left at 3:15 and returned at 4:01 p.m. Mr. Matsumoto Wright arrived at 3:59 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Scott Bader and seconded by Ms. Anji Jorstad to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 19, 2021. The motion passed with 13 yes votes, 0 no votes, 2 absent (Matsumoto Wright, S. Wright).

Public Comment

Public comment was accepted in writing prior to the meeting. Mr. Shawn Frederick read a letter received from Ms. Paula Townsell, Everett, regarding issues related to the COVID-19 vaccine availability for community seniors. There was no further written comment received, and Mr. Nehring closed public comment.

Written Reports

Mr. Nehring noted that the following written reports can be found in the Board packet:

- a. Finance Manager's report for November 2020
- b. Program Policy Committee draft minutes – Jan. 21



- c. Public Health Advisory Council draft minutes – Jan. 27
- d. Administration Committee draft minutes – Jan. 27
- e. Executive Committee draft minutes – Jan. 28

Consent

It was moved by Mr. Bader and seconded by Ms. Jorstad to approve the following items on consent:

- a. Approve vouchers and Res. 21-06 authorizing January 2021 Health District expenditures
- b. 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
- c. Authorize the Administrative Officer to apply for a DOH grant titled "Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention and Surveillance of Blood Levels in Children"
- d. Authorize the Administrative Officer to apply for the HHS grant for "Advancing Health Literacy to Enhance Equitable Community Responses to COVID-19"
- e. Authorize the Administrative Officer to approve and sign the Memorandum of Understanding to extend the current contract with AFSCME through December 31, 2021
- f. Authorize Environmental Health to discontinue providing testing services for drinking water samples

The motion passed with 13 yes votes, 0 no votes, 2 absent (Matsumoto Wright, S. Wright).

Action

Adopt Res. 21-08 recognizing Ms. Kyoko Matsumoto Wright for her service as Vice Chair of the Board in 2020 (no staff report; S. Frederick)

Mr. Shawn Frederick read the resolution into the record.

It was moved by Mr. Dan Rankin and seconded by Ms. Linda Redmon to approve Res. 21-08 recognizing Ms. Kyoko Matsumoto Wright for her service as Vice Chair of the Board in 2020. The motion passed with 12 yes votes, 0 no votes, 3 absent (Dunn, Matsumoto Wright, S. Wright).

Adopt Res. 21-09 authorizing the Administrative Officer to execute interlocal agreements with Snohomish County cities for per capita contributions to the District and ratifying previous actions related thereto (no staff report; G. Weed)

Legal Counsel Grant Weed noted that many cities and towns within the county participate financially to the Health District by contributing per capita funds. Provision in state law requires authorization by the governing body of the public entities entering into interlocal agreements and therefore requires the Board of Health to authorize the execution of the ILAs. Because there are many ILAs approved by the cities and towns at different times of the year, staff requests the Board give the Administrative Officer blanket authority to approve the ILAs as they're received without bringing each to the Board. Staff will provide regular updates to the Board.

It was moved by Ms. Jorstad and seconded by Ms. Christine Frizzell to adopt Res. 21-09 authorizing the Administrative Officer to execute interlocal agreements with Snohomish County cities for per capita contributions to the District and ratifying previous actions related thereto. The motion passed with 12 yes votes, 0 no votes, 3 absent (Dunn, Matsumoto Wright, S. Wright).

Briefings

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

The Health District had been charging a mobile food truck reciprocity fee for permits issued by other counties. However, the fee does not fit in the spirit of the law, and the Health District has stopped charging the fee. It remains on the fee schedule but will be removed when the fee schedule is next reviewed by the Board.

Additionally, the State Department of Health recently adopted several changes to its food safety regulations. Our code automatically adopts any changes the State makes. Some of the changes went into effect on Jan. 15, while others will go into effect in March 2022.

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

The bill tracker provided to the Board shows the bills in high, medium, or low/monitoring priority. The bills are hyperlinked on the bill tracker. HB 1110 relates to the composition of local boards of health; it's currently on hold, and some of the language is being incorporated in Substitute HB 1152, which should be released soon. HB 1152 includes "comprehensive health services district," similar to education service districts. It would have its own board, its own administrative officer, and a regional health officer appointed by the Secretary of Health. Local health jurisdictions would be under this service district. There is a provision for counties over 800,000 allowing them to be their own comprehensive health services district, but it appears there will still be a need to create an additional layer. Staff is still looking into clarification.

Administrative Officer's Report

Mr. Frederick reported that the Board representative for District 5 has not yet been certified, but Ms. Linda Redmon will continue on the Board until certification is complete. The leadership team provides regular presentations to the cities to keep them informed of what's happening in public health, and the presentations begin tonight, starting with the City of Edmonds. There is a Sound Foundation for Public Health board meeting this week to review some of their guiding documents and the MOU. Work started last year and continues on the community health assessment, as well as on the Rucker Building remodel. Policies for telework and use of vehicles will play into the remodel as we monetize available space in the building. Boeing now has a mass vaccination site, and we continue work to secure other large venues. Testing demand is lower than our current availability, and we're looking at transitioning some of our resources to support vaccination efforts. Mr. Frederick will be on vacation March 10-18; the continuity of operations plan will be updated accordingly.

Health Officer's Report

Dr. Chris Spitters reported that through January 23 there were just under 28,000 total cases, hospitalizations were around 1,500, and deaths were at 471 in the county. Long-term care settings account for 25% of hospitalizations and half of the deaths, even though they represent only 6% of total cases. Rolling case rate is down 60% from our peak at the end of last year. Case rates are down in all age groups. It continues to be too early for these results to be attributed to vaccination efforts. At this point, about 10% of the population has received one dose of the vaccine. Testing demand has declined in parallel with a decline in cases, and the positivity rate is also down.

Current variants of concern include primarily B.1.1.7, which is dominant in the UK, as well as B.1.351 and P.1. B.1.1.7 has been found in the state and will likely be the dominant strain in the U.S. in about six months. There is an additional variant recently found in California. The CDC and state public health laboratories are building surveillance capacity to track the strain and its impact, severity, vaccine immunity, etc. Locally we need to emphasize our prevention measures and roll out the vaccine quickly to suppress the total number of cases and try to reduce the pool of infections from which further variants could arise. Vaccine data is provided on the Health District's website. 80,000 first doses have been allocated and received in the county; 35,000 second doses. Of those, about 70,000 first doses and about 15,000 second doses have been administered. 25,000 doses were administered last week, but our goal is 50,000 or more. Supply remains the number-one issue; we're slated to receive 21,000 total doses this week. In the county, we have about 150,000 1b1-eligible individuals. Mass vaccination sites are prepared to do 50,000 per week, but it's dependent on supply. We continue to work with our partners to reach elders, those with mobility issues, or those with access barriers. A new scheduling system is slated to come on later this week.



Executive Session

The Snohomish Health District Board of Health convened into executive session for the purpose of collective bargaining matters pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b). Executive session is expected to last up to 5 minutes. Unless extended to a later time, the Board will reconvene into regular session at 4:25 p.m. and is not expected to take action. The Board reconvened at 4:25 and did not take action.

Information Items

Mr. Nehring announced upcoming meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Stephanie Wright, Chair

Shawn Frederick, Administrative Officer / Secretary