

**Meeting Minutes
March 24, 2022**

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call.

Committee members present

Anji Jorstad - Chair
Kyoko Matsumoto Wright
Stephanie Vignal – Vice Chair
Stephanie Wright

Committee members absent

Megan Dunn

Staff present

Shawn Frederick, Katie Curtis, Chris Spitters, Nicole Thomsen, Julia-Grace Sanders, Pam Aguilar, Pia Sampaga-Khim, JR Myers, Ragina Gray, Sara Centanni, Sarah de Jong, Grant Weed (legal counsel)

Call to Order

The special meeting of the Executive Committee was called to order by Ms. Anji Jorstad at 12:00 p.m. via Zoom video conference.

Comings and Goings

Megan Dunn arrived at 12:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Ms. Sarah de Jong who reported there was a quorum present.

Revisions to the Agenda

Item 6d – Review committee's purpose and scope of authority was removed from the agenda

Approval of Minutes

Approval of minutes of the special meeting of January 6, 2022

It was moved by Ms. Stephanie Wright and seconded by Ms. Stephanie Vignal to approve the minutes of the special meeting of January 6, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of minutes of the special meeting of January 7, 2022

It was moved by Ms. Wright and seconded by Ms. Vignal to approve the minutes of the special meeting of January 7, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of minutes of the special meeting of January 31, 2022

It was moved by Ms. Vignal and seconded by Ms. Wright to approve the minutes of the special meeting of January 31, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval of minutes of the special meeting of February 28, 2022

It was moved by Ms. Vignal and seconded by Ms. Wright to approve the minutes of the special meeting of February 28, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Ms. Jorstad noted that no public comment was received.

Action

Approval policy POL 130.002 concerning purchasing, and forward to the full Board on consent (SR 22-011; N. Thomsen, S. Centanni)

This policy has been presented as a briefing at all three committees. One question was raised regarding whether the Administrative Officer had sufficient authority to approve invoices exceeding the \$50k mark. This question was posed to legal counsel and their response was that the language in the policy was sufficient. A change was also made that gives a more concise limit to the amount a manager or executive assistant can approve.

It was moved by Ms. Wright and seconded by Ms. Vignal to approval policy POL 130.002 concerning purchasing, and forward to the full Board on consent. The motion passed unanimously.

Approve Ordinance No. 22-01 regarding secure medicine return regulation, and forward to the full Board for action (SR 22-015; R. Gray)

Ms. Ragina Gray provided a summary of why this ordinance is being requested. The Health District previously ran a secure medicine return program, with the caveat that if the State ever developed their own program, then this program would be dissolved. The State did so and the program was removed from the November 2021 fee schedule. However, because the program is a part of the District Code, an ordinance is needed to revise that section.

It was moved by Ms. Vignal and seconded by Ms. Wright to approve Ordinance No. 22-01 regarding secure medicine return regulation, and forward to the full Board for action. The motion passed unanimously.

Authorize the Administrative Officer to execute amendment #2 to the consolidated contract with the Washington State Department of Health, and forward to the full Board on consent (SR 22-016; K. Curtis)

Ms. Katie Curtis listed the changes in funding in this amendment.

It was moved by Ms. Vignal and seconded by Ms. Kyoko Matsumoto Wright to authorize the Administrative Officer to execute amendment #2 to the consolidated contract with the Washington State Department of Health, and forward to the full Board on consent. The motion passed unanimously.

Authorize the Administrative Officer to apply for the SAMSA First Responders-Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Support Services Act Grant (SR 22-026; K. Curtis) [Added to the agenda]

The Health District has the opportunity to apply for a grant through SAMSA to continue some of the work that staff have been doing regarding opioid use and misuse and availability of naloxone in the county. This would allow the purchase of naloxone for first responders, including police and EMS providers. It would also allow the Health District to work with community partners that help people get into recovery. The award amount is up to \$800,000 per year, with a cap of \$400,000 for local government organizations, and the length of the project is around four years with no matching funds required. The application for this award is due April 4, which is why it's being presented to this Committee for action today.

It was moved by Ms. Vignal and seconded by Ms. Wright to authorize the Administrative Officer to apply for the SAMSA First Responders-Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Support Services Act Grant. The motion passed unanimously.

Briefings

Request for proposal – COVID health literacy grant (SR 22-014; K. Curtis)

The Health District was previously awarded a federal grant to perform government interventions around the community regarding health literacy specifically related to COVID. As part of that work, the Health District was able to partner with five organizations and now plan to put out a request for proposal to add

additional partners to continue work on this grant, with specific focus on Latino and Pacific Islander communities. Once these community partners are identified, staff will come back to see Board approval to enter into the agreements.

Grants overview and 2022 funding priorities (SR 22-018; J. Sanders)

Ms. Julia-Grace Sanders gave a presentation that provided an overview of the first year for the newly-created grants coordinator position and outlined the funding priorities for grants for 2022.

Legislative update (no staff report; N. Thomsen)

Ms. Nicole Thomsen updated the Board on the final week of legislative session. All the bills that staff had been tracking and predicted would pass did so, including House Bill 1074 regarding opioid fatality review and House Bill 1893, regarding allowing EMTs to help support public health's work in communicable disease prevention, both of which will now go to the Governor to review and sign if approved.

After a lot of discussion and amendments made from both chambers, it was recommended that the cannabis bill be worked on for future consideration.

Regarding the budget, COVID funds which were previously expected to be around \$250-300M has been reduced to around \$120M. This is to reflect that FEMA has extended their participation in support of COVID activities through the end of June.

Legislation has set aside around \$40,000 for the implementation of House Bill 1074. These funds are to help the State Department of Health with staffing and resources to implement this program.

Bills to keep in mind for next legislative session include a bill on doxing (protection of public health and public government personal addresses) and a bill on micro-enterprise home kitchens.

The implementation of Bill 1152 have presented several challenges. The bill requires a restructuring of the Board of Health unless the local health jurisdiction has a public health advisory council (PHAC) to perform specific duties. The Health District has rejiggered the PHAC bylaws to be compliant with the law. However, there are other local health partners across the state that did not have an existing PHAC and are in the process of restructuring their boards of health to meet the intent of the law. Because of this, these requirements may come back as a topic at the next legislative session.

Other bills to keep in mind for next legislative session include a bill on doxing (protection of public health and public government personal addresses) and a bill on micro-enterprise home kitchens.

Review committee's purpose and scope of authority (no staff report; S. Frederick)

[Removed from the agenda]

Position description for a Foundation Manager position to support the Sound Foundation for Public Health (SR 22-019; S. Frederick)

Mr. Shawn Frederick provided an overview of the Sound Foundation, an update on the position description, and the hiring process for this budgeted position.

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

COVID case counts continue to drop. The CDC has released a framework for classifying the COVID community level. This framework shifts away from case rate monitoring and focuses instead on hospitalizations. It takes the number of cases per 100,000 population and matches it against new COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population or the percent of staff inpatient beds occupied by COVID patients to come up with a low, medium, or high rating. Based on this model, Snohomish County currently classifies as a low risk.

The Health District is demobilizing its vaccination and testing operations as the focus shifts to monitoring and education activities. It is also performing contingency planning as a safeguard in the event that the healthcare system capacity was exceeded.

The BA.2 variant is a subvariant of Omicron and while it constitutes an increasing proportion of cases is not anticipated to cause a major surge as it doesn't seem to be a more severe variant than Omicron. Many experts agree that there is a large chance for there to be a resurgence of COVID cases and hospitalizations in the fall and winter, especially as most vaccinated people will have gone between six to twelve months since their last dose. This surge, if it occurs, could also coincide with a wave of the flu, which could result in stress on the healthcare system.

The Healthy Youth Survey is a national written survey that is given to students in grades 6, 8, 10, and 12 every two years, although it was skipped in 2020 due to COVID and was instead done in 2021. Key findings from that report are that drug and alcohol use and physical fighting among youth are down by about half. Mental health concerns such as depression, anxiety, and suicidal ideation have increased between 10-20% over the previous reporting levels. There is a general expression that most children are hopeful about the future and are engaged in school.

Executive Session

The Snohomish Health District Board of Health Executive Committee will recess and convene into Executive Session for the purposes of pending litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and collective bargaining matters pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(a). Executive Session is expected to last up to 10 minutes. Unless extended to a later time, the Executive Committee will reconvene into regular session at 1:16 p.m. and is not expected to take action. The Board reconvened at 1:16 p.m. and did not take action.

Information Items

Next Board of Health meeting date: Tuesday, April 12, 3 p.m.

Next committee meeting date: Thursday, April 28, 12 p.m.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:17 p.m.