



**Snohomish Health District
Board of Health Minutes
April 12, 2022**

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call/video.

Members Present

Julieta Altamirano-Crosby, Councilmember, Lynnwood
Elisabeth Crawford, Councilmember, Mukilteo
Megan Dunn, County Councilmember
Mark James, Councilmember, Marysville
Anji Jorstad, Councilmember, Lake Stevens
Heather Logan, Councilmember, Arlington
Sam Low, County Councilmember
Kyoko Matsumoto Wright, Mayor, Mountlake Terrace
Jared Mead, County Councilmember
Nate Nehring, County Councilmember
Joe Neigel, Councilmember, Sultan
Neil Tibbott, Councilmember, Edmonds
Stephanie Vignal, Councilmember, Mill Creek
Stephanie Wright, County Councilmember – BOH Chair
Ben Zarlingo, Councilmember, Everett

Members Absent

None

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 3:01 p.m. via Zoom conference call by Board Chair Stephanie Wright.

Roll Call

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

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Anji Jorstad and seconded by Mr. Ben Zarlingo to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 8, 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment

Public comment was accepted in writing prior to the meeting. Chair Wright reported no written comments were received.

Consent

It was moved by Ms. Julieta Altamirano-Crosby and seconded by Ms. Jorstad to approve the following items on consent:

- a. Approve vouchers and Res. 22-12 authorizing Health District expenditures from February 16, 2022, to March 15, 2022
- b. Approve policy POL 130.002 concerning purchasing



- c. Authorize the Administrative Officer to sign amendment #2 to the consolidated contract with the Washington State Department of Health

The motion passed unanimously.

Action

Approve Ordinance No. 22-01 regarding secure medicine return regulation (SR 22-015; R. Gray)

Mr. JR Myers, Environmental Health Assistant Director, provided a brief overview of the secure medicine return program. The Health District previously developed the program with the caveat that if the State ever developed its own program, this program would be dissolved. The State did so and now an Ordinance is required to remove the section from District Code.

It was moved by Ms. Jorstad and seconded by Mr. Neil Tibbott to approve Ordinance No. 22-01 regarding secure medicine return regulation.

Mr. Ben Zarlingo shared appreciation for the thorough briefing he received on this item at the last committee meeting.

The motion passed unanimously.

Authorize the Administrative Officer to utilize the Department of Enterprise Services contract for Kaeka to provide security guard services at the Rucker Building (SR 22-028; S. Frederick)

Mr. Shawn Frederick shared that the Health District has had increasing difficulties with the consistency and quality of security service at the Rucker Building. The Health District tried to utilize the same security company at COVID mass-testing and -vaccination locations but they were unable to provide those services on a consistent basis. This led to the Health District utilizing Kaeko as the primary security provider for COVID activities. Health District staff would like to switch security services for the Rucker Building to Kaeko and would be able utilize their services under a master agreement with the State. This change would result in an increase of approximately \$8,000 more per year for these services.

It was moved by Mr. Tibbott and seconded by Mr. Zarlingo to authorize the Administrative Officer to utilize the Department of Enterprise Services contract for Kaeka to provide security guard services at the Rucker Building. The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative Officer's Report

Mr. Frederick briefed the Board on the following:

- No new interlocal agreements have been signed since the last Board of Health meeting. Two amendments to interlocal agreements related to FEMA reimbursement have been signed.
- Staff are working through the process of hybrid meetings and are currently working to obtain the equipment needed to move forward. There are some repairs needed to the auditorium as well, such as replacement of carpet and painting of walls.
- The Health District has continued demobilization efforts and are no longer operating any large testing or vaccination sites. Two trailers have been equipped with an approximate 60-day supply and are ready for response activities.
- At the final meeting of the budget ad hoc committee last year, it was suggested to have a meeting early in 2022 for placement on the front end of the budget development process. Mr. Frederick invited Board



members that have an interest in learning more about the Health District's budget process to reach out to the Board Chair so that ad hoc committee can be formed.

- The National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) is having a virtual annual symposium on May 12. In the past, this symposium has been very informative in understanding the nuances of the role of being on the board of health. Mr. Frederick invited Board members that are interested in attending to reach out to either the Board Chair, Ms. Sarah de Jong, or himself.

Health Officer's Report

There has been a small increase in COVID-19 cases the past couple of weeks. The majority of cases in both the State and the U.S. are now caused by the BA.2 variant of the Omicron strain. The number of cases will continue to be monitored and while some bumps in cases is expected, a large increase in cases is not, due in part because so many people have recently been infected by Omicron or have received a booster dose.

Hospitalizations are being closely monitored and are a key metric on how the State is doing. The hospital admission rate has dropped 90% from the peak of the last wave and the current rate is at three hospital admissions due to COVID per 100,000 residents per week. In addition to new admissions, hospital bed availability is also being monitored. At the peak, about 30-35% of hospital beds available in the county were occupied by COVID patients. That percentage has come down to about 5%.

Long-term care associated cases are dramatically down and school-based outbreaks are also very low.

Looking at CDC's COVID-19 Community Levels and Indicators shows that Snohomish County is classified in the "low" category, meaning it has less than 10 new COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population within a 7-day period and the 7-day average of staffed inpatient beds occupied by COVID-19 patients is under 10%. An increase in those metrics would be an indication to signal to the community the resuming of some non-pharmaceutical interventions to control the spread.

About 80% of the eligible population in Snohomish County are now fully vaccinated and about 54% of those have received an additional booster dose.

Executive Session

The Snohomish Health District Board of Health will recess and convene into Executive Session for the purposes of potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and pending litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i). Executive Session is expected to last up to 5 minutes. Unless extended to a later time, the Board will reconvene into regular session at 3:39 p.m. and is expected to take action. The Board of Health extended Executive Session 5 minutes and 2 minutes and reconvened into regular session at 3:46 p.m. and the following action was taken:

It was moved by Ms. Jorstad and seconded by Ms. Heather Logan to approve the settlement offer in Hood v. Snohomish Health District in the amount of \$25,000 and to authorize staff to enter the stipulation and order of dismissal in the court case. The motion passed unanimously.

Written Reports

Chair Wright noted that the following reports can be found in the Board packet:

- a. Finance Manager's Report for January 2022 (SR 22-020; S. Centanni)
- b. Program Policy Committee draft minutes – Mar. 15
- c. Administration Committee draft minutes – Mar 23
- d. Executive Committee draft minutes – Mar 24
- e. Public Health Advisory Council draft minutes – Mar 23



Information Items

Chair Wright announced upcoming meetings and noted that the Board of Health will meet at a special meeting this afternoon at 4:30 p.m. for a presentation on the COVID response.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Stephanie Wright, Chair

Shawn Frederick, Administrative Officer / Secretary

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