



RICHLAND COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES  
1201 West Holly, Room 202, SIDNEY, MONTANA 59270  
March 8, 2022

Board Members Present

Shane Gorder  
Loren Young  
Duane Mitchell  
Melissa Boyer  
Ray Trumpower  
Terry Meldahl

Advisory Members Present

Brittney Petersen  
Brandon Roth  
Julie Brodhead  
Stephanie Ler  
Heidi Moran

Board Members Absent

Kari Johnson

Advisory Members Absent

Jacquelyn Free  
Janet Christoffersen  
Jeff Hintz

Guests: Jessica Gilbert, Volunteers in Action

2:25PM Shane Gorder called the meeting to order. A quorum was established.

*Reviewed Agenda:* The agenda was approved. Terry Meldahl made a motion to approve the agenda and Ray Trumpower 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

*Minutes:* The February 8, 2022 minutes were approved with no changes. Melissa Boyer made a motion to approve the February minutes with no changes, Ray Trumpower 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.

**Health Department Administrator Report**

*General Health Department Updates –Brittney Petersen*

RCHD staff are working on submitting continuation grants for our RSVP and Drug Free Communities Programs due in March and April. Communities in Action, with guidance from the Steering Committee, is planning for our CASPER (Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response) this summer. This group is finalizing questions and will have a date set soon. RCHD hosted a home test kit distribution on February 11th in the parking lot of the Events Center. About 150 kits were given at this event. We have since provided kits to Boys and Girls Club and the Sidney Senior Center and have a tote in the lobby of the Community Services Building for the public to take tests as needed. As of March 8, RCHD distributed 920 test kits.

*Program Report – Jessica Gilbert, Volunteers in Action*

Jessica provided an update on Volunteers in Action program activities, including the mission of the program, the impact that volunteers make across several focus areas from access to care and food support to capacity building and Veteran Services. Jessica also provided data on the hours and money saved in Richland County thanks to our dedicated volunteers. Richland, Daniels, and Sheridan Counties, with help from AmeriCorps members, are all moving forward with activities specific to the Crisis Diversion Grant. Each county is conducting an assessment or reassessment of current resources and gaps.

*Performance Management*

RCHD continues to review our internal policies each month and our Quality Improvement team is drafting an internal training calendar for the remainder of the fiscal year.

**Communicable Disease -Julie Brodhead, RN - New reporting year (2022 Jan 2- Dec 31, 2022)**

- See Spreadsheet for Disease Reports
- Richland County Flu -64 for the year, 72 for the season, 5 hospitalizations
- MT State flu –3824 cases, 108 hospitalizations, 3 deaths for season, week ending 2/26/2022; Lab reports show Influenza A statewide, minimal Influenza B showing up
- *Note: flu season is from 10/1/2021- 5/31/2022*

**COVID -19 Cases for 2022:**

- See Spreadsheet for COVID comparisons from local to global level
- As of 3/8/2022 - Richland: 2,618 cases, 31 deaths, (up 50 since last meeting)
- Richland County had 3 people hospitalized since February 8th
- COVID cases for Richland County Schools as of 2/25/2022 was 202

**Vaccinations**

Vaccination for Richland County:

1/10/2022: 9,268 total given, 4,060 fully vaccinated, 4,311 with one dose

2/8/2022: 9,587 total doses given, 4,123 fully vaccinated = 40%; 4,384 with one dose

3/7/2022: 9,799 total doses given, 4,190 fully vaccinated = 41%; 4,455 with one dose

Vaccinations for State of MT:

1/10/2022: 1,348,068 doses given, 542,930 fully vaccinated = 53%

2/8/2022: 1,392,217 doses given, 55,056 fully vaccinated = 54%

3/7/2022: 1,410,287 doses given, 556,902 fully vaccinated = 55%

Vaccinations for State of ND:

2/7/2022: 1.02 million doses given. 64% with one dose, 54.1% fully vaccinated

3/6/2022: 1,038,892 doses given. 61.4% with one dose, 58.8% fully vaccinated

Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The following Quarter 3 deliverables are due April 15, 2022:

- After-Action report either on the COVID clinics or the mass flu clinic
- POD Box inventory
- Participate in a Public Health Law Training February 22nd or February 24th
- Risk Communication Improvement Plan
- The Checklist for Communicable Disease Protocols was signed by the BOH chairperson today. RCHD will have the health Officer sign off on this before the end of March.

The Eastern Healthcare Coalition Executive committee had a virtual meeting on 3/2/2022, Julie serves on a subcommittee which will meet and discuss how to spend the excess funding between \$8-10,000 before June 30th. The spending must benefit the 18 counties in the coalition.

Upcoming PHEP meetings with Healthcare Coalition general meeting will be May 4-5, 2022 in Miles City.

MT PUBLIC HEALTH Summer Institute will be in Billings July 18-22, 2022

**Health Officer Report: Absent**

**Sanitarian Report:** Stephanie updated the BOH on the Richland vaccine uptake information for eligible Montanans by age groups. Stephanie updated the Board on the license she refused to validate last month. The individual did not appeal and the license is closed. She said she had her first Senate Bill 199 request for information on the sale of raw milk. Heather is working on a joint project with MSU for private water testing.

**County Attorney Report: Absent**

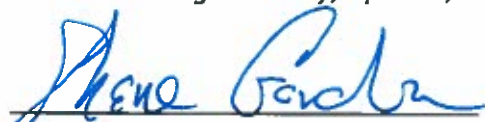
**Old Business: None**

**New Business: None**

**Public Comment: None**

Adjourn at 3:25 pm.

*Next meeting: Tuesday, April 12, 2022 from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm*



Shane Gorder, Commissioner



Heidi Moran, Recording Secretary

