

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

BOARD OF HEALTH - EASTERN IDAHO PUBLIC HEALTH

Notice is hereby given that Eastern Idaho Public Health’s Board of Health will hold a special meeting via video conference on Thursday, October 1, 2020, at 7:00 a.m. at its Bonneville County office, 1250 Hollipark Drive, Idaho Falls, Idaho. The meeting room will accommodate seating for approximately 15 people. Social distancing will be required and masks must be worn. Any person who does not wish to social distance or wear a mask will not be allowed to enter and is invited to observe the meeting through live streaming. No outdoor viewing option will be available. No verbal public comments will be accepted during the meeting. Written public comment can be submitted to EIPHBoard@eiph.idaho.gov before 5:00 pm on Wednesday, 9/30/20, for consideration at the meeting.

**AGENDA
Thursday, October 1, 2020
7:00 a.m.**

View Live on EIPH’s YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaiWpioiGwhF95yxXgM01VA>

1. Call to Order and Roll Call.....Chairman Reed
2. Approval of September 24, 2020 Board of Health Minutes (**Action**).....Chairman Reed
3. Review of Public CommentChairman Reed
4. Reports from Hospitals re: ICU and Overall Capacity.....Chairman Reed
 - A. Idaho Falls Community Hospital
 - B. Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center
 - C. Madison Memorial Hospital
5. COVID-19 Update and Review of Data..... Geri Rackow & James Corbett
6. Discussion and Vote regarding potential actions to protect life, health, and safety within the District as to the COVID-19 pandemic, to include consideration of orders that include, but are not limited to, mandating face coverings and limiting social events and gatherings in Bonneville, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton Counties (**Action**)Chairman Reed

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
September 24, 2020
7:00 a.m.

Virtual Meeting – Streamed Live on EIPH’s YouTube Channel at
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCaiWpioiGwhF95yxXgM01VA>

PRESENT:	<u>BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS</u>	<u>STAFF MEMBERS</u>
	Bryon Reed, Commissioner, Chairman	Geri Rackow
	Bill Leake, Teton County, Trustee	James Corbett
	Lee Miller, Commissioner	Angy Harwood
	Ken Miner, Commissioner	Cheryl O’Connell
	Shayne Young, Commissioner	Amy Gamett
	Barbara Nelson, MD, Vice Chair	Kellye Johnson
	Greg Shenton, Commissioner	
	Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner	
	Wayne Butts, Commissioner	

1. Call Board Meeting to Order

Chairman Reed called the meeting order at 7:00 a.m. Commissioner Shenton is absent from today’s meeting. Board members are attending this meeting virtually and it is being streamed lived through EIPH’s YouTube Channel. EIPH staff is present at the Idaho Falls office where there is also a space for the public to view in person.

2. Approval of September 14, 2020 Board of Health Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Dr. Barbara Nelson made a motion to approve the September 14, 2020, Board of Health meeting minutes.

SECOND: Mr. Leake

ACTION: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Review of Public Comment

Chairman Reed reviewed and responded to the public comments and questions received. He noted that several of the comments were addressed individually through email and the others will be addressed today. Topics included concerns about the public not following the EIPH mandates, splitting county information by location on the dashboard, and the concern that large gathering are still taking place.

4. Reports from Hospitals re: ICU and Overall Capacity

a. Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center (EIRMC)

David Hoffenberg, Chief Operating Officer (COO), reports EIPH is full with about 200 patients in the main hospital; they have 20 COVID-19 patients, with 7 in the ICU on ventilators. The adult Med/Surg beds are full but they do have a plan in place to open a 12-bed overflow unit, if needed. They are seeing patients from Bingham and Bannock Counties. They are holding steady but very busy.

b. Idaho Falls Community Hospital (IFCH)

Casey Jackman, (COO), reports IFCH is 50% full and have seen an uptick in the last two weeks, with currently 4 COVID-19 patients in the ICU, 3 of them on ventilators. They have seen a range in age of the COVID-19 patients, they currently have a 45-year-old patient and had a 22-year-old; the patients are typically older. IFCH is holding steady with resources.

c. Madison Memorial Hospital

Dr. Rachael Gonzales reports Madison Memorial is at 85% capacity with 2 COVID-19 patients. They had a death of a woman in her 50s this week from COVID. It has been a challenge for them to place individuals who need inpatient Mental Health Services in their area. The drive through COVID-19 testing currently being done at BYU has been helpful to meet demands for testing.

5. COVID-19 Update, Myth Busting, and review of Data

- Dr. Barbara Nelson, Dr. Martha Buitrago, and Dr. Lofgran provided information and answered questions concerning the confusion over mixed messages related to COVID-19. Information is evolving and we need to stay current and follow the science.
- Mr. Corbett provided information and clarification on the isolation period for people who are considered cases opposed to those who are close contacts. A person considered a COVID case needs to isolate for 10 days following symptom onset, with symptom improvement and no fever for 24 hours. The incubation period for COVID-19 is 14 days, so a person considered a close contact of a case should isolate for 14 days from the last contact from the case since at any time during the incubation period they could become symptomatic. He also reported that some school districts and other businesses have created their own isolation policies for cases and close contacts which is different than this guidance; however, they are not endorsed by Eastern Idaho Public Health.
- Ms. Rackow reviewed the data dashboard and EIPH COVID-19 Regional Response Plan metrics and the active cases for the counties. Teton and Lemhi Counties have each broached the Moderate Risk Level threshold for one day.
- Ms. Rackow reviewed testing positivity rate for the health district (found at coronavirus.idaho.gov). She anticipates regional testing capabilities to improve with the addition of high throughput testing capacity at Express Labs in the very near future. The current average turnaround time for testing in our area is two days.
- Mr. Corbett and Ms. Rackow continue to work closely with the schools to help with their response plans but the decisions for school plans is up to the School Boards. School staff is aiding EIPH with contract tracing of students and staff.

6. Consideration of Rescinding Orders of Restriction in Custer County

- Review and discussion of the County cases.
- Custer County has been under the threshold of 15/10,000 for Active Cases for 8 days.
- Ms. Rackow reviewed the draft orders for lifting restrictions in Custer County.
- Commissioner Reed hopes everyone will continue to do all the mitigations strategies on their own.

MOTION: Dr. Barbara Nelson made a motion to rescind the Order of Restriction for Custer County.

SECOND: Mr. Leake

ACTION: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Adjournment

Chairman Reed thanked Dr. Nelson, Dr. Buitrago, and Dr. Lofgran for providing information to help educate the Board and the public. The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 7:00 a.m.

Commissioner Bryon Reed, Chairman

Gerri L. Rackow, Secretary