

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
 July 30, 2020
 7:00 a.m.
 Zoom Meeting

PRESENT:	<u>BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS</u> Bryon Reed, Commissioner, Chairman (Zoom) Bill Leake, Teton County, Trustee (Zoom) Lee Miller, Commissioner (Zoom) Ken Miner, Commissioner (Zoom) Shayne Young, Commissioner (Zoom) Barbara Nelson, MD, Vice Chair (Zoom) Greg Shenton, Commissioner (Zoom) Brent Mendenhall, Commissioner (Zoom) Wayne Butts, Commissioner (Zoom)	<u>STAFF MEMBERS</u> Geri Rackow James Corbett Steve Thomas Kellye Johnson (Zoom) Cheryl O'Connell Amy Gamett (Zoom)
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1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chairman Reed called the meeting order at 7:02 a.m. Roll call conducted.

2. Approval of July 21, 2020 Board of Health Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Bill Leake made a motion to approve the July 21, 2020 BOH meeting minutes with a correction: Commissioner Shenton left the meeting early and was not present at the time of the roll call vote on the motion to approve the Order of Restriction for Bonneville County.

SECOND: Dr. Nelson

ACTION: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Review Public Comments

- Commissioner Reed reviewed and responded to the public comments received prior to noon on Wednesday, July 29, 2020. Topics included masks, both for and against, concerns the mask order was not being followed, mental health, mortality rates, delays in testing, and hospital capacity.
- Comments also included concern over the plans for schools reopening.
 - The State Board of Education is providing guidance to the schools and school boards are taking guidance from Public Health.
 - Commissioner Mendenhall and Commissioner Miner do not feel that Public Health should mandate what the schools are doing.
 - The topic of school reopening will be on the agenda for the next Board of Health Meeting. Ms. Rackow will also invite school superintendents and child medical professionals to participate in the meeting.

4. Hospital Reports

A. Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center (EIRMC)

- David Hoffenberg, Chief Operations Officer, reports the hospital has seen a significant increase in hospitalizations of positive patients, averaging 3-4 admissions per day over the last 7 days. This is the largest surge they have had and a majority of the patients are from Bonneville County. They have specific areas designated as COVID-19 wards for and isolating patients. At this time, supplies and pharmaceuticals are available and ventilator capacity is good. They currently limit visitors to one per patient.
- EIRMC supports the continued use of masks in the community to help slow the spread of the virus.

B. Idaho Falls Community Hospital (IFCH)

- Casey Jackman, Chief Operations Officer, reports that since the COVID-10 outbreak, IFCH has seen 88 positive patients with 55% of those in the month of July. They have seen a recent large increase. They are not allowing visitors in the hospital at this time except for births and end of life events. They currently have 8 COVID-19 positive patients on their medical floor but none in ICU. In July they have seen 156% increase in admits in COVID-19 positive patients, and a 92% increase in ICU patients. They are not limiting nonessential surgery but have measures in place to monitor and screen cases. They are concerned about the future resources to take care of all patients.
- IFCH supports the use of masks and social distancing in order to decrease the cases.

C. Teton Valley Health (TVH)

- Keith Gnagey reports an increase in COVID-19 testing. They will be admitting one COVID-19 positive case today.
- TVH is fully supportive of maintaining the mask order.

5. COVID-19 Update

- Ms. Rackow reports there has been a significant increase in cases and hospitalizations and reviewed EIPH's numbers since March.
- Mr. Corbett updated the Board on active cases and the response metrics.
- Information on the website has been updated with testing data from the state. Testing has improved slightly and results are available within 4-6 days on average.
- Discrepancies regarding EIPH's numbers and the State's numbers happen because we do not report a case until we have been able to make contact with the individual; the state is reporting positive lab results. Timing of when cases are reported can also lead to discrepancies.

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 Teton and Bonneville Counties

There was discussion about limitations on social gatherings/events. Following discussion, no action was taken.

The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, August 6, 2020 at 7:00 a.m. Chairman Reed asked Board members to come prepared to discuss consideration of revising the COVID-19 Response Plan to include reversal of orders and limitations on social gatherings/events.

Chairman Reed adjourned the meeting at 9:03 a.m.



Commissioner Bryon Reed, Chairman



Geri L. Rackow, Secretary