

SPECIAL MEETING
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
August 27, 2020
7:00 a.m.
Zoom Meeting

PRESENT:

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

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)

STAFF MEMBERS

Geri Rackow
James Corbett
Angy Harwood (Zoom)
Cheryl O'Connell
Amy Gamett (Zoom)
Kellye Johnson (Zoom)

1. Call Board Meeting to Order

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

2. Approval of August 20, 2020 Board of Health Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to approve the August 20, 2020, Board of Health meeting minutes.

SECOND: Dr. Barbara Nelson

ACTION: MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Review of Public Comment

Chairman Reed reviewed and responded to the public comments and questions received. Topics included Lemhi County concerns regarding the County Fair, questions regarding the Legislative Session, and the Idaho Falls School District 91 Reopening Plan. Discussion followed.

4. Reports from Hospitals re: ICU and Overall Capacity

a. Idaho Falls Community Hospital (IFCH)

Casey Jackman, Chief Operating Officer (COO), reports a down tick in hospital admissions and COVID-19 patients. Through the ER, they are doing 10-14 tests per day and the positivity rate is low. IFCH currently has 3 COVID-19 patients, most patients are from the counties they serve in the district and two from outside the district. Resources and hospital capacity is good.

b. Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center (EIRMC)

David Hoffenberg, COO, reports a slight down tick in COVID-19 hospitalizations; they are busy with burn and trauma patients. EIRMC currently has 18 COVID-19 positive patients, the majority are Bonneville County residents. Resources are stable.

c. Madison Memorial Hospital

Dr. Rachael Gonzales reports they have been averaging 1-3 COVID-19 patients, currently they have none. A significant amount of outpatient testing is occurring but the percent of positive has not changed.

All three of the hospital representatives agree that misdiagnosing patients for financial gain is not happening in our area.

5. **COVID-19 Update and review of Data**

- Ms. Rackow reviewed the data dashboard as it relates to our metrics. The information is continually modified to make it as user friendly for people accessing the information. With more probable cases being identified as a result of Antigen testing, this information has been added to the overview. Also incorporated in the data is the current average test turnaround time, which is currently 2.8 days. Ms. Rackow reports an overall decrease in cases and individuals seeking testing over the last couple of weeks.
- Mr. Corbett reviewed the current metrics and cases for each County. Cases and the testing positivity is down. It appears that mitigation strategies are working.
- EIPH will continue to monitor the metrics daily and continue to recommend mitigation strategies.

6. **Consideration of Rescinding Orders of Restriction in Clark, Fremont, and Lemhi Counties**

- Review and discussion of the County cases.
- The Fremont County order has been in place for 17 days. They have been below the metric of the active rate of 10/10,000 for 10 days.
- The Lemhi County order has been in place for 14 days. They have been below the metric of the active rate of 15/10,000 for 11 days.
- The Clark County order has been in place for 11 days. They dropped to zero cases in the county for five days, but then two new cases were reported. There is not a specific active rate metric set for the County, but EIPH administration/staff feels comfortable lifting the order as long as the county remains under 5 active cases.
- Ms. Rackow reviewed the draft orders for lifting restrictions in Fremont, Lemhi, and Clark Counties.

MOTION: Commissioner Miner made a motion to move Fremont, Lemhi, and Clark Counties back to the Green, Minimal Risk Level, of the COVID-19 Regional Response Plan. Fremont County would be effective immediately; and Lemhi and Clark County effective August 31, 2020.

SECOND: Commissioner Butts

ACTION: MOTION CARRIED

Dr. Barbara Nelson is not in favor of lifting the restrictions and encourages a stronger mask message as schools open up.

7. **Update on EIPH COVID-19 Educational Campaign**

Mimi Taylor provided updates on the COVID-19 educational campaign. The campaign materials have been shared online, with counties, and partners throughout our health district.

Adjournment

Commissioner Reed adjourned the meeting at 8:04 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 7:00 a.m.



Commissioner Bryon Reed, Chairman



Geri L. Rackow, Secretary