

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 6, 2020**  
**7:00 a.m.**  
**Zoom Meeting**

**PRESENT:**

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

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chairman Reed called the meeting order at 7:03 a.m. Roll call conducted.

**2. Approval of July 30, 2020 Board of Health Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Commissioner Miller made a motion to approve the July 30, 2020 BOH meeting minutes.

**SECOND:** Dr. Nelson

**ACTION:** MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**3. Approval of Amended Agenda**

Ms. Rackow requested an amendment to the agenda to include Dr. David Peterman and Dr. Matt Larsen in the presentation and discussion related to schools and children.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to amend the agenda to include Dr. David Peterman and Dr. Matt Larsen as presenters.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Young

**ACTION:** MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**4. Review Public Comments**

- Commissioner Reed reviewed and responded to the public comments received prior to noon on Wednesday, August 5, 2020. Topics included masks, both for and against, school openings, school athletics, mental health, make-up of the Board of Health, and case counts.
- Commissioner Mendenhall recognizes the Board will receive criticism but expressed concern regarding public comments that personally attack members of the Board. These types of comments are unacceptable and will be given no validity.

**5. Discussion Regarding COVID Related to Schools and Children**

**a. Idaho State Board of Education's (ISBE) Role/Guidance**

Debbie Critchfield, ISBE Chair, provided information on reopening framework designed to support local school districts/board make educational decisions. It is a tool that could be applied uniformly without mandates and help support local school boards.

**b. Local Public Health's Role in School Planning**

- Ms. Rackow and Mr. Corbett reported they have been working closely throughout the pandemic. Of late, they have been reviewing and providing feedback on schools' reopening plans.
- Eastern Idaho Public Health's (EIPH) Regional Response Plan is a four-phased plan, but does align with the Back to School Framework's three-phased plan. EIPH's Moderate and High Risk Levels correlate to the ISBE's Category 2.

- Local School Boards are the ones responsible for the decision on when/how their schools will reopen and function during the pandemic.

c. The Medical Perspective

- Dr. Christine Hahn, State of Idaho Epidemiologist and Dr. David Peterman, Primary Health in Boise, provided information regarding COVID-19 and how it affects children.
- Both doctors agree that masks should be worn by children in school but acknowledge there will be some exceptions.
- Dr. Hahn and Dr. Peterman answered questions and provided information on the use of hydroxychloroquine to treat COVID-19; both agreed it is not a proven treatment for the virus.

d. The Mental Health Perspective

- Dr. Matt Larsen, Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist at Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center, provided the Board with information regarding the mental issues affecting children and adolescents. From a mental health perspective Dr. Larsen has seen an increase in domestic and child abuse and negligence do to a decrease in in-home care. Symptoms of depression and anxiety include isolation, hopelessness, avoidance, and isolation. A balance is needed to let people get together as much as possible while decreasing transmission of COVID-19.

e. Comments from School Superintendents/Board Members

- Dr. Hahn, Dr. Peterman, and Dr. Nelson provided information and answered questions for school superintendents and the Board members.
- Commissioner Reed encouraged Board of Health members to reach out to the superintendents in their counties if they are interested in specific plans for reopening schools.

6. COVID-19 Update and Review of Data

Mr. Corbett provided information on active case rates. Fremont County is in its second day of being above 10/10,000 active cases. Teton County has been below the 10/10,000 active cases for 17 days. There are currently 25 patients hospitalized with COVID-19 in our Health District.

7. Review/Revise EIPH COVID-19 Regional Response Plan

Ms. Rackow reviewed proposed revisions to the current plan and the Board discussed the proposed changes.

**MOTION:** Mr. Leake made a motion to accept proposed revisions to the EIPH COVID-19 Regional Response Plan, as shown, with the amendment of adding to the plan, "the Board also will consider input from the counties and cities when going to a lower level."

**SECOND:** Dr. Nelson

There was discussion regarding the motion. Based on input from the Board, Mr. Corbett recommended changing the square foot requirement per person for gatherings and events from 113 square feet to 28 square feet.

**AMENDED MOTION:** Mr. Leake made a motion to accept the proposed revisions to the EIPH COVID-19 Regional Response Plan with the change of square feet from 113 to 28 square feet and with the amendment of adding to the plan, "The Board also will consider comments from local elected officials."

**SECOND:** Dr. Nelson

**ACTION:** MOTION CARRIED WITH ROLL CALL VOTE

Chairman Reed	Yes	Commissioner Miller	Yes
Commissioner Miner	No	Commissioner Young	Yes
Commissioner Mendenhall	Yes	Commissioner Shenton	Yes
Bill Leake	Yes	Dr. Nelson	Yes

8. 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

Ms. Rackow proposed changes to the Bonneville County Order to include the exception of masks for persons actively engaged in competition, training, or practice than involves strenuous physical activity.

**MOTION:** Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to accept the proposed revisions to the Bonneville County Order and to use it as a template for any future orders.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Shenton

**ACTION:** MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Teton County has been below the threshold of 10/10,000 active rate for 17 days. Mr. Leake reports elected officials are in favor of leaving the Teton County Order in place. They currently have 30 outstanding tests.

**MOTION:** Mr. Leake made a motion to keep the Teton County Order in place with the addition of adding the exception for masks and changes to square footing for mass gatherings.

**SECOND:** Dr. Nelson

**ACTION:** MOTION FAILED BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Chairman Reed	No	Commissioner Miller	No
Commissioner Miner	No	Commissioner Young	No
Commissioner Mendenhall	No	Commissioner Shenton	No
Bill Leake	Yes	Dr. Nelson	Yes

**MOTION:** Commissioner Mendenhall made a motion to rescind the Order for Teton County effective August 10, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

**SECOND:** Commissioner Miner

**ACTION:** MOTION PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE

Chairman Reed	Yes	Commissioner Miller	Yes
Commissioner Miner	Yes	Commissioner Young	Yes
Commissioner Mendenhall	Yes	Commissioner Shenton	Yes
Bill Leake	No	Dr. Nelson	No

Ms. Rackow requested the Board to consider a time certain order for Fremont County as their numbers have been above the 10/10,000 active rate for the past two days.

**MOTION:** Commission Miller made a motion to initiate the Order of Restriction as presented for Fremont County if they meet or exceed 10/10,000 rate for active cases today, August 6, 2020. The order would go into effect August 7, 2020 at 9:00 a.m.

**SECOND:** Dr. Nelson

**ACTION:** MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Chairman Reed adjourned the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled on Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 7:00 a.m

  
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Commissioner Bryon Reed, Chairman

  
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Geri L. Rackow, Secretary

