

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES - DATE: May 16, 2022

3:00 p.m. – Convened/Board of Health.

Present: Chris Skidmore, Annie Pillers, Corrine McMichael and Dr. Bowman

DIVISION UPDATES:

Minutes:

1. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve the Board of Health minutes of March 21, 2022.

Health Officer Update:

2. Chris Skidmore reported the case rate is continuing to decline with the case rate being at 136 cases per 100,000. He stated he does expect a small up tick from the previous weeks with the new variant mostly in long term care facilities, child centers and schools. He does anticipate an ebb and flow in the fall with students returning to school. Masks and tests are available at the Health Department and libraries.

TB cases around the State of WA are increasing, the State is on high alert for this, this is the largest alert in the last 20 years. Cases are primarily being seen in correctional institutions. The treatment is long term and must be monitored, Dr. Bowman stated.

Mr. Skidmore also shared there has been a H5N1 (Bird Flu) diagnosed across the State in animals. At this time this is being treated as an animal based issue only.

Environmental Health Update:

3. Corrine McMichael shared Environmental Health is busy doing food field inspections as well as training of new staff. New staff is also being trained onsite and in the field on septic inspections. Ms. McMichael also shared the onsite training can take a long time holding up taking exams, so she is hoping they can test next year. When the weather changes, training will also begin on water inspections, recreational and drinking water.

Administrative Update:

4. Mr. Skidmore shared the Health Department is looking for a part time dietician and once the courthouse is complete, he is considering an additional Environmental Health technician.

All Public Health Staff has also completed the Blood Borne Pathogen training.

Ms. McMichael said she is working on the Community Health needs survey. She is also working on the Palouse Resource Guide.

HIPAA Update:

5. Nothing to report.
6. Commissioner Swannack shared the Board of Health code must be updated by July 1, 2022, he is working on this and will have more information at the July 18, 2022 meeting

Next Meeting/Adjournment:

7. The next Board of Health meeting is May 16, 2022.
The Board adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

7. Future Meetings:

July 19, 2021

September 20, 2021

November 15, 2021

Corey Mitzimberg
Clerk of the Board

Tom Handy, Chairman
Board of Health