



CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES of January 16, 2024 @ 1:30 pm – 3:30 pm

Clallam County Courthouse

Board of Commissioners Meeting Room 160

223 E. 4th Street Port Angeles, WA 98362

Meeting was held via Zoom (Video conference)

REGULAR MEETING OF THE CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Roll Call: Members present were Chair, Mike French; Commissioner Mark Ozias; Commissioner Randy Johnson; Vice-Chair, Shahida Shahrir; Community Stakeholder, Dr. Gerald Stephanz; Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Paul Cunningham; Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Tia Skerbeck; Consumer of Public Health, Helen Kenoyer; Health Officer, Dr. Allison Berry; HHS Director, Kevin LoPiccolo; HHS Deputy Director, Jennifer Oppelt; Environmental Health Director, Jennifer Garcelon

Members excused: City Council Member Representative, Jeff Gingell

Request for Modifications/Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the agenda, Commissioner Ozias seconded, agenda approved.

ACTION TAKEN: The Board had unanimous consent to approve the agenda.

Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for October 17, 2023

Commissioner Mark Ozias made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Commissioner Randy Johnson seconded, minutes approved.

Action Items: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2024

A motion was made to authorize the 2023 Chair to continue for a second consecutive term. Motion was moved by Paul Cunningham, seconded by Gerald Stephens. Motion passed.

A motion was made to approve the reelection of Mike French as Chair for 2024. Motion was moved by Gerald Stephanz, seconded by Commissioner Randy Johnson. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to authorize the 2023 Vice-Chair to continue for a second consecutive term. Motion was moved by Paul Cunningham, seconded by Gerald Stephanz. Motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to approve the reelection of Shahida Shahrir as Vice-Chair for 2024. Motion moved by Gerald Stephanz,, seconded by Paul Cunningham. Motion passed unanimously.

Public Comment for Agenda Items:

None.

Health Officer – Infectious Disease Update – Dr. Berry

Dr. Berry reported that we have 3 viruses in our area – Covid, flu and RSV. We are seeing an uptick in Covid-19 emergency room and hospitalizations but it's not as severe as other areas in the rest of the country. About 1/3 of our population has received the updated vaccine. RSV and flu have likely peaked in our area, based on the data. Please remember there are people out there that are at a higher risk than others to get sick through transmission; those who are immunosuppressed, people over 75, and the very young (kids under 1 year of age). Please stay up to date on vaccines, mask in a crowded public space, and stay home when you are sick. The newest variant of Covid-19 is JN1. It is most dominate and more transmissible. If you have had the vaccine update from the end of Fall, you will have good protection against JN1. Clallam County has had a relatively mild flu year. Public Health in Port Angeles carries all pediatric vaccines but RSV. Discussion followed.

Board of Health Hearings: None

Board of Health Presentations:

1. Clallam County Prosecutor Office – Opioid Death Overview – Mark Nichols

Mark Nichols presented the County Coroner Update and data. Discussion followed.

2. Harm Reduction Report/Dashboard Overview – Public Health Staff

Moni Madjdi and Siri Forsman-Sims presented on the Harm Reduction Program and about the overdose data collection and reporting systems. Discussion followed.

Discussion Items:

None.

Old Business and Information Items:

None.

Environmental Health Director - Jennifer Garcelon

Environmental Health has 2 unfilled positions and received 2 of the 6 or 7 positions that were indefinitely deferred. One in onsite septic permitting and we will have less staffing support. The other position is a customer service specialist who is going to administrative and provide customer service and database support to the new database. This affects our response time for complaints/code enforcement.

Environmental Health staff are having their annual staff meeting on January 25th to work on their annual report. Discussion followed.

HHS Director- Kevin LoPiccolo

None.

Public Comment

None.

Adjournment

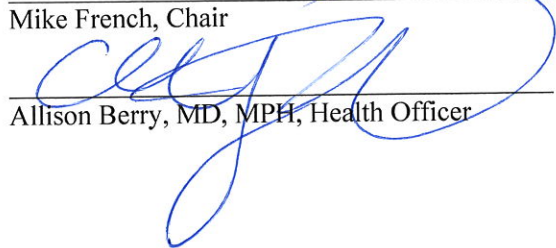
Meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Next Meeting – February 20, 2024

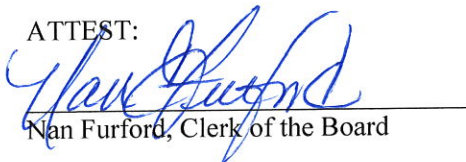
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 20TH day of FEBRUARY, 2024

CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH


Mike French, Chair


Allison Berry, MD, MPH, Health Officer

ATTEST:


Nan Furford, Clerk of the Board