



CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
AGENDA of January 21, 2025 @ 1:30 – 3:30 pm
Clallam County Courthouse
Board of Commissioners Meeting Room 160
223 E. 4th Street
Port Angeles, WA 98362

Board of Health meeting will also be available virtually at:

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom audio only, call 253-215-8782 and join with Meeting ID: 935 7343 5754 and Passcode: 095863

If you would like to participate in the meeting via Zoom video conference, visit <https://zoom.us/j/93573435754> join with Meeting ID: 935 7343 5754 and Passcode: 095863

This meeting can be viewed on a live stream at this link: <https://clallamcountywa.gov/meetings>

Public comment and questions can be directed to the Clerk of the Board at 360-417-2276 or nan.furford@clallamcountywa.gov

- Call to Order
- Roll Call
- Request for Modifications/Approval of Agenda
- Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for December 17, 2024
- Action Items: Election of Chair and Vice-Chair for 2025
- Public Comment for Agenda Items – *Please limit comments to three minutes*
- Health Officer: Infectious Disease Update
- Old Business and Information Items: None
- Discussion Items:
 1. Peninsula Behavioral Health Housing Update, Wendy Sisk
 2. Opioid Settlement Future Funding
- Board of Health Presentations: None
- Board of Health Public Hearings: None
- Environmental Health Director
- HHS Director

- Future meeting agenda items:
 1. Vaccination Rates
 2. Air Quality and Noise Ordinance
 3. Climate Change
 4. Update on Behavioral Health Organization (BHO)
 5. Olympic Peninsula Healthy Communities Coalition
- Public Comment – *Please limit comments to three minutes*
- Adjournment

NEXT MEETING – February 18, 2025

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SPEAKING AT A BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING:

- Members of the public wishing to address the Board on general items may do so during the designated times on the agenda.
- Members of the public wishing to comment at the public hearing are asked to sign in on the sheet provided giving their name and place of residence.
- The Chair may limit the comment period to 3 minutes for each speaker subject to Board concurrence.
- Speakers, generally, will be heard in the order they signed up. All comments must be made from the speaker's rostrum and any individual making comments shall first state their name and address for the official record.
- General comments, applause, booing from members of the audience are inappropriate and may result in removal.

These guidelines are intended to promote an orderly system for conducting a public meeting/hearing so that each person has an opportunity to be heard and to ensure that exercising their right of free speech embarrasses no one.

Note: Written testimony presented by members of the public during the Board meeting is considered a public document and must be submitted to the Clerk of the Board. Copies of public documents from Board meetings are available by contacting the Public Records Department.

Members:

Chair, Mike French; Vice-Chair, Shahida Shahrir; Dr. Gerald Stephanz; Tia Skerbeck; Paul Cunningham; Jeff Gingell; Mark Ozias and Randy Johnson

Health and Human Services Staff:

Dr. Allison Berry, Health Official; Kevin LoPiccolo, Director; Jenny Oppelt, Deputy Director; Jennifer Garcelon, Environmental Health Director; Nan Furford, Clerk of the Board

DECEMBER 17, 2024 DRAFT MEETING MINUTES



CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

AGENDA of December 17, 2024 @ 1:30 – 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 Randy Johnson; Commissioner Mark Ozias; Vice-Chair, Shahida Shahrir; Community Stakeholder, Dr. Gerald Stephanz; Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe, Paul Cunningham; Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe, Tia Skerbeck; Health Officer, Dr. Allison Berry; HHS Director, Kevin LoPiccolo; HHS Deputy Director, Jennifer Oppelt; Environmental Health Director, Jennifer Garcelon

Members absent: City Council Member Representative, Jeff Gingell

Request for Modifications/Approval of Agenda

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

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

Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for October 15, 2024

Gerald Stephanz made a motion to approve the meeting minutes, Commissioner Randy Johnson seconded. Minutes approved.

Action Items:

None.

Public Comment for Agenda Items:

None.

Health Officer – Infectious Disease Update – Dr. Berry

Dr. Berry reported we are seeing a rise in influenza cases around the country, including locally. We have our first long term care facility outbreak for influenza, and we are seeing more cases that need hospitalization. So far it is a milder season. Make sure you are up to date on your flu vaccine and have masks available for those crowded indoor settings.

Starting to see a Covid-19 and RSV, with an uptick on RSV, although not as much as influenza. Can expect to see it rise through the holiday season.

We continue to monitor the situation with avian influenza, thankfully we have not seen any in our wastewater detection in Washington State test positive. There is extensive wastewater detection in California for avian flu and throughout much of the state they are seeing positive avian influenza in their wastewater and multiple other sites around the county. We continue to see avian influenza in wild bird populations, where there is waterfowl or interaction with waterfowl. If you have poultry at home, keep them separate from wild waterfowl. Discussion followed.

Old Business and Information Items:

None

Discussion Items:

1. Olympic Medical Center Annual Update

Darryl Wolfe, CEO of Olympic Medical Center and Dr. Scott Kennedy talked about Olympic Medical Center.

Discussion followed.

Board of Health Presentations:

None

Board of Health Public Hearings:

None.

Environmental Health Director - Jennifer Garcelon

She is very happy that the two positions, one for Water Quality and one Environmental Health, were in the budget that was passed for 2025. The State updated their onsite codes, so we must update our code. The biggest changes were to require statewide inspections, which we already do, and the minimum land area has changed. State Board of Health is working on the school rule revisions and funding this depends on funding from the State. Discussion followed.

HHS Director – Kevin LoPiccolo

Kevin spoke about the adopted 2025 budget the commissioners approved. Overall, HHS had a favorable outcome for the department operations. The Onsite position that was deferred was approved as part of the 2025 budget. In Public Health we have a Public Health Support Specialist being promoted to a Medical Assistant. This leaves the Public Health Support Specialist to be reassigned to the Harm Reduction Health Center. There was a promotion for the Public Health Nurse II to a III, and a promotion for one of the WIC positions to a WIC Coordinator. Public Health has hired a new nurse, and HHS will be posting a new position to oversee Public Health Emergency Responses for Clallam County.

Public Comment

Ed Bowen – Re: Turning back \$347,555.00 for Covid vaccines. Does the HHS Public Health Clallam County, by taking this action and turning this back, no longer have a Covid vaccine program within the HHS Public Health system? Kevin LoPiccolo responded that the reason it was a refund was needed was because this was never budgeted. HHS utilizes other funding programs to cover Covid-19.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Next Meeting – January 21, 2025

PASSED AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2025

CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Mike French, Chair

Allison Berry, MD, MPH, Health Officer

ATTEST:

Nan Furford, Clerk of the Board

ZELENKA
DECEMBER 20, 2024
EMAIL

Furford, Nan

From: K Zelenka <kfzelenka@yahoo.com>
Sent: Friday, December 20, 2024 11:08 AM
To: Furford, Nan
Subject: Public Comment for Clallam County Board of Health 12/20/24

Hello Nan,

Would you please forward this to the Board as a public comment and part of the public record?

Thanks and Merry Christmas,

Kathy Zelenka

20 December 2024

Dear Clallam County Board of Health,

I'm writing again to ask you to fulfill your role in meeting the needs of C19 vax-injured people in our community and ensuring informed consent is given when shots are administered. Several troubling recent developments prompted this letter, so I urge you to review your legal mandate under Title 70, RCW.

As someone who never questioned vaccines, what I've witnessed in terms of human suffering and the indifferent response has changed my world view.

A pro-human, pro-science public health system would operate on the principal that studying adverse reactions makes future vaccines safer and that helping people is ethical and right.

Transparency supports confidence. The politicization of this issue does the opposite.

A few days ago, there was an attempt to slip into the 1500+ page Continuing Resolution a provision that would have blocked C19 vaccine-injured Americans from seeking fair compensation and prevented incoming HHS Secretary Robert F Kennedy, Jr from updating Vaccine Injury Tables for this new technology.

Not only that, but the Biden Administration recently extended the PREP Act for another four years, further protecting manufacturers from liability for their products, even in the absence of an emergency.

Federal funding has been provided for Long Covid research and treatment, but there's no corollary allocation to study or offer medical care for those suffering Long Vax symptoms.

As I've shared previously, the Countermeasures Injury Compensation Program is not providing meaningful help. In four years, a total of 19 people have been "compensated," most for only a few thousand dollars for life-altering complications. (There was one more generous award of \$370,376 for a myocarditis fatality.) Meanwhile, many C19 vax-disabled Americans can't work and are struggling to afford medical care and basic needs like housing. They also suffer from unwarranted stigma.

In a recent *Peninsula Daily News* article, Dr. Berry stated that the incoming administration is "antithetical" to public health.

I can't imagine anything more antithetical to trust in public health than the current administration's policies of censoring and ignoring those who had life-altering adverse reactions, then declining to help or study them and at the same time putting the (still EUA for under 12's) shots on the routine schedule for children, while shielding manufacturers from liability and trying to ensure --by stealth in the Continuing Resolution-- that the broken safety will never be reformed.

After my husband's colleague suffered a near-fatal vaccine reaction in March 2021, similar to what killed a King County mom a few months later, *I turned first to public health and my elected officials for help.*

When formerly trusted entities failed their duty of care, I became involved with React19, the nonprofit founded by vax-injured Americans to help others. They are saving lives, preventing suicides of despair, providing medical grants, participating in research, breaking stigma, and challenging the Biden Administration's unconstitutional censorship and the PREP Act via the courts... with volunteers on a crowd-funded shoestring budget.

Truth is still truth even if the powerful would prefer a different story. I have seen incredible suffering with my own eyes.

I recommend that you read "Worth a Shot?" by Caroline Pover (herself vax-injured), an account of Brienne Dressen's experience. Bri, one of the co-founders of React19, was so pro-vax that she volunteered to be part of a clinical trial to help end the pandemic, as she believed the vaccines would. The cascade of events after she suffered a life-altering reaction should be known by everyone who continues to uncritically promote C19 shots and marginalize the injured.

I hope that the Clallam County Board of Health will work with me in 2025 towards a more compassionate response to our injured community members. Currently in Clallam County, there is no informed consent when C19 shots are administered, there are vax-injured people who do not have proper support, and stigma about this issue prevents equitable health care outcomes.

On a personal note, if any of you are moved to provide practical support now, a tax-deductible donation to React19 funds much-needed help for innocent people who either thought they were doing the right thing or were mandated to take the shots to keep their jobs, then abandoned by everyone who told them it was safe. Every penny donated to the CARE Fund supports medical care for an injured human being.
(<https://react19.org/donate/>)

Respectfully,

Kathy Zelenka
908 W 10th St
Port Angeles, WA 98363
(360)452-4426