



CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MINUTES of July 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 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; Consumer of Public Health, Helen Kenoyer; Health Officer, Dr. Allison Berry; HHS Director, Kevin LoPiccolo; HHS Deputy Director, Jennifer Oppelt

Members absent: City Council Member Representative, Jeff Gingell and Environmental Health Director, Jennifer Garcelon

Request for Modifications/Approval of Agenda

Gerald Stephanz made a motion to approve the agenda, Mark Ozias seconded. Agenda approved.

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

Approval of Draft Meeting Minutes for June 18, 2024

Gerald Stephanz made a motion to approve the meeting minutes; Helen Kenoyer seconded. Minutes approved.

Action Items:

None.

Public Comment for Agenda Items:

None.

Health Officer – Infectious Disease Update – Dr. Berry

Dr. Berry reported that Covid-19 is surging nationwide. Discussion followed.

We are monitoring avian influenza. We now have nine human cases, which is up from last month. Those who most recently got it were working in poultry operations. Discussion followed.

Dr. Berry spoke about Pertussis and stated that is slowing down.

We see more rabies exposures in the summer so be aware. Rabies in Washington state is mostly due to bat encounters. If you see a bat, don't touch it. Rabies can only be transmitted by close contact with a bat and if it bites or scratches you. If you find a bat in the room with you, or someone who's been sleeping and cannot give a good history of contact with it, please give the Health Department a call. If you have a close encounter with a bat, please call the Health Department. We will likely encourage you to capture the bat, which we can help you with how to do that, so that we can get it tested. Discussion followed.

Old Business and Information Items:

None

Discussion Items:

1. Clallam County Juvenile Justice System – Mark Nichols, Clallam County Prosecutor and Jody Jacobsen, Juvenile & Family Services Director

Mark Nichols spoke about Juvenile Justice. Discussion followed.

2. United State Supreme Court Decision, City of Grants Pass, Oregon V. Johnson (Public Camping) – Amy Miller, City of Port Angeles City Council Member and Brian Smith, Port Angeles Chief of Police.

Amy Miller and Brian Smith discussed the Supreme Court Decision and what the potential impact of that decision has on Port Angeles. Discussion followed.

Board of Health Presentations:

1. Special Assistance for Emergency Response (Project Safer) – Kelley Lawrence, Clallam County Developmental Disabilities Coordinator

Kelley Lawrence spoke about Project Safer. Discussion followed.

Board of Health Hearings

None.

Environmental Health Director - Jennifer Garcelon

None

HHS Director

The water lab person will be out for another 4-6 weeks, and we are trying to fill that gap with Jess Pankey and Janine Reed. We are having difficulty reading water samples and may have to send some out to Spectra Lab. Our department is assisting the Roads department with one of our Customer Service personnel for a while as one of them is on medical leave.

Public Comment

Katie, a new physician's resident at NOHN introduced herself.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

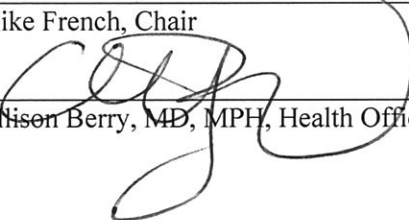
Next Meeting – August 20, 2024

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 20 day of August, 2024

CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

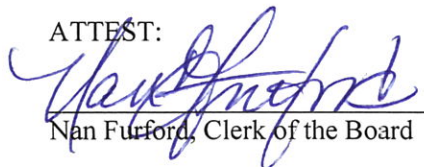


Mike French, Chair



Alison Berry, MD, MPH, Health Officer

ATTEST:



Nan Furford, Clerk of the Board