

Lincoln County
City-County Board of Health Agenda
Emergency Meeting
4:00 PM, April 20, 2020

- 1. Call to Order**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call**
- 4. Approval of Minutes**
Emergency meetings: March 25, March 27, March 30, April 6
- 5. COVID-19 Update**
- 6. Health Officer Update**
- 7. Public comment**
- 8. Adjourn**

The BOH is following recommendations for social distancing. Please attend this meeting remotely on Zoom or conference call.

To join the Zoom meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/9984346152>

Meeting ID: 998 434 6152

For audio conferencing dial:

(253) 215-8782 or (669) 900-9128 or (346) 248-7799 or (312) 626-6799

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Lincoln County Board of Health

March 25, 2020

Remote meeting

Jan Ivers called the meeting to order at 4 PM.

Jenn McCully said there are zero cases in Lincoln County currently. 73 people have been tested and 29 of those results have come back so far. If anyone needs to be tested, they need to either go through their primary care provider or contact the EOC and speak with the health nurse. There is now drive up testing available at the CARD Clinic between 10 AM and 3 PM. Jenn said there is an established COVID-19 taskforce that has been meeting for the last three weeks. She also updated the board on the commissioner's approval of up to three additional nurses. They have already hired one for the Eureka area. She said they are still in need of PPE and testing supplies, but Commissioner Peck and Dr. Black are working to secure both.

Kathi said she has had questions on extending the local orders the health board has in effect but after discussing it they do not need to as the Governors order covers it.

Carol Sugar asked if local salons need to close by Saturday. Kathi said the Governors order does not include that. They may need to alter how they operate to maintain social distancing guidelines.

DC Orr asked if it would be possible to post agendas on the health boards website. Kathi responded that they already are.

Gary Beach said he is hearing concern from the public about concerns over an influx of people from out of state coming to our area to ride out the storm and wondered if there was any discussion about this. Jan said this was the first she had heard about it. Brent Teske said it was the first he had heard about it but he has heard of an influx of shoppers coming in. Commissioner Peck said it would be worth while to check with the sheriff and the police chief on the issue.

Jan asked the board members about scheduling two standing meetings a week on Mondays and Thursdays at 4 PM. George Jamison said he would be against that and he thinks rolling it back to only two meetings would interrupt the flow of information. Jan said they can always meet more if needed but two have two scheduled meetings would be beneficial. The group agreed to have two regularly scheduled meetings and add additional ones if necessary.

Dr. Black said he would like to see an increase in sampling. He would like to do testing with medical providers, law enforcement and grocery workers who are dealing with the public the most. George asked if there are any critical needs. Dr. Black said the hospital has 8 ventilators, but the real challenge is having enough trained staff to run them. George said if staffing is the challenge that needs to be part of the request from the county. Dr. Mertes said the hospital is also looking at that and providing training to those that have not run a ventilator for a while.

MOTION by George Jamison to adjourn the meeting. Second by Laura Crismore, motion carried.

Adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Lincoln County Board of Health

March 27, 2020

Remote Meeting

Jan Ivers called the meeting to order at 4 PM.

Jenn McCully said there are currently 108 cases in Montana with 7 of those being hospitalized. There are currently 3 cases in Lincoln county. Testing for COVID-19 started at the CARD Clinic 4 days before and they have been testing 14-18 tests.

Kathi said the call center has been getting a lot of phone calls from local business owners. They have also received some PPE and will be receiving swabs on Monday which will also be shared with Eureka. Kathi added that their website and Facebook are being updated every evening.

Dr. Black said he believes that they can go further with testing. They are hoping to have adequate supplies for testing soon incase there is a ramp up in testing. Dr. Mertes asked if the turnaround time was still around 48 hours. Jen said one of the testing places was about 48 hours while the other one was between 3 and 4 days.

DC Orr stated that at a previous meeting a week before a local businessman and a city councilman asked about people from out of state coming here. DC said we know the 3 current cases came from out of state. He said he hopes to hear a discussion on how we can limit those coming from out of state.

Commissioner Mark Peck said he would like to thank the public. He said he has seen people working hard to take care of themselves and each other.

Jan said the next meetings scheduled would be for Mondays and Thursdays at 4 PM.

MOTION by Jan Ivers to adjourn the meeting. Second by Commissioner Peck, motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM

Lincoln County
City-County Board of Health Agenda
Emergency Meeting
4:00 PM, March 30, 2020

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Jan Ivers, George Jamison, Sara Mertes, Maggie Anderson, Laura Crismore & Deb Armstrong present

3. Covid-19 Update

5th positive in Lincoln County
154 tested, 42 pending, 107 negative, 5 positive
4 tested in Eureka today per Deb

4. National Public Health Emergency Request Letter

Tabled until next meeting

5. Health Officer Update

Continuing to work towards local testing

6. Public comment

DC Orr – Follow up question on 5th positive. Exposure to positive occurred outside Lincoln County.

Jan explained that she had talked to Sheriff Short regarding closing county borders and it is not possible at this time.

7. Adjourn

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Lincoln County
City-County Board of Health Agenda
Emergency Meeting
4:00 PM, April 6, 2020

1. Call to Order

Attendance: George Jamison, Deb Armstrong, Sara Mertes, Jan Iyers

2. Covid-19 Update

- 299 confirmed cases in Montana. 7 cases spread throughout Lincoln County, with 1 Lincoln County death.
- 238 have been tested in Lincoln County, 192 Not detected, 41 results pending. Lincoln County declared emergency earlier today.
- Updates available on Facebook, posted between 5 pm – 8 pm daily

3. National PH Emergency Request Letter

Kathi sent a copy of the draft letter out for all to review for discussion during Wednesday's regular BOH meeting. It is an agenda item.

4. Workers coming from out-of-state

Calls had been coming in to the COVID-19 Information Line regarding tree planters coming from out of state. Forestry workers are considered essential and exempt of quarantine status. Commissioner Peck, Stimpson and the company managing those workers spoke about concerns and interests by all involved.

Kathi and Dr. Black put together a letter addressing Public Health impact for these companies (i.e.: railroad and forestry) who bring workers into the community from other areas. This company states they have educated their employees on steps to take when moving into a new community. Meetings will continue to discuss planter activities and COVID-19 transmission hazards.

5. COVID-19 testing

- Dr. Black discusses opening testing up for essential workers who are asymptomatic within the next month to get an idea of virus presence in the community. There will be the isolation period for those tested until results are given (2-3 days).
- Testing will be scheduled by calling the LC COVID-19 Information line at 293-6295.
- Discussed the cost of testing. According to the Fairness Act, testing should be covered. Cost and billing will be looked into further.
- The central testing site operates Monday through Friday when adequate number of tests are scheduled. There need to be a minimum of 10 tests in order to set up and operate clinic. If tests are needed individually on that day, Trista does those collections.

6. Public comment

- Stacy Bender asks about mandatory quarantine after being tested. Yes. Other than the new guidance on healthcare workers, all others must isolate while test results are pending.
- DC Orr requests copy of draft letter. Kathi will post by 6 pm tonight for review before the regular BOH meeting on Wednesday.
- Stacy Bender requests that teachers who are tutoring and working with students be considered for testing if available since some are continuing to work with students one-on-one.
- George Jamison asks for clarification as to why asymptomatic workers would be required to quarantine if they are volunteering for testing. Jenn states that according to CDC and DPHHS, all tests are presumed positive until proven negative. We have to stay consistent with procedure. They could arrange for testing before regular days off, as results are taking 2 to 3 days including weekends.

7. Adjourn

Deb makes the motion to adjourn, Sara seconds. Meeting adjourned.