

Lincoln County
City-County Board of Health Agenda
Emergency Meeting
4:00 PM, April 23, 2020
EOC Meeting Room

1. Call to Order

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Roll Call

Attendance: George Jamison (via phone), Deb Armstrong (via phone), Sara Mertes (via phone), Jan Ivers, Mark Peck (via phone), Laura Crismore (via phone), Maggie Anderson (via phone)

4. Covid-19 Update

- 442 confirmed cases in Montana. 7 cases spread throughout Lincoln County, with 1 Lincoln County death.
- 649 have been tested in Lincoln County, 508 not detected, 134 still pending.
- Updates posted on Facebook weekly.
- Jenn shared demographic data showing those tested, location in county, gender, occupation, etc.

5. Health Officer Update

- The Governor has directed Phase 1 of reopening the State. Dr. Black and Kathi made a booklet for all sectors and establishments with guidelines. The guidelines include the Governor's verbiage along with examples from the Health Department for implementation.
- Local Health Officer Order mirrors the Governor's Directive. It is specific to Lincoln County. Jan reads HO Order to group. The authority to issue the order is Dr. Black's. Jan's signature on the document shows the support of the BOH. Sara motioned to support the Order, Maggie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
- Mark asks if there is a way to look at businesses on an individual basis, such as Studio B. Being a studio, there are smaller groups, more control over exposure, and they can do more one-on-one and rehab services. Jan clarifies that the Health Officer cannot be less restrictive and will check into options for Liz at Studio B, as well as other facilities.
- Targeted surveillance testing has begun within the county. Asymptomatic individuals from many sectors have already been tested and will continue to reach out for more.
- George asked about limited seating by 50% at restaurants opening for dining in. Some establishments were already operating with reduced capacity. Kathi agreed that some were not utilizing full capacity before the pandemic began, and won't be asked to reduce by 50% if the 6-foot social distancing between tables can be implemented.
- Sara questioned if there was a metric, threshold, or response plan for testing within the County moving forward. Jan mentioned that there is no clear-cut answer. Would like to test 8-10% of the population monthly to get an idea of virus movement. From there they will look at parameters based on that surveillance.

Some communities are waiting for the virus to be present before opening up testing, we are using prevention as the best way to protect our vulnerable population and county residents.

- CPMC has done some COVID-19 testing, but kits are limited.

6. Public comment

- Liz Whalen, owner of Studio B reiterates her concern about be able to reopen. She feels that she can operate under the guidelines set forth by the Governor's Directive. She will put in a formal request to the Health Officer and Governor's office if needed.
- As it is such new territory for everyone, Jan recommends contacting the Governor's office. Kathi will look for clarification as well.
- Mark has been receiving questions regarding Garage Sales. These may commence as Yard Sales if they are set up in a way that allows for social distancing beginning the first weekend in May.

7. Adjourn

Mark makes the motion to adjourn, George seconds. Meeting adjourned at 5:09 pm.