

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 Ivers

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.
- 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.