

Lincoln County
City-County Board of Health Minutes
Lincoln County Courthouse
6:00 PM, September 14, 2021

- **Call to Order at 6:00 p.m.**
 - Jan Ivers asks for a moment of silence for board member Sara Mertes and her husband Jake Mertes.
 - Due to Sara's passing, there is a vacant position that has been advertised, deadline is October 1, 2021.
 - Roll Call: Jan Ivers, Patty Kincheloe, Josh Letcher, Jim Seifert, Amy Fantozzi, Deb Armstrong
Quorum present.
- **Public Comment on Agenda Items**
 - None
- **Public Comment on Non-Action Items**
 - None
- **Approval of Minutes**
 - Amy Fantozzi motioned to accept 6/8/21 minutes with citations as presented. Jan, Josh, Jim, Patty, Amy, Deb vote in favor. Motion passed.
 - Jinnifer Mariman explained details of open meeting laws in Montana. Items or additions to agenda items should be emailed to Kathi so they can be disseminated to all Board members in the Board packet. If it is not an agenda item, members can make a formal request to Jan to get it on the agenda as explained in the operating procedures. At that time any items needing shared with members would go out with the packet as part of that agenda item. Jin cautions against emailing back and forth as this could be considered having a public meeting via email without including the public.
- **Unfinished Business**
 - Ground rules and mission statement update: Jan suggests having next meeting be a work meeting in Troy, and then presenting the outcome at the following BOH meeting in November. They will meet in Troy at 6 pm with zoom capabilities.
- **New Business**
 - Doug Mudgett, Chief Nursing Officer at Cabinet Peaks Medical Center gives update for CPMC. COVID case activity has grown exponentially over the last couple of weeks. ER is seeing increased number of COVID patients as well as acute care. COVID has also significantly impacted staff and their ability to work or come to work. That mean increased demand with decreased resources. CPMC is actively recruiting for many positions. In the last month they have brought on 5 new RNs. There are no beds in nearby hospitals, with few being available in even Spokane which is affecting being able to get patients needing more acute care placed. Dr. Pyle reiterated the strain that COVID has put on our community and medical field.
 - Dr. Rice presented COVID information and statistics gathered from within the county.
 - Rachael Byrd provides update from Libby Care Center. 36 resident cases of COVID, 20 staff. 32 of the 36 were vaccinated. Staff that were vaccinated had lessened symptoms while positive

and able to work in the COVID unit while positive. Unvaccinated staff had more severe symptoms. One unvaccinated staff member had reinfection. Currently have no active cases.

- Mavis Vaillancourt, diagnosed July 26th with COVID shared her experience with being hospitalized at CPMC for 2 days and then two weeks at Logan Health. Still on oxygen and struggling with the aftereffects of COVID.
- Jim Seifert asks CPMC if they have a separate room set up for IV treatment. Doug answers yes, and they have been for several months.
- Ann German comments on her advocacy for vaccinations. She believes our low vaccine numbers for the county to be outrageous.
- Discussion on CDC guidelines for vaccination of children. Jenn shares that the Pfizer vaccine has been available for kids 12-16 years of age with parent consent. Parents can speak with health care provider to discuss best options.
- Dr. Rice requested Board thoughts/plans on community pandemic response.
- **Program Reports:**
 - **Community**
 - None
 - **Public Health**
 - Jennifer McCully presents Public Health Snapshot for the County, the current requirements for COVID quarantine, differences between booster vaccines and third dose administration.
 - Jennifer McCully shares crisis mapping for postpartum women
 - **Environmental Health**
 - Kathi Hooper air quality update. Wildfire smoke in August has cleared. Outdoor activity recommendations were provided along with how to make air quality estimations based on visibility. Most of the county has a fall burn season but not in Libby Air Quality District. No fall residential burn due to poor air quality.
 - **Solid Waste and Recycling**
 - *Action Item:* Draft Class IV Asbestos Cell O&M approval. Jim motions to approve. All in favor. Motion passed.
 - **Asbestos Resource Program**
 - None.
 - **Focus Area Liaisons:**
 - No updates at this time.
- **City Representative Reports**
 - Troy: Jim discussed Covid prevention options, ie vaccination, and the importance of prevention
 - Libby: None at this time
 - Eureka: Deb shares from Eureka that medical system in every respect is overwhelmed.
- **Health Officer Report**
 - None at this time.
- **Jim motioned to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m. Next meeting Tuesday, October 12, 2021.**

