

Teton District Board of Health Meeting Minutes

May 21st, 2019
Location: TC Health Department Boardroom
9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Attendance:

Board Members: Dan Forman, Joe Burke, David Dornan, JJ King, Ingrid Daffner-Krasnow, Ann Lurie, Sadie Monaghan, and David Peterson on the phone
Health Department Staff: Jodie Pond, Sara Budge, Adrian Croke and Rachael Wheeler
Others: Jim Stanford (JTC), Kylie Mohr (JH News & Guide), Carlin Girard (Conservation District) and Dr. Travis Riddell (CHO)
Excused: Scott Larsen, Keith Gingery (County Attorney), and Natalia Macker (BCC)

Agenda Item

TIME-FRAME

Tasks/Assignments

Call to Order & Quorum pronouncement	9:04 AM	Dan Forman, Chairman of the Board, called the meeting to order at 9:04 am and announced a presence of a quorum with six board members present.	
Welcome JJ King – Town of Jackson Representative	9:04 AM	JJ King introduced himself to the Board.	
Accept the Minutes And Adopt Agenda	9:09 AM	Ann Lurie made a motion to approve the minutes from 3/19/2019 and David Dornan seconded the motion. All Board members in attendance voted to accept the minutes and to adopt today's agenda.	

<p>Public Comment for Items Not on Agenda</p>	<p>9:09 AM</p>	<p>Jodie reported there was no public comment.</p>	
<p>Action Items from last meeting: Hoback Water Update – Jodie Pond and Sara Budge</p>	<p>9:09 AM</p>	<p>Jodie Pond reported several actions have been taken by the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) related to water issues. The Hoback water issue has been made one of the top priorities for the next two years. A collaboration of Jodie Pond and Sara Budge from the Health Department, Carlin Girard from the Conservation District, Ted Van Holland, Engineering Technician and Heather Overholser, Director of Public Works, have decided to hire a facilitator for this Stakeholder Group. Per Sara Budge, the Stakeholder group has not yet been finalized, but the BOH will receive a written notification when it is.</p> <p>Jodie confirmed the work they are doing for the stakeholder group is specific to Hoback. Sara Budge, EH Supervisor, said they reconciled to focus on one area and will get a plan together before moving forward for the entire County.</p> <p>Carlin Girard commended Teton County on taking a strong stance recognizing there is a human health issue in Hoback and TCHD's dedication of staff to this issue. Carlin highlighted both Jodie and Sara's efforts on a staff level.</p> <p>Carlin stated J-W Subdivision and Hoback RV are public sources and mandated to be tested monthly. Throughout the Hoback area,</p>	<p>Please direct any questions about the area of focus to either Jodie Pond or Sara Budge.</p>

	<p>approximately 20-30 private homes who are in the immediate testing area have tested and have a high level of awareness. They are planning to have an outreach for water testing as opposed to door to door collections. Carlin reported the Conservation District is having issues such as cost for nitrate test kits. He also explained the treatment plan.</p>	
	<p>Dr. Riddell, County Health Officer gave an introduction related to his position. He has been the County Health Officer for the past five to six years. He distributed an outline of his relationship and duties within Teton County. He complimented Teton County Public Health with their efforts within in the County, working with testing, vaccinations, care coordination and managing protocols developed by the State. As the County MD, he oversees procedures; most recently discussing measles and how to manage testing. Dr. Riddell works as an oversight, adding medical license to paperwork. In both roles, he tries to avoid being the direct care giver and instead refers to the appropriate provider. While overseeing the Environmental Health division, he signs off on specific orders and procedures. Occasionally there are buildings to condemn and any closures require him to sign off. He is a regular contact within Teton County Health Department and State Health communicating information into the community, acting as a resource.</p> <p>His ministerial duty is signing off on immunization exemption forms with the exemptions for the Public-School Districts.</p> <p>Since he has served as the County Health Officer, he has been a part</p>	<p>Reports: County Health Officer annual report – Travis Riddell, MD, MPH</p> <p>9:25 AM</p>

		<p>of one small health issue and two larger health emergencies and disaster preparedness. Rachael Wheeler, Public Health Response Coordinator, is the primary contact for preparedness and disaster, but in the occurrence of any health disaster, the County Health Officer's role is lead contact for organizing response.</p> <p>Dr. Riddell reported he has not seen any measles cases in Teton County. Wyoming or Idaho but feels that it is only a matter of time with the incoming tourist population. He has seen four other types of disease (preventable through vaccines); however, they have been more isolated with no significant outbreak.</p> <p>Dr. Riddell expressed in his opinion, the priority within Public Health should be water quality knowing that there is a current threat in Hoback. There is not an optimal septic system in the County and as the community grows, this could be a bigger threat.</p> <p>Dr. Riddell is worried about drug usage within the teen population and adult alcohol use. Although there are no statistics, there is a problem within the high school for vaping and alcohol. He sees all types of drug use in Teton County.</p> <p>Vaccines are the top world health concern. Global issues are having the potential to impact health over time. Teton County is the number one community suffering from economic disparity. Teton County has the highest health care costs and Dr. Riddell expects to see health impacts within the community.</p>	
<p>New Business: County Budget Request – Jodie</p>	<p>9:45 AM</p>	<p>Jodie Pond presented the Fiscal Year 2020 Budget. The overall requested expense for FY 2020 is requesting \$2,066,897.64. The</p>	

<p>Pond</p>	<p>State of Wyoming will contribute \$256,409.37 towards the salary and benefits of the State Nurses working at Teton County Health Department. The overall revenue projection for FY 2020 (including grants) is \$1,053,287.50. The projected revenue for FY 2020 will offset the total operating budget by over 50%.</p> <p>The Health Department requested one additional position, an Environmental Health Specialist. This position cannot be published until the budget is adopted in June.</p> <p>The level of service across the Department will increase again this year for most services. These changes and justifications are explained in detail in the budget cover letter. If there are specific questions, please direct them to Jodie.</p>	
<p>Update to the By-Laws 1st reading – Jodie Pond</p>	<p>Jodie Pond presented the changes to the updated By Laws. Article II and Article III are the main changes. The Board of Health will now consist of nine members. In Article III, "The Town of Jackson shall appoint a new member when necessary to fill a vacancy created by removal or resignation of the one (1) Town of Jackson board member" has been added. Article IV, line item E – Voting, the forum number will increase from (4) to (5). Article VI, line item A – Amendments, "These bylaws may be amended by a vote of no less than six (6) Board members."</p> <p>Ann Lurie made a motion to adopt the first reading of the updated bylaws and David Dornan seconded. The first reading of the updated bylaws passed.</p>	<p>9:50 AM</p>

<p>JH Clean Water Coalition -- Carlin Girard</p>	<p>9:55 AM</p>	<p>Board members will vote to adopt the updated bylaws July 23, 2019.</p> <p>Carlin Girard, Water Resource Specialist with the Teton Conservation District, explained they are a special district of the government. They receive tax dollars from property taxes and have elected board members. Like the County being based in statute, so is the Conservation District. They are required to be a partnered agency and are not supposed to work independently, making them a true partner entity.</p> <p>The Conservation District wants to bring in entities best suited for the general public awareness. They have introduced Septic System Awareness, Clean Water Coalition and Trout Friendly Lawns. CD is asking organizations to either provide some funding or use their outreach efforts to gain broader outreach in the community. Organizations can do one or both provisions.</p> <p>Regarding wastewater planning, in the past they have hosted storm water engineers to discuss storm water planning for engineering companies. This year they are hosting an event focusing on horse corrals to present short presentations for site visits and landscaping. Homeowners and landscaping companies would also benefit from attending the presentation. Parks and Recreation have been taking some great steps for "trout friendly lawns" into landscaping efforts.</p> <p>Joe Burke asked about an ad for Fish Creek and Flat Creek; for warnings to individuals of water borne illnesses. Joe comments that it is not realistic to close creeks, but it is realistic to warn people of the exposures and to contact their local health provider. Carlin replied</p>
---------------------------------------------------------	----------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

that they are monitoring pathogens within the creeks. The Conservation District has sampled multiple points along Flat Creek and do have genetic details from the early 2000s indicating a lot of the matter is animal fecal. Carlin also says there will be a future study to determine where concentrations are coming from.

Anne Lurie asked Carlin if he had any thoughts on where human contamination is coming from? Carlin responded that both sources are septic and sewage. There is human waste in Cache Creek, but he does not know if it is a human health risk. Carlin thinks the water should be treated if there will be populations entering the area. Individuals have a false notion that because water comes from the mountain it is safe to drink. Their outreach is about educating people that they can't drink the stream water as is.

Dr. Riddell asked if there was a way to re-channel the waste. Carlin commented that buffering can limit fecal matter. As far as nutrients, a lot of great things can be done. For example, the Ducks Unlimited Feed Grounds Project. Throughout time, management has switched their ponds from wastewater to swan habitats and as a result, they aren't trying to maintain as much emergent wetlands. Ducks Unlimited would add to wastewater.

Dan Forman asked what the threshold is on the public side, in terms of signage. From his point of view, he feels the public isn't aware about potential health issues by the number of individuals floating. Carlin agreed, signage wouldn't hurt, and it would be a way to educate without being too alarming. The major concern isn't from sitting on an inner tube, it's the ingestion of water. Dr. Riddell does not have the authority to shut down waterways, but the DEQ does.

Rachael Wheeler will help the EPA by getting the word out regarding major streams.

<p>5G is coming to Jackson – Lou Hochheiser, MD & Tom Factor</p>	<p>10:33 AM</p>	<p>Lou Hochheiser, MD and Tom Factor, Treasurer of Environmental Health Trust, introduced themselves and talked about who is involved with the board. Environmental Health Trust (EHT) is a nonprofit Think Tank and policy organization dedicated to identifying and reducing environmental health hazards. EHT provides independent scientific research and advice on controllable environmental hazards to local, state, and national governments. Today, they are to advise BOH of scientific grounds for major health concerns about proposed permitting guidelines for wireless telecommunications facilities and associated infrastructure.</p> <p>Tom commented that the only requirements that the town could address regarding the towers were aesthetic. The Town couldn't ask what is inside of the box or the frequency range, power or influences on health. FCC decided there are no influences of harm. No one knows what 5G really is. Tom thinks the FCC is over stepping, as their role is to make sure licenses of different frequencies are maintained and then refer to electrical companies. Research shows that enough cell phone frequency can cause cancer and he believes the health board should begin to investigate and inform public officials to speak out to government industries. Tom acknowledged that government industries are important, but not if health problems increase. Tom suggests using fiber optic measures, speaker phone or headphones and believes that the community has a right to decide.</p> <p>Ingrid Daffner-Krasnow asked if there are any other communities who have refused to comply? The answer is yes, and lawsuits are happening. Tom says there are two ways to view safety just like a</p>
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------	---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

drug, (1) clinically and (2) prove it's a problem, but here it is the opposite just like the tobacco concerns.

5G has already been approved by Teton County and just went through an ordinance review with the Town of Jackson. The FCC gave a timeline that had to be met for compliance. AT&T is the first tower that will move in, but there will be double radiation when Verizon joins.

Jim feels that of all the issues in recent years, nothing has felt more wrong than FCC forcing the towers on the town. Ultimately, they're going to get their way, with every 300 ft minimum spacing. Tom thinks there is grounds for Town, County and Statewide organizations to object based on health. He thinks health boards can get involved and add to the power to resist FCC and take this change at their own pace to review research. Currently, no one has any legal standing against FCC.

Dr. Riddell has followed the research and cannot say if it does or does not cause cancer. There is not a known association or causal relationship. It is a really hard thing to study because it is nearly universal exposure and not a controlled group of exposure. The outcome for brain cancer is rare. It is difficult to study from a medical research standpoint. Dr. Riddell thinks the question is how do you approach the uncertainty? We don't know the safety of it, being cautious means to minimize risk but it is hard to use in this situation because it is unknown to understand the risk. No one knows what to think about cell phone radiation or tower radiation. Tom agrees that the types of cancer are rare, but the type of impact is extreme. Lou commented there is some evidence to say we should be cautious.

		<p>And that is the message, "be cautious." Is there a way to mitigate the potential threat? Tom commented that there should be more research to mitigate the risk and, if possible, a controlled study, which would take decades.</p> <p>Ingrid asked if there is information on what the benefits are for 5G. Is there a clear economic advantage that the industry is going for? Is there a way or any effort nationwide or could there be small communities that would allow us to learn more about how technology exists? Tom responded that he knows 5G is faster and thinks it allows certain types of imaging for mapping technologies. His main concern is that we know what we are doing by allowing 5G.</p> <p>Jim doesn't think there is much that can be done on a legal standpoint against FCC, but he remains optimistic the court will throw this out.</p> <p>For more information, please visit ehtrust.org.</p>	
<p>Updates from Public Health Staff</p>	<p>11:03 AM</p>	<p>The Department of Health has three new staff members and are fully staffed at this time.</p> <p>Due to not enough time, Jodie will email the BOH for additional staff updates.</p>	
<p>Meeting Adjourned</p>	<p>11:05 AM</p>	<p>Sadie Monaghan made a motion to adjourn the meeting and David Petersen seconded. Meeting adjourned.</p>	

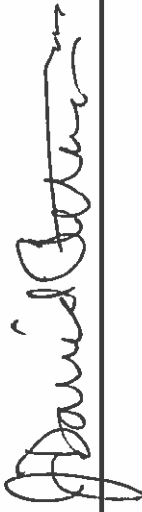
Meeting Minutes Approved Signature Page



7/23/19

Dan Forman, DVM Chairperson

Date



7/23/2019

David Peterson, MD Secretary

Date

