

LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
BOARD OF HEALTH
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

July 12, 2021

1:30 p.m.

The Board of Health for Lewis County, Washington met in regular session on Monday, July 12, 2021, at 1:33 p.m. **COMMISSIONERS SEAN SWOPE, LINDSEY R. POLLOCK, DVM, and GARY STAMPER** were in attendance. **CHAIRMAN POLLOCK** determined a quorum, called the meeting to order, and proceeded with the flag salute. Sandi Andrus read the ZOOM guidelines. Those present in the Hearing Room introduced themselves. Dr. Krager, joining by ZOOM, introduced himself. **COMMISSIONER SWOPE** moved to approve the Minutes from June 14, 2021, **COMMISSIONER STAMPER** seconded. Motion carried 3-0.

ATTENDEES:

County Staff:

JP Anderson
Dr. Steven Krager
Sandi Andrus
Bryan Hall
Alison Puckett
Tammy Martin
Amber Smith

Community:

Edna Fund
Bill Serrahn
Claudia Young (The Chronicle)
Nic (KELA)

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Swope made a motion to approve the consent item, **Commissioner Stamper** seconded.

H. Res #071221.1 Approve Amendment #21 to the Consolidated Contract, #CLH18251, between Lewis County and Washington State Department of Health

JP gave a summary of the amendment which has an increase of \$152,438 for a total amount of \$7,615,051. It adds Statements of Work in Office of Immunization & Child Profile Perinatal Hepatitis B and in Office of Immunization & Child Profile Regional Representatives. It also amends Statements of Work in COVID-19 Coordinated

Response, Emergency Preparedness & Response COVID-19 Local CARES, Office of Drinking Water Group A Program, and WIC Nutrition Program.

Commissioner Swope requested a breakdown of the amounts on this amendment and **JP** replied that he would get that information to the Commissioners.

Commissioner Pollock stated how she appreciates the work WIC does in getting nutrition to our infants and getting that good developmental start in life.

Commissioner Pollock asked to approve the consent items. Motion approved 3-0.

PUBLIC HEALTH UPDATE

JP introduced the new Fiscal Analyst I, Brian Hall, who started with the Department on July 1, 2021. He comes from Public Health & Social Services department in Clatsop County, Oregon.

JP also introduced Jadeyn Goodman as the new Customer Service Representative although she could not attend today's BOH.

Alison Puckett provided information on the resource fair held on Saturday for Spanish speaking population of Lewis County. Many organizations came together to put this fair on such as Twin Transit, Amerigroup, American Red Cross, Cascade Community Health, Gather Church, Valley View Health Center, Help Reliance, Family Support Services, eCapps Educational District, Timberline Library, Molina, Equity Institute, WIC, Community Prevention, and more. She showed some pictures taken at the event. Sara Bumgardner, CPWI Coalition Coordinator, was able to connect with people to get them interested in the advisory board and trained people on the take-back boxes for drug returns. They provided giveaways for participants and a dunk tank. It was well attended with 200-300 attending.

JP stated there was a decrease in COVID numbers this week. There is a lot of work currently for fiscal staff working with State and Federal governments regarding reimbursement for vaccination efforts held. We continue to work with homebound citizens to make sure they receive a vaccination.

Dr. Krager gave a brief update on COVID and stated hospitalizations for COVID have been going down since mid-May. He spoke on the Delta Variant and how the virus multiplies. Every time the virus infects someone it makes copies of itself. Sometimes those copies are made with an error which can lead to mutations or variants. We are watching those changes. Variants have occurred more than we originally thought. A concern is when we see variants that affect people more efficiently so they are becoming more contagious. If they copy themselves faster inside the body, that could potentially lead to a more severe disease. In the past four months in the US and in Washington, we have essentially been dominated by the B.1.1.7 (alpha) variant first seen in the UK which is about 50% more contagious, severe, and causing more hospitalizations. Another variant (delta), first seen in India, seems even more contagious. This variant is quickly taking over the other variants and is about 30% of current cases in Washington. We have not seen any Delta cases in Lewis County yet but that does not mean it is not here.

Dr. Krager stated the vaccines are working pretty well. What we are seeing is a slight decrease in effectiveness for the Delta variance in overall infection but is still a good measure in preventing severe disease and hospitalization. Vaccinated people are going to be well protected. We are watching very closely and will keep the BOH updated.

Commissioner Swope asked about the possibility of a third shot being needed in the fall.

Dr. Krager responded that Pfizer stated we may need a booster in the future but we do not see the data that supports that right now. The vaccines are still showing good effectiveness and we will follow the data.

Commissioner Swope asked if people will need the flu shot this fall. **Dr. Krager** stated he has not heard a lot about that. We are going to have to watch the Southern hemisphere's flu numbers. If there are super low rates, it may not be as important as it has been in the past so we need to watch what is occurring there.

Commissioner Swope stated colleges are now requiring vaccination before attending, and asked if Dr. Krager sees that for the grade schools in the State. **Dr. Krager** stated only 12 and older can currently get the vaccine. Approval for the younger age groups would be needed first. State Board of Health determines immunization requirements for kids to attend school and would need FDA approval.

Commissioner Stamper moved to adjourn. **Commissioner Swope** seconded, **Commissioner Pollock** adjourned.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at [2:01 p.m.](#), on Monday, [July 12, 2021](#). The next public meeting will be held on Monday, [August 9, 2021](#) at 1:30 p.m.

Please note that minutes from the Board of Health meetings are not verbatim. A tape of this meeting is available.

**BOARD OF HEALTH
LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

Lindsey R. Pollock, DVM, Chair

ATTEST:

Sean D. Swope, Vice Chair

Sandi Andrus, Clerk of the BOH

Gary Stamper, Member