Snohomish Health District
Board of Health Minutes
June 9, 2020

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call/video.

Members Present
Scott Bader, Councilmember, Everett
Elisabeth Crawford, Councilmember, Mukilteo
Megan Dunn, County Councilmember
Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, Councilmember, Edmonds
Christine Frizzell, Councilmember, Lynnwood
John Joplin, Councilmember, Brier
Anji Jorstad, Councilmember, Lake Stevens
Sam Low, County Councilmember
Kyoko Matsumoto Wright, Mayor, Mountlake Terrace – BOH Vice Chair
Jared Mead, County Councilmember
Nate Nehring, County Councilmember
Dan Rankin, Mayor, Darrington
Linda Redmon, Councilmember, Snohomish
Stephanie Wright, County Councilmember – BOH Chair
Jeff Vaughan, Councilmember, Marysville

Members Absent
None

Call to Order
The regular meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 3:01 p.m. via Zoom conference call by Chair Stephanie Wright.

Roll Call
Roll call was taken by Ms. Linda Carl who reported there was a quorum present.

Arrivals/Departures
Dan Rankin arrived at 3:02; Kyoko Matsumoto Wright arrived at 3:12 p.m.

Approval of Agenda Contents and Order
It was moved by Ms. Adrienne Fraley-Monillas and seconded by Ms. Linda Redmon to approve the agenda contents and order. The motion passed with 14 yes votes, 0 no votes, 1 absent.

Approval of Minutes
It was moved by Ms. Redmon and seconded by Ms. Fraley-Monillas to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of May 12, 2020; special meeting of May 21, 2020; and special meeting of May 29, 2020. The motion passed with 14 yes votes, 0 no votes, 1 absent.

Public Comment
Public comment was accepted in writing prior to the meeting. Chair Wright reported no written comments were received.
Written Reports
Chair Wright noted that the written reports can be found in the Board packet.

Consent
It was moved by Mr. Dan Rankin and seconded by Mr. Scott Bader to approve the following items on consent:

- Approve vouchers and Res. 20-14 authorizing May 2020 Health District expenditures
- Authorize the Administrative Officer to execute the Washington State consolidated contract with a $1,500,000 award for COVID-19 response

The motion passed with 14 yes votes, 0 no votes, 1 absent.

Action

Adopt Res. 20-15 approving the proposed 2021 budget calendar (SR 20-046)
Mr. Shawn Frederick noted that this is based on last year's budget calendar. A budget ad hoc committee will be formed for the 2021 budget.

It was moved by Ms. Fraley-Monillas and seconded by Mr. Bader to adopt Res. 20-15 approving the proposed 2021 budget calendar. The motion passed with 14 yes votes, 0 no votes, 1 absent.

Briefings

COVID-19 update (no staff report)
Mr. Frederick reported that 85.7% of all cases in the county have recovered (3,022 out of 3,525 total cases), with 153 deaths. About 239 people are in home isolation. The largest local hospital numbers look good, including capacity and PPE. The Health District continues to work with DEM and other partners in the unified command to make sure we're getting coordinated messaging out to different sectors and providing assistance to organizations when requested. Our priority remains our efforts to maintain appropriated levels of case investigations and contact tracing.

Update on filling two budgeted, vacant positions (SR 20-042)
As part of the approved 2020 budget, it was required that budgeted, vacant positions be brought before the Board; however, at their March meeting, the Executive Committee suspended that process while we remain under the emergency declaration. Mr. Frederick will continue to keep the Board informed when these positions are filled. Two positions are in the process of being filled: a TB refugee health nurse and the director position in Prevention Services.

Rucker Building update (no staff report)
Mr. Frederick reported that the wheelchair lift is expected onsite on Thursday. We continue to work on the RFP for the redesign of the first floor, as well as the RFP for pressure washing and painting of the building. He spoke to the listing agent regarding a "post-COVID world" and leveraging telework, which will mean less demand for office space and smaller footprints in the future.

VitalChek kiosk proposal (SR 20-045)
Ms. Crystal Dudley reported that Washington is changing to a closed-record state in January, which changes how we process birth and death certificates. Staff is looking into kiosks provided by VitalChek that will be placed in our lobby to process these requests. DOH and Tacoma Pierce County will require customers to use kiosks, but currently no agency is using them in our state. There's no charge to the Health District for the kiosks, but there is a $3.50 fee to the customer.
Administrative Officer’s Report

Mr. Frederick reported that the support we need from County IT has increased, which will be taken into consideration in future service agreements and budgets. The WIC transition occurs on June 30; Sea Mar is expected to take over on July 1. The Lynnwood building is no longer needed starting July 1, and we’re looking at a replacement tenant so we’re no longer responsible for the lease. The current lease costs are built into our 2021 and 2022 budgets. We’d like to use our current listing agent for both the Rucker Building and Lynnwood building. The surplus property in Lynnwood is being auctioned off or disposed of. Recent social events and protests led to staff leaving early one day recently; the equity committee is working on internal messaging regarding the linkage between public health outcomes and racism. This will be shared with the Program Policy Committee. Chair Wright suggested the letter drafted by the equity committee be brought to the policy committee so that the committee can draft a resolution to bring forward to the other committees and the Board.

Health Officer’s Report

Dr. Chris Spitters thanked the Board for their help in moving the county into Phase 2. The minimum waiting period to apply for Phase 3 is 21 days from the day we were notified of Phase 2 approval. Friday, June 26, is the earliest date we could apply. The basic framework for Phase 3 is to hold or improve upon the outcomes we’ve achieved so far. We’re waiting for DOH regarding the exact reporting requirements. Our epidemiologists will provide fewer daily reports since numbers are changing minimally at this point; however, daily updates can be found on the state’s website. We also plan to provide weekly reports addressing city-by-city counts. Dr. Spitters is working with legal counsel regarding gathering and activity restrictions and reconciling that with our current Phase 2 status. Our resource triage will focus on disease-control activity (cases, contacts) and testing activity. We’re receiving requests asking us to approve reopening plans for other organizations; however, that’s not part of what we do. Guidance can be found on the governor’s website, and we’re available to answer specific questions. Looking ahead to the new school year, it’s reasonable to think we’ll be in Phase 3 and maybe Phase 4 by then. Children have low morbidity and almost no fatality related to COVID-19, but there’s concern they could bring it home to older family members. School protocol will be different than in the past. Challenges will include transportation, face coverings, children sick with colds/flu, and multi-county school districts. It’s also important that children are current on their vaccines.

Information Items

Chair Wright announced upcoming meetings.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.