



Snohomish Health District
Board of Health Minutes
Special Meeting
May 29, 2020

The meeting was held via Zoom conference call.

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 special meeting of the Board of Health was called to order at 10:04 a.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

Scott Bader joined the call at 10:10 a.m.

Approval of Agenda Contents and Order

It was moved by Ms. Anji Jorstad and seconded by Ms. Christine Frizzell to approve the agenda contents and order. The motion passed with 14 yes votes, 0 no votes, 1 absent (Bader).

Public Comment

Chair Wright noted that written comments received prior to the meeting were provided to Board members via email before the meeting.



Action

Approve Res. 20-16 authorizing submission of an application and request for a variance from the Washington State Department of Health to proceed to Phase 2 of the State's reopening Washington plan (SR 20-047)

Mr. Frederick reported he spoke to the Secretary of Health who indicated there will likely be an ongoing conversation regarding the qualifications process to move into phase 2 for larger counties. Snohomish County's application includes data, letters of support, and attestation letters from all four hospitals in the county. We're confident we're in a position to move forward with the application.

Dr. Spitters reviewed data in the application and stated that with the metrics, partnerships, and internal capacity we have, we can be confident in moving into phase 2. He reviewed the data in the application packet, including case information. Over the past two-week period, we've had 240 new cases, and the trend is moving downward. One-third of those cases were associated with long-term care facilities. He reiterated it's the right time to move forward into phase 2 and to then try to suppress and contain as we gain experience and success working with the state and our partners. We can then continue to progress in a slow, safe, and stable manner. He noted this is a step toward normalcy and the majority of recommendations will remain in place (such as facemasks, social distancing, etc.).

Board members asked questions of staff and discussed the motion and application.

Dr. Spitters reviewed the guidelines under phase 2 and noted that if any metrics move in the wrong direction, we'll look at ways to remedy it by potentially expanding elements of mitigation efforts. He noted that the prevalence of immunity from the virus in the community (serology) is far less than ten percent.

The Secretary of Health will review and approve the application under the governor's guideline. Not all metrics must be met to be approved.

Motion to extend the meeting

It was moved by Ms. Frizzell and seconded by Mr. Scott Bader to extend the meeting 15 minutes to 11:15 a.m. The motion passed with 15 yes votes, 0 no votes.

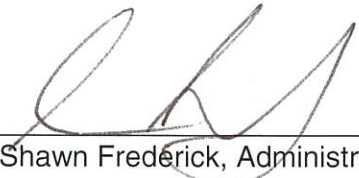
Further discussion on the action item: Legal counsel Grant Week noted that the revised resolution distributed to the Board prior to the meeting states that if the Board takes action at today's meeting, staff will review any new requirements or criteria that might be issued by the governor's office. If it's deemed we meet the new criteria, the revised resolution allows the Board to move forward with the application.

It was moved by Mr. Nate Nehring and seconded by Ms. Linda Redmon to approve revised Res. 20-16 authorizing submission of an application and request for a variance from the Washington State Department of Health to proceed to Phase 2 of the State's reopening Washington plan. The motion passed with 15 yes votes, 0 no votes.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.


Stephanie Wright, Chair


Shawn Frederick, Administrative Officer / Secretary