

CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH BOARD OF HEALTH | MINUTES
707 N Armstrong Place, Boise, ID | Syringa Room
Tuesday, October 20, 2020 at 8:30 a.m.

Note: Due to COVID-19, meetings of the Board for the remainder of 2020 will be held via video conference unless otherwise noted.

View meetings live at: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC4LJ1BM5Jv3zczecnykXarw/>

I. IN THE MATTER OF CALL TO ORDER

Betty Ann Nettleton, Board Chair, called the Central District Health (CDH) Board of Health meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

II. IN THE MATTER OF ROLL CALL

The Board of Health members were identified by roll call: Representative Megan Blanksma, V-Chair; Commissioner Ryan Stirm; Commissioner Elt Hasbrouck, Trustee; Jane Young, DNP; Ted Epperly, MD; Commissioner Diana Lachiondo; and Betty Ann Nettleton, RN (Ret), Chair.

Others present were CDH staff members Russell A. Duke, District Director; Kimberly Link, Community Disease Control Manager; Donna Mahan, Recorder; and Mike Kane, CDH Legal Counsel.

ACTION ITEMS:

III. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

IV. NEW BUSINESS

1. *Review of COVID-19 metrics for Criteria for Determining Quarantine and Restriction Orders for Ada County, by Kimberly Link, Communicable Disease Control Manager*

Over the past two weeks, the ICU and Non-ICU admissions both trended upward. Disease reports trended upward in the past two weeks although the total case count last week decreased from two weeks prior. There were 3 non-consecutive days of 100+ cases reported last week. Ada County clusters/outbreaks of note include Boise State, IDOC, Ada Co Jail, and 27 long-term care facilities.

With a number of children up to 19 years of age having tested COVID positive being asymptomatic, the Board discussed possible testing to determine what percentage of youth in middle schools and high schools are asymptomatic. This would enable the Board and staff to make better decisions about what and how to respond.

2. *Discussion and Vote on if the board wants to review and approve recommendations that CDH provides to schools regarding their operational plans to include such topics as in-person learning and extracurricular activities prior to such guidance being issued.*

Russ reviewed the local health district role and responsibilities regarding schools: identify the category of transmission level within a community and advise local education agencies on operation and health safety plans and procedures. How schools apply the data and recommendation is up to each elected school board. Several board members reiterated that the public health district's job is to review and provide the best data and the best recommendations; and in the end, the local school boards are responsible for their school district and how they operate.

With contact-tracing in schools being extremely tough, Dr. Epperly asked if funding could be available for asymptomatic testing in youth from select middle schools and high schools to know what we are looking at in the community. The funding is not the problem, but available and accurate testing is the limitation. Dr. Ted Epperly warned that high rates of asymptomatic spread among school-age likely contributed to the overall increase community spread.

No action was taken at this time.

3. *Discussion and Vote regarding potential actions to protect life, health, and safety within the District as to the COVID-19 Pandemic, to include potential amendments to current public health orders for Ada County and consideration of orders that include the opportunity to visit residents at long-term care facilities.*

The Board was thankful that Mr. Duke and his team were able to quickly provide guidelines to be considered to allow long-term care facilities in Ada County to begin accepting visitors again. In discussing and reviewing the criteria laid out in the draft public health order, long-term care facilities must meet the required safety standards to allow visitors. After Russ reviewed changes made to the Ada County Orders provided prior to the meeting, a motion was made.

Motion: Representative Megan Blanksma made a motion to accept the changes in the draft orders. Seconded by Dr. Jane Young.

Discussion: Russ stated he had three additional changes he would like to propose to be added to the draft orders.

1. Under 7.C.c., the phrase "of visitors" would be added so the sentence reads, "Facilities must limit movement of visitors in the facility."
2. Under 7.C.d., "Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services" would be added to the phrase to read, "found on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services COVID-19 Nursing Home Data site."
3. Under 7.C.d., the question was raised, do we keep "visitation should only occur" or state that "visitation shall only occur"?

Representative Blanksma, as the maker of the motion, supports adding the words as stated and supports keeping the word 'should' to her motion if Dr. Young, as the person who seconded the motion, would be in agreement with her. Dr. Young is in agreement with Representative Blanksma and accepts the amendments. By voice vote, Commissioner Elt Hasbrouck, Representative Megan Blanksma, Commissioner Ryan Stirm, Dr. Jane Young, Dr. Ted Epperly, and Commissioner Diana Lachiondo voted aye. Motion carried unanimously.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The next Board of Health meeting will be Tuesday, October 27 at 5:15 p.m. The Board adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Motion: Representative Megan Blanksma made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Commissioner Ryan Stirm. By voice vote, Commissioner Elt Hasbrouck, Representative Megan Blanksma, Commissioner Ryan Stirm, Dr. Jane Young, Dr. Ted Epperly, and Commissioner Diana Lachiondo voted aye. Motion carried.

Attest:



Betty Ann Nettleton
Board Chair



Russell A. Duke, District Director
Secretary to the Board

Board Minutes approved on October 27, 2020.