

3:00 p.m. - Convened/Board of Health.

Remotely: Chris Skidmore Mary Collins and Mike Berney.

**DIVISION UPDATES:**

**Minutes:**

1. Commissioner Handy **moved** Commissioner Largent **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve the Board of Health minutes of **October 18, 2021**.

**Health Officer Update:**

2. Chris Skidmore reported we coming out of the Delta Variant wave and cases are dropping into 38 case per 100,000. Mr. Skidmore expects this to continue. He also shared the Health Department is running low on the rapid antigen test however more on order with no timeline on when they will be received. Schools are seeing a rise due to indoor sports however concession stands are not open to lower eating and drinking at events so masks stay on. Hospitalizations for the Corona virus has also dropped however at this time there are only two ICU beds available in the 13 closest hospitals. Shortage of ICU beds is a nationwide problem and the National Guard has been deployed to assist.

Commissioner Handy asked if there are more variants at this time with Dr. Bowman answering France has 30-40 different mutations however the more mutations don't necessarily make it worse, some mutations can make things better. Commissioner Handy also asked about the pill being used to treat the Corona virus. Dr. Bowman responded that it is helpful and it may be several months before it is available. Patients that will benefit most are the high risk patients, however they may not be eligible for the pill due to the medication they are currently taking and the drug interactions. Regardless it will take time before the supply can meet the demand.

New time limes for quarantine have lowered from ten days to five days quarantine which is helping school attendance.

**Environmental Health Update:**

3. Mr. Skidmore said that he has been able to get new staff hired and all in the training process. This is a slow time for environmental health allowing the ramping up of training.

Deputy Health Director Corrine McMichael shared an email with all County employees saying "At Home Tests" are available via mail. She included the website to order the test as well sharing it could take up to two months to receive them.

**Administrative Update:**

4. The administration positions are also being filled with three new positions filled, one in Colfax, one in Environmental Health and the nurse position has be filled. Commissioner Largent asked that an organizational chart be created for the Health department with pictures. Mr. Skidmore said he would work on this.

**HIPAA Update:**

5. Nothing to report per Chris Skidmore.

**Next Meeting/Adjournment:**

6. The next Board of Health meeting is March 21, 2022.

The Board adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

7. **Future Meetings:**

Monday, March 21, 2022  
Monday, May 16, 2022  
Monday, July 18, 2022

Monday, Sept. 19, 2022

BY: Corey Mitzimberg  
Deputy Clerk of the Board