

BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES - DATE: March 21, 2022

3:00 p.m. – Convened/Board of Health.

Present: Chris Skidmore, Chelsea Cannard, Bailey Wiedmer, Jacob Jones (3:00 p.m.).

DIVISION UPDATES:

Minutes:

1. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Handy **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve the Board of Health minutes of March 21, 2022.

Health Officer Update:

2. Chris Skidmore reported, the County was at the height of Omicron, however as of today we are back to where we were and he is seeing a similar trend across the state. There is some concern of new BA.2, BA.2 was present in County during Omicron wave. At this point, we are not sure how much impact it had on Omicron. The WSU students are returning this week, and additional tests are on order should they be needed.

Case numbers have been updated online and will be done every Monday as well as links to State on the Health Department website. Mr. Skidmore was please to share; hospital stays are continuing to decline and there have been no new outbreaks in schools. The most recent guidance for students returning to school, is students can return with negative test.

Environmental Health Update:

3. The newly hired staff is working on getting trained, this week they are working on taking online food courses. Chris Skidmore, Health Director, plans to take them out for Soil and Water trainings soon. He also plans to hire an additional tech after the current ones are fully trained.

Administrative Update:

4. Cynthia Hayward has transitioned from the Auditors Office to the Health Department and will be working closely with Noel Christiansen.
Mr. Skidmore also reported the County Dietician has resigned therefore they will be working closely with the State to keep up on WIC.

Corrine McMichael, Assistant Health Director shared the stakeholder portion of the project has been completed for the Community Health Needs Assessment. A vaccination clinic will be held every Tuesday in Pullman, beginning April 12 for the next two months.

HIPAA Update:

5. Nothing to report.
6. Dr. Bowman shared he is not worried about other variants and hope to see hospitalizations for COVID to stay down.
Commissioner Swannack asked if there has been any word of lifting the Emergency Declaration with Dr. Bowman responding, yes, it is being discussed. Most of the decision making process has to do with funding, as once the declaration is lifted funding will end.

Next Meeting/Adjournment:

7. The next Board of Health meeting is May 16, 2022.
The Board adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

7. Future Meetings:

July 19, 2021

September 20, 2021

November 15, 2021

Corey Mitzimberg
Clerk of the Board

Tom Handy, Chairman
Board of Health