



MINUTES

Jefferson County Board of Health

Regular Meeting, February 18, 2021, 2:30 p.m.

Jefferson County Public Health, 615 Sheridan Street, Port Townsend WA 98368

Virtual Meeting

Board Members

Pamela Adams, Port Townsend City Council
Greg Brotherton, County Commissioner, District #3
Kate Dean, Chair, County Commissioner District #1
Kees Kolff, Public Hospital District #2 Commissioner
Denis Stearns, Vice Chair, Citizen at large
Heidi Eisenhour, County Commissioner, District #2
Sheila Westerman, Citizen at large

Staff Members

Michael Dawson, Water Quality Manager
Alisa Hasbrouck, Environmental Health Manager
Vicki Kirkpatrick, Public Health Director
Thomas Locke, Health Officer
Apple Martine, Community Health Director
Pinky Mingo, Environmental Public Health Director
Veronica Shaw, Public Health Deputy Director

Chair Dean called the February 18, 2021 virtual meeting of the Jefferson County Board of Health to order at 2:30 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Chair Kate Dean, Vice-Chair Denis Stearns, Commissioner Greg Brotherton, Member Sheila Westerman, Commissioner Heidi Eisenhour, Member Kees Kolff, and Member Pamela Adams.

Staff Present: Public Health Officer Dr. Thomas Locke, Community Health Director Apple Martine, Environmental Public Health & Water Quality Director Pinky Mingo, Water Quality Manager Michael Dawson, Environmental Health Manager Alisa Hasbrouck and Environmental Health Specialist III Linda Atkins.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Dean requested a motion to approve the agenda for February 18, 2021.

Member Kolff moved to approve the agenda. Member Adams seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Dean requested approval of the minutes for the January 21, 2021 Regular Meeting.

MOTION: Member Kolff moved to approve the minutes as presented. Member Brotherton seconded the motion which carried by a unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Manda Funaro, resident and Chief Operations Officer for Goodman Sanitation and Septic Company, addressed the Board regarding vaccination efforts for her business.

The board addressed her concerns and acknowledged other comments submitted by individuals via email which reflect their personal opinions and which were reviewed by the Board of Health members.

OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Jefferson Healthcare Update

Member Kolff provided the Jefferson Healthcare Report. He discussed healthcare activities, staffing challenges, vaccine numbers and scheduling. Discussion followed.

2. Jefferson County Public Health Program Reports

Staff Member Martine provided the Jefferson County Public Health Program report. She highlighted Black History month as it relates to public health, routine healthcare importance, contact tracing for COVID-19, vital records changes, mass vaccination events, staffing updates, and virtual public health programs. Staff Member Mingo highlighted the EnerGov conversion, regulatory reform, amnesty program, and shooting ordinance. The Board offered that it would defer to staff on how best to regulate the amnesty program. Discussion followed.

3. Cycle Threshold Values for COVID-19 RT-PCR Testing – the Facts

Dr. Locke explained the cycle threshold values for COVID-19 RT-PCR testing. Discussion followed.

4. Roadmap to Recovery Update

Dr. Locke reported on the latest pandemic report as issued by the State of Washington and the current phase. Discussion followed.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposed Regionalization of Local Public Health in Washington State – Jefferson County Board of Health Response

Chair Dean and Dr. Locke introduced the Jefferson County Board of Health's response letter which will be sent to state legislators regarding the proposed regionalization of public health districts. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Member Kolff moved to approve the letter. Member Westerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

MOTION: Member Kolff motioned to include a one-page cover letter. The motion failed for lack of a second.

2. On-site Holding Tank Policy

Staff Member Mingo and Environmental Health Specialist Linda Atkins discussed the On-Site Holding Tank Policy and revisions. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Member Brotherton moved to approve the On-site Holding Tank Policy as presented. Member Kolff seconded the motion, which carried by a unanimous vote.

3. COVID Vaccine Update – Mass Vaccination Preparation

Dr. Locke provided the COVID-19 vaccine update. He discussed the distribution plan for Jefferson County, vaccination rate, projections, vaccination events and communication. Discussion followed.

4. SARS-CoV-2 Variants: Status Report and Impact of Pandemic Strategy

Dr. Locke reported on SARS-CoV-2 variants, masking options and importance. Discussion followed.

ACTIVITY UPDATE

Staff Member Dawson provided an update on the Water Quality team move from the Jefferson County Public Health building a space across the parking lot next to Port Townsend Computers.

AGENDA PLANNING CALENDAR

The next Board of Health meeting will be held online as a virtual meeting on Thursday, March 18, 2021 from 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Dean adjourned the February 18, 2021 Jefferson County Board of Health meeting at 4:24 p.m. until the next Regular Meeting or Special Meeting as properly noticed.

JEFFERSON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Kate Dean, Chair

Karen Abbott, Clerk of the Board

Respectfully submitted
K. Abbott