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Anaconda-Deer Lodge County
Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Thursday March 26, 2020
Anaconda Community Center, 3rd floor conference room

Present: Karan Kunz (BOH), Rebecca Clark (BOH), Megan Rediske (BOH), Leigh Ann Holmes (Public Health Director), Deb Robinson (Public Health Department), Chad Lanes (Sanitation), Angie Galetti (BOH), William Reiter (Health Officer)

Present through conference calls: Mike Huotte (ADLC Commission), Angie Galetti (BOH),

Absent: none of the BOH members

Guests: Tammy Martin (public and present through conference call),

1. Quorum not met (as Angie Galetti had not called in yet), meeting called to order by Karan Kunz at 5:05 pm
2. Public Health Department Report began
    a. Governor Bullock just declared a shelter-in-place order at 4:30 today
    b. At this time, there is no active cases of COVID-19 in Deer Lodge County. The department has received the results of 21 tests, and all have been negative. Of these 21, about half were Anaconda residents. The others were from Missoula, Phillipsburg, Butte and Oregon.
3. Angie Galetti called in and quorum was met at 510
    a. Approval of Januray 23rd BOH meeting minutes
        i. Rebecca Clark made the motion to approve, William Reiter seconded, unanimously approved
    b. Approval of February 27th BOH meeting minutes
        i. William Reiter made the motion to approve, Rebecca Clark seconded, unanimously approved
2. Public Health Department Report continued
    c. On 3/23/2020, ADLC Emergency Medical personnel transported a highly suspect patient to the ER, and due to proper planning, training and teamwork, they were able to prevent any possible exposure. The result was negative, and the repeat test also came back negative.
    d. Dispatch is doing an excellent job of screening suspect COVID-19 patients.
    e. When you walk in the courthouse, you are "greeted" by stop signs and hand sanitizer
    f. The courthouse is now only open from 9 am to 1 pm and most business is being conducted by telephone or online.
    g. CEO Everett has reassigned a staff to the PHD for the time being and has authorized us to hire a nurse at a contract wage of $35/hour.

h. The department has PHD staff helping with meals at the schools and going door to door to businesses providing education on social distancing and prevention – 250 meals were served today
i. Sanitarians have had to deliver the closure notices to businesses, not once…but twice. And now they will be delivering the Governor's order to extend the closures until April 10, 2020.
j. Our hospital is well equipped, trained and prepared; you may have seen the tent outside the ER to prevent exposure of other patients during the screening process. – LH stressed that the communication between the hospital and the public health department is going well.
k. The county has a group of health care and community members that are meeting every Thursday morning (by phone now) to discuss the situation – Tammy Martin asked how to attend these meeting and Leigh Ann stated she would email Tammy the contact information
l. The long-term care facilities and the hospital are not allowing visitation.
m. Childcare facilities are open and appear to be have enough openings to care for those in need
n. Job Corp has sent students home – no students remain at this time.
o. Additional PHEP funds will be distributed soon
p. PPE has started to arrive from the state and federal govt
q. Other programs (Asthma, PAT, WIC, Tobacco) are being conducted by phone or video
r. Granite County Contract
    i. Granite county is without a PH nurse and is operating currently with a ½ time admin person and part time home visitor for the aging. The state immunization program has recommended that all the vaccines be thrown away as the temps have not been monitored. In essence – they need help. The ADLC PHD offered to provide essential PH services for them until the end of the fiscal year and at that time, plan to merge the 2 county health departments and possibly add Powell as well. This will allow for better access to services for the constituents of all 3 counties. The Granite county commissioners have already approved the contract for 3 months at $40/hr X 20 hours/wk plus mileage. April 1, 2020 start date.
    ii. William Reiter states he supported this contract – other BOH members stated their approval
    iii. William Reiter brought up the point that while making the contract, administration integration of resources also needs to be discussed
    iv. Discussion on with this this contract look toward creation of Tri-County Public Health group with Granite, Anaconda-Deer Lodge and Powell counties.
s. Public Health Department maybe can access PHEP funds that could be used by the department to access another room in their building to potentially help them expand

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t. Megan asked if the PHD is coordinating potential volunteers to help with the county's response if the situation needs more help – Leigh Ann said right now that department is fine, but she and Megan will email each other about making a plan to coordinate potential volunteers in the future

3. Sanitarian report was submitted – see attachment for full report
    a. Chad did an overview of the report
    b. Chad stated that inspections have been put on hold due to the workload of the department's COVID-19 response – they have been communicating with businesses on the county's order to close bars and for restaurants to do take-out or delivery only – a couple bars initially did not comply, but after the department talked to them, they are in compliance now
    c. Chad discussed Law Enforcement's lack of response to helping with the department's needs to their request to follow-up with businesses that were not in compliance of the bars closure – it was noted that Law Enforcement has not been represented at the county's Thursday morning COVID-19 planning meetings
    d. In response to a potential PHD contract with Granite and Powell counties, Chad mentioned that the Environmental Health Department is already a Tri-County Department
4. BOH members looked up the recently announced governor's Shelter-Place-Order (to begin Saturday 3/28 at 1201) and there was a brief discussion on how it will impact ADLC
    a. Chad and Leigh Ann discussed that the hair salons, cosmetology organizations will have to close
    b. Members of the board agreed that for the most part, ADLC was in already in compliance with many of the shelter-in-place directives
5. Dr. William Reiter (Health Officer) shared his views on how the COVID-19 virus is similar to the flu

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 pm

The next Board of Health Meeting will be on April 23, 2020 at 5:00 in Anaconda Community Center, 3rd floor conference room. – Karan reminded people that they may use the conference call phone number to access the meeting remotely (phone number: 425-436-6356 access code 204098)

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