Approved 5/28/20

Anaconda-Deer Lodge County
Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Thursday April 23, 2020 5 pm
Anaconda Community Center, 3rd floor conference room and
conference call - phone number: 425-436-6356 access code 204098

Present: Karan Kunz (BOH), Rebecca Clark (BOH), Megan Rediske (BOH), Leigh Ann Holmes (Public Health Director), Deb Robinson (Public Health Department), Chad Lanes (Sanitation), Mike Huotte (ADLC Commission)

Absent: Angie Galetti (BOH),

Guests: Tami Martin

1. Call to Order at 5:07 – secretary did roll call and quorum was not met
2. Unable to approve previous two meeting due to lack of quorum, item placed on the agenda for May's meeting
3. Discussion and vote regarding interim Health Officer Position – unable to do because of lack of quorum, item placed on the agenda for May's meeting
4. Update on Tami Martin's appointment to BOH
    a. Her appointment to voting member of ADLC BOH is on the next commission's meeting agenda. If approved, she will be a voting member at May's BOH meeting
    b. Karan said after Tami's approval, she will give Tami an orientation binder for the board
    c. Karan updated board that there are still one voting and two non-voting member openings on the BOH
5. Public Health Department Report
    a. Updates on governor's phases of reopening the state – Shelter-in-place order expires this weekend and phase one will begin. More information on local response provided in Sanitarian report
    b. COVID – 19 updates
        i. Continue to have Thursday 0700 meeting with county stakeholders through phone conference – Leigh Ann reported that attendance had been lightening, but with the governor's announcement of the three reopening phases, this week's meeting (4/23) was well attended.
        ii. Public Health Department, hospital and other agencies are planning and preparing for more cases as the state reopens.
        iii. Hospital working on opening the clinical back up to outpatient procedures on Monday 4/27. They are expecting an increase in positive cases as they are testing everyone during pre-operation procedures.
    c. Funding opportunities / updates

i. $28,000 in Additional PHEP funds came
ii. Oral Health Grant is still a go – department has a dentist to back it
iii. Behavior Health Funding for COVID -19 concerns– maybe money could be used towards Tri-County Behavior Health concerns. Could also set up some structure for a future Tri-County Public Health
1. Money will available on May 1st
2. Leigh Ann is very excited about this project
3. The department has received 5 letters of support

d. Update on three COVID – 19 county patients
i. All three have recovered and there are currently no active cases in the county

e. Karan asked how the temporary nurse that is hired for the department is being paid.
i. Leigh Ann said it was DES funds from that position not being filled.

f. Further questions about the vacant health officer position
i. Does each county need their own? – asked in regards to a potential Tri-County Public Health Department
1. Leigh Ann answered yes and said the department is working toward it
ii. There are concerns about immunization and orders as the previous Health Officer, Dr. William Reiter, had rescinded his signature.
1. Currently, the health department does not have any active orders, but they are reaching out to other providers like Heide Applegate to get the orders updated.

g. Karan asked if there were any public comment questions about the Public Health Department report and there was none.

6. Chad discussed and submitted a proof of the communication form the Sanitarian department will be using to inform businesses about the Governor's phase one reopening. Chad submitted the form to Karan and Megan – see attachment for form
a. The environmental department will be meeting with Public Health at 0800 on Friday 4/24 to go over the form and discuss logistic of how the reopening will be communicated to businesses.

7. Further COVID – 19 Discussion
a. Schools reopening – Governor's phases allow the individual districts to decide if they will reopen for the remainder of the year.
i. Tami Martin reminded everyone that there is a scheduled zoom school board meeting on Wednesday 4/29 where the school board is looking for input on this topic.
ii. Leigh Ann discussed that Justin Barnes, Superintendent of School, had asked for the board's recommendation on this issue. She read the group an email where she recommended not opening up the schools due to various concerns. Examples of concerns include the high number of Grandparents raising children in this county and how it would difficult to

enforce social distancing recommendation with children. Megan and Karan agreed with Leigh Ann's email and recommendation

b. Both Chad and Leigh Ann reinforced that they think and are preparing for an increase in cases as the Shelter-in-place order expires.
    i. Chad gave the example of talking to restaurant owners who are choosing not to reopen right now. Chad is reinforcing that it is the business owner's choice to reopen at this time.

8. Public Comment
    a. Tami Martin reminded the board the correct spelling of her name and gave the status of her appointment to the BOH

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 pm

The next Board of Health Meeting will be on Thursday May 28, 2020 at 5:00 in Anaconda Community Center, 3rd floor conference room. People may use the conference call phone number to access the meeting remotely (phone number: 425-436-6356 access code 204098)