

LAKE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

A regular meeting of the Lake County Board of Health was held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022 at 1:30 p.m. at the Lake County Commissioners Chambers, Lake County Courthouse located at 106 4th Avenue East, Polson, MT 59860.

MEMBERS PRESENT

- Gale Decker – County Commissioner
- Bill Barron – County Commissioner
- Logan Lloyd – Citizen Appointee – via Zoom
- Barbara Markham – Citizen Appointee – via Zoom

MEMBERS ABSENT

- Steve Stanley – County Commissioners

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

- Diana Luke, RS – Lake County Environmental Health Director
- Emily Colomeda, RN – Lake County Public Health Director – via Zoom
- Corey Leach, SIT – Lake County Environmental Health – via Zoom
- Benedicta Bras, SIT – Lake County Environmental Health

CS&KT TRIBAL HEALTH STAFF

- Dr. Bernadette Corum, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Health Director- Via Zoom

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Decker at 1:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Board Member Lloyd motions to accept the February 22, 2022, minutes, seconded by Board Member Markham. The motion is unanimously approved.

LAKE COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT UPDATE

COVID-19 Updates: As of this morning, Tuesday, April 19, 2022:

- Total Confirmed Cases: 6969
- Deaths: 100
- The dominant strain circulating in Montana is now BA 1 Omicron.
- Today's vaccine map shows 61% of the eligible population in Lake County has been fully vaccinated.
- CDC has approved a second booster for select groups, including those 50 and older.

Title X Family Planning Program Updates:

Lake County will be transitioning to Bridger Care in Bozeman for a five-year period. No major changes are anticipated, some reporting changes are to be expected, but the transition is predicted to go smoothly.

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBAL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH UPDATE

COVID-19 Updates: They are keeping a close watch on COVID trends. Test kits are still offered; however, the pop-up testing sites are no longer being utilized, testing has moved back indoors. Although masking

and social distancing are still in effect, there will no longer be Tribal Health Patient Navigators to assist patients at entrances, patients will self-screen with help of signage at main entrances. Vaccinations are still offered through Tribal pharmacies.

There are reports of Tribal Police seeing a large amount of drugs moving through the communities. This is a concern, and a close watch is being maintained.

LAKE COUNTY ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH UPDATE

Environmental Health is now fully staffed; Corey Leach and Benedicta Bras are introduced. They are both preparing to test to become registered sanitarians and recently attended state-wide training with Anna Baxter. The season is ramping up, there have been 104 septic permits purchased since the first of the year. Licensed establishments applications are up as well. MDEQ submittals are still being held up waiting for Water Board comments.

LAKE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS UPDATE

The Commissioners have started working on a marijuana licensing program for Lake County. This program will be under the Department of Revenue umbrella.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is tentatively set for Tuesday, June 21, 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Decker.

APPROVED: _____

Gale Decker, Chair
Lake County Board of Health