



**BENTON-FRANKLIN HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF HEALTH**

MEETING MINUTES

October 20th, 2021

**BENTON-FRANKLIN HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
October 20,2021**

IN ATTENDANCE

Benton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner McKay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jason Zaccaria, Administrator & BOH Executive Secretary
	<input type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Delvin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Amy Person, Health Officer
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Small	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lisa Wight, Sr. Human Resources Manager
Franklin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Didier	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Jones, Sr. Finance Manager
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Mullen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rick Dawson, Sr. Surveillance & Investigation Manager
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Peck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Carla Prock, Sr. Healthy People & Communities Manager
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Janae Parent, Administrative Services Manager
			<input type="checkbox"/>	Eric Elsethagen, Information Systems & Security Manager
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Diane Medick, Administrative Assistant
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Peyton Jones, Administrative Temp
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lars Richins, PTE Local 17 Representative
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Barbara Johnson, WSNA Representative
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Annette Cary, Tri-City Herald Editor
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dara Higham, member of public

CALL TO ORDER

Acting Chairman Peck called the meeting to order at 1:30p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Small moved to approve meeting minutes for September 15th, 2021.
Commissioner McKay seconded. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC/STAFF

There was one written comment provided to the Board of Health (BOH) ahead of the meeting. Janae Parent read the comment aloud to the BOH during the meeting.

The written comment read by J. Parent was from Dara Higham, a concerned parent. There are unsanitary eating habits in Kennewick School District public schools, where children are having to sit on the floor to eat their lunches.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. E2SHB 1152 Update – Jason Zaccaria
 - a. Jason Zaccaria went over the recommendations from the attorney, Chris Mertens. Within the recommendations, it was noted that sections 5, 7, 8, and 9



**BENTON-FRANKLIN HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
October 20,2021**

are the main sections from House Bill 1152 that apply to the Benton-Franklin Health District (BFHD).

- b. Commissioner McKay asked for clarification on the ratio of elected member to non-elected members that will be required. J. Zaccaria responded that because the Health District is considered a bi-county Health District, there is the option of having at least four Commissioners on the Board of Health (BOH), which equates to two from each county. With the current number of commissioners on the board being six, there must be at least six non-elected individuals. Commissioner Peck mentioned that House Bill 1152 specifically says that there needs to be at least as many non-electeds as there are electeds.
- c. Commissioner McKay then asked for clarification on the interested parties list. J. Zaccaria responded that anyone who is interested from the public is allowed to express interest.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) Positions Request – Jeff Jones

- a. Commissioner Peck requested that Jeff Jones go over where the funding will be coming from before going over the requested positions. J. Jones went over the requested positions and where the money will be coming from for these additional positions.
- b. Commissioner McKay asked if the funding for these positions are one-time funds or if they will be reoccurring. J. Jones responded that the funds will be reoccurring every year. The funds are supposed to increase, however that could change based on legislation.
- c. Commissioner McKay then asked if there was enough work for these potential new staff members to stay busy. J. Jones responded that there should be enough work for the potential new staff.
- d. Commissioner Small asked for clarification on where the funding will be coming from as well as how much will be going towards these new positions. J. Jones responded that the annual State funding has been increased by 1.5 million. Half of this will be allocated towards the proposed positions.
- e. Commissioner Small asked if this funding will be used to assist the School Districts with the many testing programs that are being conducted for the students who are unvaccinated. J. Zaccaria briefly went over what the Health District does to assist the School Districts with school related issues.
- f. Commissioner Small motioned to accept the request for new hires. Commissioner Mullen seconded. Motion carried.
- g. J. Jones went over the additional positions for the COVID-19, Refugee and Immigrant outreach programs that were requested after the agenda was posted.



**BENTON-FRANKLIN HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
October 20,2021**

- h. Commissioner Small motioned to accept the request for new positions for the COVID-19, Refugees, and Immigrant outreach programs. Commissioner McKay Seconded. Motion carried.

2. State Auditor Office (SAO) Audit Reports for BFHD – Jeff Jones

- a. J. Jones went over the accountability audit that covered the period of January 1, 2019, through December 31, 2020. J. Jones also went over the financial federal single audit report for the period of January 1st, 2020, through December 31st, 2020.
- b. Commissioner Peck asked if the State Auditor's Office (SAO) was aware of the correction made about the post-employment income issue. J. Jones confirmed that the issue was corrected what the audit was still open with the SAO.

3. COVID-19 Updates – Dr. Amy Person

- a. Dr. Person noted that there has been a steady decline of cases over the last month. Currently, a large number of cases are represented by the 20 to 39-year-old members within the community. Along with that, over 50% of eligible individuals have gotten at least one shot of the vaccine. Staff from the Health District have continued to provide technical assistance to businesses when ordering vaccine.
- b. Dr. Person mentioned that anyone who meets the requirements, can get a Pfizer booster shot at least six months after they have received their second dose. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) advisory committee on immunization practices will be meeting to review the recommendation from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding Moderna and Johnson and Jonson. The recommendation would include that anyone who received a single dose of Johnson and Johnson should get a booster dose at least two months after the first dose. Along with that, the FDA's vaccine and related Biologic Product Advisory Committee will be meeting to review the data presented by Pfizer in their application for emergency use authorization for vaccination for individuals ages 5 to 11 years old.
- c. Commissioner Peck asked why the Health District has been acting as a vendor of sorts for vaccine distribution for providers. Dr. Person responded that the reason for this is because the minimum order quantity is between 400 and 1100 and most providers don't have enough clients for such a large volume of vaccine.
- d. Commissioner Didier described an experience a neighbor with COVID-19 had several months ago when going to Kadlec. Commissioner Didier then asked if there have been any deaths reportedly caused by the vaccine. Dr. Person responded that there have been no individuals from either Benton or Franklin Counties that have died due to the vaccine.



**BENTON-FRANKLIN HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
October 20,2021**

4. Cyanobacteria in the Columbia River Update – Rick Dawson

Rick Dawson mentioned that over the last three weeks samples of the Columbia River were taken. These samples revealed very low levels of the Cyanobacteria toxin, noting in some areas the toxin was nonexistent. The Health District will continue to monitor the levels of toxin in the water for the next six to eight weeks. Along with that, the drinking water that gets withdrawn from the Columbia River for Richland, Kennewick, and Pasco is safe for consumption.

ANNOUCEMENTS

None

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Commissioner Small moved to approve vouchers 84-2021 through 94-2021 in the amount of \$1,864,534.35 with the Chairman to sign the vouchers on behalf of the Board of Health. Commissioner Peck seconded. Commissioner Didier voted nay. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None needed.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of next meeting will be November 17th, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

Acting Chairman Peck adjourned the meeting at 2:34p.m.

Signature on file

Commissioner Brad Peck
Acting Chairman of the Board

Signature on file

Jason Zaccaria
Executive Secretary

