



**CITY OF CASPER-NATRONA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2021

Virtual by Zoom or in person-North Platte
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84877712972>

Phone: 1 253 215 8782 Passcode: 878 7771 2972
5:30 PM

Present or by Zoom: Anna Kinder, Tia Hansuld, Dr. Dowell, Dr. Wold, Dr. Dunn, Christie Nelson, Mayor Freel, Tonya Nolan, Emma Burton-Hopkins, Mary Ann Lembke, Hailey Bloom, Hilary Cage, Ruth Heald, Travis Mitchell

I. AGENDA/MINUTES

5:30 PM meeting was called to order by Christie Nelson

a. Previous Meeting Minutes/Notes

a.i. August meeting*

a.i.1. Tia Hansuld 1st the motion, Dr. Dunn 2nd the motion

a.i.2. All members I, none opposed

II. BUDGET/FINANCIAL

a. Financials

a.i. August financials tabled until October

III. BOARD

a. Next Meeting Date

a.i. **Proposed Meeting Date October 21st, 2021 ***

a.i.1. All members of the board in attendance agreed upon proposed date.

IV. HEALTH OFFICER

a. Health Officer Report

a.i. Dr. Dowell reported 50-51 hospitalized with COVID today with an additional 7 patients that are out of isolation but still very ill. Many of those are will with secondary bacterial infections. Deaths continue to increase and the situation is becoming more difficult and serious. The County Health Officer call reported that it is getting difficult to transfer and refer to larger hospitals, especially out of state. There are no beds available in Sheridan and Sweetwater counties and hospitalizations are increasing everywhere. Small hospitals are really feeling impacts and struggling. In eastern Idaho EMS us now rationing care and wont take

patients if they are close to death. There is crisis management in place in Idaho and Montana, Wyoming hopes we don't have to do that. Vaccination rate for Wyoming remains one of the lowest in the country. Dr. Dowell reports no flu cases being seen yet and flu vaccine season is coming up. He encourages vaccination and you can get COVID and flu vaccine at the same time or one week apart if you prefer. There was a pneumonic plague case in Fremont County which is also known as the black death. This is a plague in the lungs that a woman is believed to have acquired from 2 cats. She is very ill but there haven't been any reported secondary cases at all in the exposure window. Hospital workers and some others have been given prophylaxis. This isn't common and has a high mortality. Bubonic plague is more frequently seen and is a plague in the lymphnodes.

V. DIVISION REPORTS

a. ADMINISTRATION

a.i.1. COVID-19 UPDATE

a.i.1.a. Update-Testing/Vaccination

a.i.1.a.i. Working on a plan for 3rd doses when they get approved. Proactively planning and creating materials for the public when ACIP releases guidelines. It has been a difficult month with the volume, increasing severity of illness and poor staff treatment by the public. Lots of requests for facility vaccine but we are going into their facilities instead of taking the trailer which we need here for testing. Grateful to the city for making a pass through, signage and helping with traffic flow.

a.i.1.b. Staffing concerns-Retention

a.i.1.b.i. Under Emergency Operations here. Used to have 80-100 staff and now just 38. Everyone is being asked to help. Wanting to reward employees who have stayed and are sticking it out because they are all we have to continue.

a.i.2. General Administration

a.i.2.a. Reporting grid- updated

a.i.2.b. Strategic Planning for Board –tabled until January 2022

a.i.2.b.i. Tabled to correspond with NACCHO planning/evaluation

a.i.2.c. FOIA policy-tabled

a.i.2.d. Performance evals

a.i.2.d.i. Still chipping away at these

a.i.2.e. Building update



CASPER-NATRONA
COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

- a.i.2.e.i. Architects were here to look at the physical space and needs
- a.i.2.f. City of Mills MOU*
 - a.i.2.f.i. Mills attorney has the contract so proposed to approve contingent upon Mills approval. Christie recommended tracking services and quantity also.
 - a.i.2.f.ii. Tia Hansuld 1st the motion, Dr. Dunn 2nd the motion
 - a.i.2.f.iii. All members I, none opposed

a.i.3. **PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS/CPR-**

- a.i.3.a. State sent supplies (rapid antigen tests and shelter supplies if we need them). They also sent us one staff for 2 weeks to help us. Staffing is an issue for a shelter.
- a.i.3.b. Supplies seem to be in shortage nationally especially the rapid PCR. Tia asked if staff positive with COVID in the hospital have been vaccinated. Dr. Dowell says most have not been and if they have they also had other conditions limiting their immune response. Dr. Dowell thanked public health staff and Dr. Dunn for COVID efforts.

4. WYAETC/HIV CASE/RW PROGRAMS/WCRS/WYCC-

- a.i.3.c. Increase in sexual education requests from schools. Emma will be piloting a new rapid HIV/syphilis test.
- a.i.3.d. Cancer prevention efforts are good but limited by an increase in COVID again. Hosting meetings is difficult as partners return to more of the COVID response.

b. COMMUNITY PREVENTION PROGRAM-

- b.i. Mercer Contract
 - b.i.1. Contract is with their attorney for review so approval would be contingent upon their approval. This is specific to specific classes.
 - b.i.2. Tia Hansuld 1st the motion, Dr. Dunn 2nd the motion
 - b.i.3. All members I, none opposed

c. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION-

- c.i. Working on end of season septic's due to changes in weather. Trying to stay caught up on inspections. Many daycare closures due to COVID cases and thus workforce effects.

d. **NURSING-**

d.i.1. **DISEASE PREVENTION CLINIC**

d.i.1.a. Hilary will be leaving Oct. 8th. The board thanked her for her years of service at the department.

d.i.1.b. Clinic is busy. Planning and gearing up for back to school vaccine clinics, flu clinics, etc. Planning for low childhood vaccination rates compared to even 2020. October 1 is exclusion day. Completed Title X service delivery meeting this week. An application for another 5 years is due in December. Working on transitioning EMR also.

d.i.2. **ADULT HEALTH PROGRAM**

d.i.2.a. Still keeping up with state assessments. Mary Ann reports that the state says Natrona County is the biggest provider for assessments in the state.

d.i.3. **MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH PROGRAM**

d.i.3.a. August was mostly transitioning and educating partners over to the new WY Hand in Hand program. Waitlist is down to 3 from 40. The state is looking at changes to the Child Special Health program to allow requirements to change from a RN to social worker and they will hire more state staff to help.

VI. **CITY/COUNTY LIASION REPORTS**

a. Mayor Freel had nothing to add but thanked Hilary for her service to the department.

VII. **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

a. No reports

VIII. **ADJOURN**

IX. **EXECUTIVE SESSION-personnel**