

Public Health Advisory Council

Meeting Minutes

August 27, 2024

5:30-7:30 PM



Members Present: Ashley Mariscal, Emily Estes, Jeff Mori, Kevin Fischer, Kimberly Dauphin, Kurt Truong, Laurie Schacht, Marla Sanger, Michael Watkins, Nissa Buchanan, Sandra Brown, Tracey Fernandez, Tyler Clary, Councilor Sue Marshall (ex-officio), Breein Scarlett-Fiser, Franklin Johnson, Mark Collier, Paul Childers, Peggy Carlson, Alan Melnick (ex-officio)

Members Absent: Elma Blum, Peggy Carlson, Robert Ferrier, Scott Johnson

Staff: Jeff Harbison, Roxanne Wolfe, Gerry Preston, Kathleen Lovgren, David Hudson, Mallori Berry

Public Guests: None

Welcome and call to order

Chair Sandra Brown opened the meeting and completed a roll call of the PHAC members.

PHAC Business

- July 23, 2024, meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Budget Update

- Jeff Harbison gave a brief update about the 2025 budget process.
 - Draft dept 2025 budget was submitted by the August 12 deadline.
 - EPH fee update ordinance to Board of Health September 25.
 - BOH work session appeared to go well and the ordinance will be based on the policy direction provided at work session.
 - Forecasted 2026 budget is appearing to be more challenging than previously reported.
 - Will bring 2026 budget forecast data as soon as we receive more current information. Expect to need to engage PHAC as we encounter significant budget challenges in 2026 and 2027.

Public Health in Action

- Overview of Clark County Healthy Youth Survey Data
 - Reviewed attached presentation that will be presented at the Board of Health on 8/28/24.



8.27.24 Meeting
slides.pdf



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Health Officer Updates

- COVID-19, RSV, and Measles Update
- Back to School Immunization Rates
 - Children who are not up to date on their vaccinations are vulnerable to preventable illnesses and can make our community vulnerable to outbreaks of serious diseases.
 - Children who are not up to date on their vaccinations may not be able to attend school, preschool or child care.
 - In Clark County, about 90% of K-12 students were up to date on their vaccinations during the 2023-24 school year. Rates vary from district to district and from school to school.
 - The vaccination exemption rates in Clark County are higher than the state rates.
 - In Clark County, 7.4% of K-12 students had vaccine exemptions during the 2023-24 school year.
 - 4% religious, 3.5% personal, 0.9% medical, 0.7% religious membership (these total more than 7.4% because some students have more than one type of exemption)
 - Statewide, 4% of K-12 students had exemptions.
 - 2% religious, 2% personal, 0.6% medical, 0.4% religious membership
 - Among Clark County K-12 students, the vaccination rate is highest for MMR (94.5%).
- Whooping Cough
 - A news release was issued on 8/27/24 about the rising number of whooping cough cases in Clark County. We have also issued a provider advisory to alert local providers amongst the county, created a handout and shared messaging with our partners at the local school districts, and developed a social media campaign that will be shared on our social media over the next few weeks.
 - So far this year, we've had 229 cases of whooping cough in Clark County. Cases increased significantly over the summer, with 183 cases reported since June 1.
 - The best way to prevent getting whooping cough and spreading it to others is to get vaccinated. Most cases this year have been among people who are not vaccinated.

Committee/PHAC Updates

- Bylaws/Membership Committee update
 - *Members include:* Sandra Brown, Marla Sanger and Tyler Clary.
 - Peggy Carlson has stepped down as representative for Clark County Educational Community. This position is advertised by the Board of Health and has been posted.
 - PHAC has two additional term expirations that are nominated by agencies, which we are in the process of recruiting for.
 - Moving from Roberts Rules to consensus-based model; reviewed model and process; allows better participation; if member absent, can provide a proxy vote in advance.
 - Voted on updated Bylaws changes listed below. Marla motioned to approve. Emily Estes motioned and Breein Scarlett-Fiser and Paul Childers seconded the motion. All were in favor.
 - Membership/Bylaws Committee will meet after PHAC meeting is adjourned for further discussion.



PHAC - Draft bylaws
amendments hand-ou

- BOH/PHAC retreat planning (short-term committee)
 - *Members include:* Councilor Sue Marshall, Councilor Glen Yung, Alan Melnick, Roxanne Wolfe, Emily Estes, Breein Scarlett-Fiser, Laurie Schacht Nissa Buchanan, and Marla Sanger
 - First meeting scheduled for 9/20/24 and will be held *virtually*.
 - Planning committee will discuss date, time, and location for retreat, help to set a high level agenda, and discuss training options.
 - CCPH staff will manage all meeting logistics.
 - If you are interested in joining the BOH/PHAC retreat planning committee, please reach out to Mallori Berry at Mallori.Berry@clark.wa.gov.

- Local BOH Training
 - Held this year in Leavenworth on Oct. 1-3
 - Registration deadline is 9/10/24.
 - May register at: <https://members.wsac.org/event/local-board-of-health-training>
 - If you're interested in attending, please contact Roxanne Wolfe at Roxanne.Wolfe@clark.wa.gov or Mallori Berry at Mallori.Berry@clark.wa.gov.

- PHAC Member/Community updates
 - New Approaches to Vaccine Communications webinar link: [Public Health Webinars | Expert Insights | PHCC \(publichealthcollaborative.org\)](#)

Closing

The next PHAC meeting is September 24, 2024, from 5:30-7:30 and will be held *virtually*.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:00p.m.



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