



## **Board of Health Special Meeting**

**Wednesday March 25, 2020**

**Community Room, City County Complex, 414 E. Callender Street, Livingston, MT**

**Attendance:** BOH members- Kaleb Pearson; County sanitarian, Dr. Desnick; Health officer, Julie Anderson; HD Director, Trish Fievet; HD, Via Phone call in-Bill Berg; County Commissioner, Mike Inman, Marj Shinn, Kris Pierson and Mary Beebe.

**Call to Order:** 5:30 P.M.

**Conflict of Interest:** None

**Public Comment:** None

**New Business:** Update on COVID-19 pandemic at the county update.

Laurel – Implemented incident command starting last Monday, multi-agency approach to managing a large scale emergency that is now bigger than the Health Department

Laurel expanded on the role and who all is involved in the ICS

They implemented the unified health command which comprises all the health care providers in the county, including the Health Dept.

Their job is to come up with solutions to problems and foresee future problems

Update on the Gallatin County situation, has the most number of cases

Mike wanted to discuss what the Health Dept.'s role is in possibly shutting down businesses, YNP, other public places where people meet

Laurel – Explained that getting travelers out of the mix was priority, currently all Gallatin cases are travel related, currently does not recommend going to essential services only, but explained that we do have the paperwork ready if we need to implement that as soon as possible

Caleb M – What would this procedure look like? How could we set up a meeting with email, etc., other options to keep the BOH in the loop without having to schedule a meeting?

Laurel answer, explained the shutdown/governor's orders. The Health Dept. have gotten lists together, explained we have a potential list for Park ready to go (details in the audio recording)

Caleb – Does the essential services order pose a shelter in place/curfew order?

Laurel, no that type of order is a separate order

Bill – This would need a trigger with documents showing data backing up the decision, noted Gallatin closed tattoos, salon parlors, etc.

Mike – The 1-week notice can be waived but the 48 hours' public notice cannot, no email contact with board members can count as a meeting

Laurel – According the Shannan P (PC attorney) the 48 rules can be waived during emergency situations.

Bill – BOH needs to be agile and make decisions for the county while maintaining proper paper trails.

Laurel – Should we match what Gallatin county does?

Kris – Supports

Bill – Supports

Mary – Supports

Caleb – Supports

Laurel – We could have meeting really quick if all board members have email

Caleb – email works

Marj – Text or email

Kris – email

Bill – all of the above

Mike – Does work but concerned then the public would not be able to weigh in

Laurel – we have had lots of public response, Facebook, emails, calls, website, etc. Hot line is open and the Dept. will be staffing it with nurses and volunteers

Mike – still expressed concern about public comment in meetings

Bill – being able to move quickly is important

Mike – if we do follow suit with other jurisdictions it seems like that would be an easy decision to make which could be done by the HD, but maybe the BOH would get involved when we come across issues that are specific to Park County

Kris – Agreed with Mike’s opinion, so did Mary and Bill

Laurel – We will follow up with the PC attorney, send more frequent updates to the board.

Caleb – Nice to be patched into information flow.

Laurel – Is everyone getting website updates? Yes – all

Mike – Already involved with ICS, can coordinate regular with the HD and the Board

Bill – Thank you for working with the attorney’s office

Laurel – overall we are making good progress with the staff that we have available, to board let us know what you hear in the community

Mike – sometimes we hear contradicting things in the community regarding getting sick, staying home etc.

Laurel – we do eventually want people to gain immunity to COVID19 either naturally or through a vaccine, antibody tests are in the pipeline to test people who are in the community, there are certain events that can trigger actions like shutting down non-essentials, Montana should peak in the next 2-4 weeks, then calming down after that.

**Adjourned:** 6:10 P.M.