

## **COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS**

**Regular Meeting  
Adams County Courthouse  
Ritzville, Washington**

**September 1, 2021**  
(Wednesday)

**Call to Order @ 9:00 a.m.**

**Present:**

Chairman Dan C. Blankenship  
Vice-Chairman Terrance J. Thompson  
Commissioner Jay R. Weise

**Board of Health Update**

Dr. Brzezny, Adams County Health Officer, reviewed the following Covid related data:

- cases and hospitalizations in Washington State;
- new cases in Adams County for the period March, 2021 through August, 2021;
- incidence rate in Adams County through August 31, 2021;
- incidence rate in Adams County school districts for August 17 – 30, 2021;
- percentage of ICU beds occupied by Covid patients in Washington State;
- hospital occupancy is not expected to drop until mid-October;
- new directives for vaccinations due to Delta and the pandemic's course;
- mitigation strategies such as vaccines, masking, distancing and suitable ventilation;
- the impact of required vaccinations in health care; and,
- community events where large numbers of people congregate such as fairs, weddings, funerals, and school activities raise the potential for outbreaks.

**Adams County Health Department Structure**

Integrated Health Care Services Director Guse reported a job description is in process for a public health associate director position. The Board

requested Guse schedule an appointment to review the job description once completed.

### **Integrated Health Care Services**

Environmental Health Director Taff reported on departmental activities for the period of August 11, 2021 through September 1, 2021 as follows:

- vaccination clinics were held in cooperation with Aristo Health;
- inspections of permanent food establishments;
- air monitors were purchased and will be installed at school districts to monitor air quality;
- reviewing applications/following up for Wheatland and Othello fair vendors;
- on-site septic inspections;
- solid waste complaints;
- assessing files and updating Public Health and Emergency Preparedness Response documents; and,
- a staff member participated in a WOSSA training for on-site septic inspector.

### **Substance Use Disorders**

Gloria Ochoa shared the Mission Statement of the agency noting, even through the pandemic, staff has continued to see clients and educate them. Ochoa reported the agency will continue to provide services with restrictions in place, noting masks are required with clients being screened as they enter.

### **Contracts**

Commissioner Weise moved, Thompson seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign Coordinated Prevention Grant (CPG) Agreement No. SWMLSWFA-2021-AdCoHD-00073 (Solid Waste Management Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance) between State of Washington Department of Ecology and Adams County Health Department for a total award of \$84,069.33 (\$63,052 State portion; \$21,017.33 County portion) for a continuation of funding July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023 for solid waste enforcement. Motion carried.*

Commissioner Weise moved, Thompson seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign Agreement #750-720-1738 between Spokane Regional Health District and Adams County Health Department in the amount of*

\$9,000 for the period July, 2021 through December 31, 2021 to implement work identified in the Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program (YMPEP). **Motion carried.**

Commissioner Weise moved, Thompson seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign 2018-2021 Consolidated Contract No. CLH18235, Amendment #22, between State of Washington Department of Health and Adams County Health Department for an increase of \$124,785 for a total contract award of \$2,640,595 for the period July, 2021 through December, 2021.* **Motion carried.**

### **IHCS Staffing**

Director Guse reported on staffing levels in her department noting a current vacancy of an Administrative Assistant position in the Behavioral Health program; two (2) DCR Crisis/Therapist positions; and, a Community Health Director position.

Additionally, Director Guse reviewed departmental budgets through July 31, 2021; and, annual monitors/audits/reviews within the Integrated Health Care Services department.

**Recess @ 11:50 a.m.**

**Reconvene @ 1:00 p.m.**

### **Broadband**

Joe Poire, Petrichor Broadband, reviewed the process moving forward, should the county decide to apply for Broadband funding, with grant applications due in late September. The project locations identified by Petrichor are the Town of Lind and rural areas south and west of the City of Othello.

Poire suggested a follow-up meeting to review the grant requirements, as well as grantee responsibilities, in determining the path moving forward.

### **KnowBe4**

Michael Hauch and Will Wesch, representatives from KnowBe4, a cyber security awareness training and simulated phishing platform, provided a demonstration of their product.

Additionally present were Central Services staff Alex Igbinoba (appearing virtually) and Kristian Boness.

**Adjournment @ 3:06 p.m.**

Submitted:

s/Patricia J. Phillips, CMC  
Clerk of the Board

Edited and Approved:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON  
s/Dan C. Blankenship, Chairman  
s/Terrance J. Thompson, Vice-Chairman  
s/Jay R. Weise, Commissioner