



Cheyenne Laramie County Public Health Board of Health  
**Cheyenne Regional Medical Center – Meeting Room C**

Tuesday, November 21, 2023 @ Noon

***Present:***

Lorie Chesnut, DrPH, MPH, President  
Sue Hume, MS, RN (ret.), Vice President  
Gus Lopez, Member  
Dr. Max Silver, DDS, Member

***Staff Present:***

Kathy Emmons, DMgt, Executive Director  
Kasey Mullins, MSN, RN, Director of Nursing/Deputy Director  
Dalene Frantz, Director of Operation and Human Resources  
Laura Malone, Director of Finance  
Jennifer Escobedo, Director of Environmental Health  
Terry Thayn, Maternal Child Health Nurse Manager  
Stan Hartman, MD, County Health Officer

***Guests Present:***

Commissioner Troy Thompson, Ex Officio  
City Councilman Jeff White, Ex Officio  
Tammy Deisch, Laramie County Treasurer  
Rebekha Dostal, Deputy County Attorney

***Absent:***

Dr. Tracie Caller, MD, MPH, Secretary

President Chesnut called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm.

**Introduction of Guests:** Dr. Chesnut welcomed Terry Thayn, Maternal Child Health Nurse Manager who will be giving a presentation about the Wyoming Hand in Hand program.

**Consent Agenda:** Dr. Chesnut asked for input or changes to the consent agenda which included the agenda for November 2023, and minutes from the October 17, 2023, meeting. Ms. Hume moved to accept the consent agenda, Mr. Lopez seconded, the motion approved unanimously.

**Treasurers Report for October 2023:** Ms. Deisch reviewed the treasurer's report for October 2023, reviewing cash in the bank account, the cash flow, and the investment account balance. After discussion, Mr. Lopez moved to accept the treasurer's report with Ms. Hume seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.



**Financial Reports for October 2023:** Ms. Malone presented the October Revenue and Expense report noting that the expectation for expenditures be around 33.33% approximately and we are right on target for the first 4 months. After discussion, Ms. Hume moved to accept the Financial Report with Mr. Lopez seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**Mental Health Moment:** Dr. Chesnut discussed that the Governor of Wyoming is working on solutions to improve mental health care in Wyoming. He has launched a series of Town Hall events in communities across the state. The goal is to foster open conversations with community members about efforts to increase awareness of available resources and improve access to care. In addition, the governor has launched The Health Care Task Force to identify barriers, opportunities, and gaps in the network of mental health and substance abuse care in Wyoming.

**Contracts and Agreements** – Dr. Emmons discussed the renewal contract with Messenger, LLC for the storage facility which we share with Laramie County Emergency Management. This contract is for one year from October 2023 to September 2024 and includes a 90-day notice of termination clause so that if the new storage facility is complete early, we can end this contract prior to September 2024. After discussion, Mr. Lopez moved to approve the renewal contract with Messenger, LLC, with Ms. Hume seconding the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **Official Business:**

- Public Officer Training – Dr. Chesnut discussed the Public Officer Training and that all Board Members need to attend this training. Julie Daniels is developing the Better Boards training which will include some online training and some in-person training. By January or February 2024 this training should be ready.
- Meeting Location – Dr. Chesnut discussed the fact that we are unable to use the CRMC computers, screens, etc. for our board meetings due to their IT security protocols. Dr. Chesnut stated that we will move the monthly board meetings to the Health Department beginning with the December 2023 meeting.

#### **Information for the Board:**

- Dr. Emmons discussed that we are in the process of developing many policies within our organization including updating many existing policies.
- Dr. Emmons also gave an update on our Leadership Training with Ms. Mullins taking the lead training the leaders based on a specific book for the next six weeks.
- Dr. Emmons also discussed the Joint Juveniles Powers Board which oversees Meadowbrook and some of the juvenile services in the county is a very important committee that CLCPH is represented on.
- Dr. Emmons stated COVID numbers have increased a bit in the county and across the country with an increase of 19% hospitalization in Wyoming in the last month. Currently, Australia is mandated face mask requirements for hospitals. RSV is also increasing and has been seen earlier in the year than in prior years. Flu numbers are relatively low in the



county currently. The most prominent Flu strain and the effectiveness of this year's flu vaccine will be known around the beginning of the year.

» Dr. Emmons stated that the Environmental Health Department has been busy with several complex 201 exception applications. A 201-exception issue could include the lot size and the vicinity of city sewer to property lines within the 201 boundaries. The challenge is that if the property is contiguous to city sewer, the property owner needs to connect to the city sewer which is also expensive.

» Operations & Human Resources -

- Ms. Frantz gave an update on the new storage facility with the completion continuing to be on target for April to May 2024. Currently we are waiting for the transformer to be installed by High West Energy within the next couple weeks, 1 Black Hills Energy to run the gas lines, concrete aprons and the generator pad will hopefully be poured before the colder weather. The overhead doors are scheduled to be delivered on December 15 and will be installed. The building should be closed in prior to Christmas this year.
- Ms. Frantz also stated she is working with Jerry Prible, Director of Maintenance at the County to assist with Trane. Trane is still having issues finding the required part for the first-floor air conditioning. Ms. Frantz stated all the exterior globes are back in working order again.
- Ms. Frantz also gave an update that the Compensation review for all employees is in progress. During the December 2023 Board meeting, we will discuss the results of this review.

» Environmental Health -

- Ms. Escobedo discussed a restaurant that now has a new well so that they do not need to bring in water as they have for the past few months due to contamination in the well. A chlorinator that will help mitigate the unsafe water may also be installed. Ms. Escobedo also discussed a meeting that is taking place on property being annexed to the City of Cheyenne with many of these properties in the north part of Cheyenne.
- Ms. Escobedo also discussed the small private hospital that is being proposed to the County Commissioners today asking for a site plan approval. A proposal for a private hospital with between 5 and 10 beds by Tractor Supply will be presented to the City Public Service Committee. The organization is out of Arizona and this hospital is between a free-standing hospital and an emergency department.
- Ms. Escobedo also discussed the collaborative efforts with the Maternal Child Health department on a lead investigation.

» Nursing -

- Ms. Mullins discussed HIV cases in the State of Wyoming are on the rise with the concern being that 50% of the cases are stage 3 including one death this year. Our Ryan White program case load has increased for the HIV patients.
- June and July payments have been received for the Ryan White program.



- Our COVID reimbursements have not been received from some insurance companies due to a programming issue in their systems, which has now been fixed and reimbursement should now be received. We have spent almost our full budgeted amount for COVID vaccine currently, so COVID vaccine reimbursement is very important.
- Our employees will be trained in CPR with Cheyenne Regional Medical Center which will be funded with our Workforce Development funding.

» Presentation: Ms. Thayn presented the Wyoming Hand in Hand Program and Plans of Safe Care. Ms. Thayn stated the goal of Wyoming Hand in Hand to promote healthy pregnancies and strong families in Laramie County through home visits. CLCPH is the first to pilot Plans of Safe Care which helps a baby remain with the mother who has substance abuse issues after birth. Dr. Emmons stated that this concept of wrap around care for children at risk has been in the works since the early 1990's in a holistic approach for Families. National legislation went into effect 7 years ago and Wyoming is now moving forward with this program.

With no further business, Dr. Chesnut adjourned the meeting at 1:09 p.m.