

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
MINUTES
November 12, 2020 AT 12:00 pm
Clinic Conference Room/Virtual**

Present: Via Phone-Liz Wheeler, Mary Murphy, Karen Tvedt, Michael Pekas, Ranae Vink,

In Person: Jo Pankonin,

Absent: Jonathon Ott,

Staff Present: Jill Franken, Dr. Jen Tinguely, Lisa Stensland

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Liz Wheeler with a vocal roll call at 12:01 pm. Y Michael
Y Mary Y Karen A Jon Y Jo Y- joined at 12:05 Ranae Y Liz

A motion was made to approve the minutes from October 8, 2020 supported by Mike, seconded by Jo. Motion carries. Y Michael Y Mary Y Karen A Jon Y Jo Y Ranae Y Liz

New Business:

COVID-19 Situation Update:

As of 11/11/2020 there are 5,532 people compared to 4,202 last Thursday 11/5, with active illness in the Minnehaha and Lincoln Counties. The Sioux Falls area weekly percent positive rate was 49.2% this past Saturday as compared to 47.9% the previous week, and 37.1% on October 24.

New cases for the month (starting Sunday November 1) 4,183 new cases in the MSA (Minnehaha, Lincoln, McCook, Turner counties), 12,704 new cases in the State, 32.9% of new cases in the state are in our MSA. Deaths announced this Month (starting Sunday November 1) 44 new deaths in the MSA (M=15, L=14, Mc = 2, T= 13), 142 new deaths with in the state.

Average new cases per day in the MSA:

- Week beginning October 11th – 216.3
- Week beginning October 18th – 258.3
- Week beginning October 25th – 414.3
- Week beginning November 1st – 295.1
- Week beginning November 8th – 423.8 (4 days)

Community operations include:

•Hospitals:

- In-patient numbers holding steady over the past several days
- Facilities are doubling patients in rooms to accommodate surge
- Staffing (especially critical care nurses) continues to be a need. Systems are asking for staff to volunteer for extra shifts, are hiring traveling staff and using care teams to continue to meet their staffing needs
- Specimen collection sites are busy with Monday being a record setting day for one of our local facilities
- Hospital projections/models that include an increase in cases due to Thanksgiving gatherings indicate that we will see a continued increase in COVID cases and increased hospitalizations due to covid and non covid illness into mid-January

•Public Safety

- EMS system is busy – consistently running 70+ calls per day (system record is 80 CFS in a single day)
- Respiratory related calls for service is nearing 20% of the daily calls
- EMS calls for service are 14% higher this month than they were in previous year's Novembers
- Recovery Center
 - Community mitigation effort to provide a quarantine/isolation shelter for people that are unable to safely quarantine/isolate where they dwell
 - City established all contracts for service and LSS has partnered to do the day-to-day operations
 - 7 individuals are currently housed at the location (we have a max capacity of 30)
- City COOP
 - FCH continue to see an increase in the number of respiratory acute visits and are also seeing an increase in the number of patients that are testing positive
 - FCH continues to provide testing for city, county and SF school district critical infrastructure employees
 - Across the city, efforts continue to provide support to employees and leadership as the city is also seeing COVID related staff impacts
- Helpline Center
 - Answering between 600 and 800 calls per day (covid, housing, holiday assistance – food and gift assistance)
- Schools
 - Both the public and Bishop OG system continue to manage staff and student absences related to COVID. Both will be using college students that are home after Thanksgiving to fill in as substitutes in their system

Vaccine update: Updates from the Tuesday November 10 call

Pfizer still on track to submit their EUA (Emergency Use Authorization) request the 3rd week of November. The CDC will pre-stage vaccine in states once the EUA is filed. It will then take approximately 2 weeks for the FDA to approve and ACIP to make their vaccine recommendation. Vaccination efforts could start early December, Pfizer – 2 dose series, 28 days between each dose. In September, the Pfizer trials received permission to start testing the vaccine in teenagers as young as 16 and to begin trialing the vaccine on children as young as 12 in October. Remember, even if a vaccine is authorized in the next months, it will initially be available in limited supplies – a vaccine will not replace mitigation efforts it will be an adjunct to what we are already asking people to do.

Influenza season has begun and on the state vaccine call on Tuesday the 10th, the Secretary of Health mentioned that we, as a state are behind in flu vaccinations across all age groups as compared to last year. There have been 4 confirmed flu cases with in the state.

Public Input:

Dr. Emery a Pediatrician at Avera voiced her concern and to request a mask mandate to help control the spread of COVID-19.

There being no further business or further discussion, motion to adjourn supported by Jo and seconded by Mary, Y Michael Y Mary Y Karen A Jon Y Jo Y Ranae Y Liz, motion carries.

