

**BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
MINUTES  
April 8, 2021 AT 12:00 pm  
Clinic Conference Room/Virtual**

**Present: Virtually- Mary Murphy, Karen Tvedt, In-person: Liz Wheeler, Michael Pekas, Ranae Vink, Jo Pankonin**

**Absent: Bruce Vogt**

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

Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Liz Wheeler with a vocal roll call at 12:03 pm. Y Michael Y  
Mary Y Karen A Bruce Y Jo Y Ranae Y Liz

A motion was made to approve the minutes from January 14, 2021 supported by Mike, seconded by Jo. Motion carries. Y Michael Y Mary Y Karen A Bruce Y Jo Y Ranae Y Liz

**New Business:**

**COVID-19 Status Update:**

The number of active cases is trending up slightly. The healthcare systems are stable to date. They have seen the age of those hospitalized move down about 10 years recently. The state health lab was closed on Friday and Monday for Easter and reported out on Wednesday. Stability is good. The vaccines seem to still be very effective against the variants.

As of 4/3/21 the percent of positive cases for Minnehaha/Lincoln counties was 30.3% of those being tested. This is the first decrease in weekly percent positives in 6 weeks. We peaked at 33.8% last week with the goal to be below 5%. Pre-op testing is at a 3.93% positive rate; this helps provide us with a snapshot of the level of asymptomatic cases/background cases. Locally there has been an increase in cars using the drive through specimen collection/testing programs at the healthcare systems.

Looking at the total number of tests reported per day from our MSA as compared to the State – our MSA has accounted for 45-50% of the daily positives reported out over the past week, however we are also accounting for 35-52% of the total tests reported each day. (a bit higher than our proportion of population). The State has only reported 3 deaths in the month of April.

Vaccination efforts have gone very well. The CDC data reflects total doses administered per capita - this source shows South Dakota ranking second behind New Mexico in doses administered per capita

- Statewide we are at 47% of our states population receiving at least 1 dose of Vaccine
- Using SDDOH data, our City dashboard shows 13% of the population in Minnehaha and Lincoln Counties have received 1 dose of vaccine and 24.8% have completed their series
- While it may appear that we are lagging behind the state in % of population vaccinated – the state's % included numbers of people vaccinated through federal partnerships (DOD, HIS, VA, BOP) while the county data does not
- As of Monday April 5, all South Dakota's 16 years of age and older are eligible to receive COVID-19 vaccine.

Where can a person receive vaccine – Healthcare systems, retail pharmacies participating in the federal pharmacy partnership, FQHC's. We continue to receive vaccine through our local healthcare systems, allowing us to vaccinate patients of FCH but to also conduct targeted outreach vaccination clinics.

FCH and the health department have conducted vaccination clinics for: City employees and community partners in group C (EMS, Law Enforcement, Public Health, SFFR providing EMS services), Populations identified in Group D – including our patients at FCH and residents of high risk congregate living, BDHH, Arch, Glory House, UGM and St. Francis House and the Banquet.

Influenza has been almost nonexistent this year.

**LINK Update:**

The new community triage center is on track for a mid-May completion, with the hopes to open the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. There has been some difficulty in getting staff and may have to do a phased approach to opening. Avera is the operating partner and there have been many workflow and services coordination meetings happening.

There has been new funding made available by the state and city council is considering a \$500K fund to assist in meeting patient gaps. The ribbon cutting and public tours will be May 17.

**Thank You:**

The board thanked Jill for her leadership and best wishes in her retirement.

**Public Input:**

None at this time

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

