

COMMISSIONERS' PROCEEDINGS

Regular Meeting
Adams County Courthouse
Ritzville, Washington

September 13, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.
(Wednesday)

Call to Order

Chairman Weise called the meeting to order.

Present:

Chairman Jay R. Weise
Vice-Chairman Dan C. Blankenship
Commissioner Miguel A. Garza

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Weise led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval/Addition of Agenda

Commissioner Garza moved, Blankenship seconded, to *approve the agenda as presented*. **Motion carried.**

Board of Commissioner Meeting Recess @ 9:02 a.m.

Board of Health Meeting Call to Order @ 9:02 a.m.

Present:

Board of Health members Commissioners Blankenship, Weise, and Garza; Karen Potts, and April May. Additionally present was Dr Brzezny, Adams County Health Officer. Integrated Health Care Services Director Guse arrived at 9:45 a.m. Board member Timm Taff was absent.

Approval/Addition of Board of Health Agenda

Commissioner Blankenship moved, Garza seconded, to *approve the Board of Health agenda*. **Motion carried.**

Public Comment – None

Health Officer Update

Dr. Brzezny, Adams County Health Officer, provided the following updates:

Respiratory illnesses update:

- COVID – weekly emergency department visits are increasing statewide and nationally; two percent of all deaths reported are due to COVID; COVID-19 positive tests are rising.
- RSV – Respiratory Syncytial Virus: a common respiratory virus that causes mild, cold-like symptoms; seasonal epidemics; spread through respiratory droplets, direct contact, and fomites; older adults are at increased risk for becoming seriously ill (lower respiratory tract infection; exacerbation).
- FLU – not very active in the United States yet, (fever with cough or sore throat are classic symptoms).

Vaccine updates and news:

- Updated COVID-19 vaccine will be available for use in the United States beginning in Fall, 2023.
- FDA has approved the first vaccine for pregnant individuals to prevent RSV in infants.
- FDA has approved a new drug to prevent RSV in babies and toddlers.
- FDA has approved the first RSV vaccine.
- CDC recommends updated COVID-19 vaccine for fall/winter season.

Special Report:

- Rabies – a bat found in Douglas County tested positive for rabies. The largest proportion of rabies is carried by bats with three to eight percent of bats tested in Washington positive for rabies. Dr. Brzezny noted that there have been only two (2) human cases of rabies in Washington in the past seventy-five years. A pre-exposure vaccination is recommended for people in occupations with frequent risk or exposure.

Additional Updates:

- Preventing the impact of smoke – main actions people can take to reduce exposure to wildfire smoke (least effective to most effective):
 1. personal protective equipment
 2. administrative controls

3. engineering controls
4. elimination; (personal actions)
 - a. wear a face mask
 - b. stay indoors
 - c. avoid heavy or prolonged physical activity
 - d. close doors and windows
 - e. set air conditioners in recirculation mode
 - f. use portable air cleaners with HEPA filter or central air conditioner with filter.

Board Updates – None

Board Discussion/Decision Items – None

Other Business – None

Executive Session – None

Board of Health Adjournment @ 10:18 a.m.

Board of Commissioner Meeting Reconvene @ 10:18 a.m.

Integrated Health Care Services

Contracts – Public Health

DSHS and Local Health Jurisdiction Agreement #2385-48148

The Board provided *consensus authorization for the Chairman to sign DSHS and Local Health Jurisdiction Agreement on General Terms and Conditions between the State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and Adams County to govern work to be performed under any Program Agreement between the parties for the contract period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2029. Motion carried.*

(Agreement was originally approved and signed on 5/16/2023; DSHS removed COVID verbiage and agreement was re-signed 5/23/23; DSHS updated agreement with correct term dates of 07/01/2023-06/30/2029.)

2022-2024 Consolidated Contract

Commissioner Garza moved, Blankenship seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign 2022-2024 Consolidated Contract CLH31001, Amendment No. 14, between the State of Washington Department of Health and Adams County Integrated Health Care Services for an increase in funding of \$633,996 for a total contract award of \$3,906,208*

for the contract period January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2024.

Motion carried.

Contracts – Behavioral Health

DSHS and Local Health Jurisdiction Agreement #2383-48465

Commissioner Garza moved, Blankenship seconded, to *authorize the Chairman to sign DSHS and Local Health Jurisdiction Agreement on General Terms and Conditions between the State of Washington Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and Adams County to govern work to be performed under any Program Agreement between the parties for the contract period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2029.*

Motion carried. (Agreement is exact to DSHS LHJ reviewed and presented to the Board in 05/2023 for Health Department with only difference the term “County” is listed vs. “LHJ” in the language; agreement is general terms and conditions that governs work to be performed under any county program agreement between the parties already in place; agreement start date 07/01/2023-06/30/2029; continuation of agreement – prior agreement ends 06/30/2023.)

WISe Program

Integrated Health Care Services Director Guse reported the WISe Coordinator in her department has resigned to take a position at Warden School District. Director Guse will begin the process of filling the position.

Mental Health Program

Amanda Zepeda, Mental Health Clinical Director, provided a review of the mental health program within Integrated Health Care Services. Services include mental health outpatient services; crisis services; WISe program; and, emergency housing and client care.

Recess @ 11:27 a.m.

Reconvene @ 11:35 a.m.

Human Resources

Manager Campbell provided information on Deferred Compensation options, noting information will be going out to employees. Additionally, Campbell reported attending a workshop yesterday in Spokane and reviewed the content.

Adjournment @ 12:26 p.m.

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

Edited and Approved:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ADAMS COUNTY, WASHINGTON
s/Jay R. Weise, Chairman
s/Dan C. Blankenship, Vice-Chairman
s/Miguel A. Garza, Commissioner