

Madison County Board of Health
Emergency Meeting Minutes
March 17, 2020

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On Tuesday, March 17, 2020, an emergency COVID-19 meeting of the Madison County Board of Health came to order at 3:05 p.m. in the Commissioners conference room 3rd floor of the Madison County Administration Building, located at 103 West Wallace, in Virginia City, Montana.

Board Members in attendance were, Douglas B. Young D.V.M, Dayna Therghesen – CPNP, Melinda Tichenor- MVMC Lab Director, Whitney Marsh – RN Ennis Schools via conference call and Dr. Molly Biehl – DO. Also in attendance were, Melissa Brummell – MCPHD Director, Jennifer Martens - Public Health Clerk, Erin Montgomery – TPS, Bob Bates – Madco Safety, Van Puckett – Sanitarian, Kacey Smart – Sanitarian’s office and Ryan Wolter - IT.

Melissa Brummell, RN, Director:

Coronavirus COVID -19 :

The county is looking for recommendations on how to proceed regarding COVID – 19.

Senior centers – Twin Bridges and Ennis are currently offering to go meals. We have had no contact with Pony and Sheridan as of yet. We will reach out to senior companions also.

Bars and Restaurants – Van Puckett received an email from MEHA (Montana Environmental Health Association) with recommendations on closures. Molly Biehl would like to see a partial closure to lessen the economic impact on the county. Van Puckett recommends takeout and delivery options and eliminate dine in for at least a week. Most restaurants have adhered to these guidelines already. We would also like to eliminate any self-serve items such as soups, salads, etc.

Molly Biehl made the motion to order closure for all Madison County area; restaurants, cafes, bars, casinos, coffee, shops, breweries, wineries, and distilleries with the exception of takeout or deliver. The order will take effective Tuesday, March 17, 2020 beginning at 9 pm in accordance to MEHA recommendations. We will revisit possible extension on Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 1pm. Ban will also include all gatherings of 10 people or more except churches. Whitney Marsh second the motion, all voted Aye, and the motion was passed unanimously. The county will be notified via Code Red. We will also post on the county website with a letter signed by the medical director for businesses to post.

Senior Shuttle – Molly Biehl stated that most non emergent visits have been cancelled or being performed via telephone. Most stores are offering delivery also. We currently have no driver for the shuttle service. Meals on wheels will remain active and the pharmacies offer mail or delivery. We will revisit the topic at a later date.

Dayna Therghesen made a motion to suspend senior shuttle services immediately until further notice. Molly Biehl second the motion, all voted Aye, and the motion was passed unanimously.

COVID -19 – Doug Young wants to know the status on a possible quarantine site for visitors to Montana. Per Melissa Brummell, DPHHS has not responded to our inquiry.

As of now Madison County has 0 active cases of COVID -19.

Melissa Brummell received approval to utilize Erin Montgomery to help with logistics during the pandemic.

Kacey Smart with the Sanitarian's office notified us that the Sanitarian in Training would be the one to enforce the restrictions. He has assistance from Gallatin County and Beaverhead County. He can also utilize Van via phone/email part time. Kacey requested IT to post the MEHA letter on the county website and for a Code Red alert to go out to the county. Melissa Brummell also had a conversation with Sheriff Phil Fortner and he has agreed to help with enforcement.

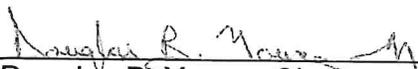
All community in person forums regarding COVID-19 have been cancelled. A YouTube video has been uploaded of the Alder forum for public viewing.

Meeting Adjourned:

A motion to adjourn was made by Whitney Marsh at 4:18pm, Molly Biehl second the motion, all voted Aye, and the motion was passed unanimously.

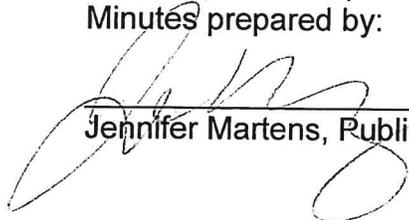
Next meeting date:

The next meeting will be held in Commissioners conference room 3rd floor of the Administration Building on Tuesday, March 24th, 2020 starting at 1:00 PM.



Douglas B. Young, Chairman
Madison County Board of Health

Date Approved: April 9, 2020
Minutes prepared by:



Jennifer Martens, Public Health Clerk