

**BENZIE-LEELANAU DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
Wednesday, March 27, 2024 2:00 p.m.
Leelanau County Government Center
6527 E Government Center
Suttons Bay MI 49682**

Chairperson Gary Sauer called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Gary Sauer - Benzie County Board of Commissioners
Dr. Barbara Conley – Leelanau County Member at Large
Ty Wessell – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners
Dr. Mark Kuiper – Benzie County Member at Large – arrived at 2:02 p.m.
Gwenne Allgaier – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners

Members Excused:

Art Jeannot – Benzie County Board of Commissioners

Staff Present:

Dr. Joshua Meyerson – Medical Director
Dodie Putney – Director of Administrative Services
Eric Johnston – Director of Environmental Health
Michelle Klein - Director of Personal Health

Staff Excused:

Dan Thorell – Health Officer

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes:

Motion By: Conley to approve the February 28, 2024, BOH meeting minutes, with the typo correction.

Seconded By: Allgaier

Voice Vote: 4 yeas 0 nay 1 excused Motion carried

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion By: Wessell to approve the agenda with the amendment that the Health Officer position will be discussed under Board Comments.

Seconded By: Conley

Voice Vote: 5 yeas 0 nay 1 excused Motion carried

Public Comment – None

Health Officer Update- Dan Thorell

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details.

Accounts Payable

Motion By: Conley to approve accounts payable and pay the bills in the amount of \$170,864.39.

Seconded By: Wessell

Roll Call Vote: Sauer- yea, Conley- yea, Allgaier – yea, Wessell – yea, Kuiper – yea

5 yeas 0 nay 1 excused Motion carried

February Financial Statements

Motion By: Conley to accept the financial statements as presented.

Seconded By: Wessell

Roll Call Vote: Conley- yea, Wessell- yea, Kuiper – yea, Allgaier – yea, Sauer – yea
5 yeas 0 nay 1 excused Motion carried

Letter for Health Officer Contract

It was decided to wait to finalize a letter to the HDNW BOH to request a meeting to discuss the upcoming Health Officer and Medical Director’s contract.

BOH Meeting Dates for 2024

Motion By: Sauer to move the October BOH meeting date from October 30, 2024 to October 23, 2024.

Seconded By: Allgaier

Voice Vote: 5 yeas 0 nay 1 excused Motion carried

Staff Reports:

Medical Director – Dr. Joshua Meyerson

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. The CDC released a guide for respiratory illnesses. All the major illnesses, (covid, flu, cold & RSV) have been given the same recommendations. This was done to help prevent confusion about when it is appropriate to stay home sick or take certain precautions.

Personal Health – Michelle Klein

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. Healthy Futures began as a Munson Health Care project that partnered with local health departments to provide services to new mothers. It serves all delivering mothers, income and insurance status does not affect the services being offered. The program assists mothers with breastfeeding and provides information on local services that are available if needed. In 2021, checking mothers’ blood pressure and assessing postpartum hemorrhaging was included in the visits. 21% of women who were examined had elevated postpartum blood pressure with 3% of those being critically high.

The Benzie County marijuana grant will provide funding for educating the public about the importance of locking up their marijuana products. It will also be used to provide lock boxes to the public to assist in this endeavor. An application for a grant through the Children’s Trust Fund will be submitted to try to obtain funding for a Mom Power group in Benzie County.

Environmental Health – Eric Johnston

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. The office space in the Leelanau County Government Building for the EH department is complete, and everything is moved in. The office space will be open for business on Monday, April 1, 2024. There will be an open house on April 9th, from 1-4:30p.m.

A review was completed to see what the turnaround time was for when a septic and well evaluation has been applied for to when it is complete. The evaluation process is generally done within six business days and the reports are issued within eleven business days. Part of the process is waiting for the water results at the labs, which can take a week, and MISS DIG requests can take up to three business days to complete. It was suggested that this average should be posted on the website, so the public knows what to expect.

Administrative – Dodie Putney

A report was distributed prior to the meeting. Please refer to it for details. The audit should be presented at the April meeting. It is complete and everything looks fine.

Public Comment – None

Board Comments

The BLDHD Directors and Health Officer will be attending a Succession Planning meeting in Gaylord next week. This will assist in planning the succession of various positions as retirements occur. Wessell thanked Klein for her wonderful Early Childhood program presentation at the Leelanau County Commission meeting the prior week.

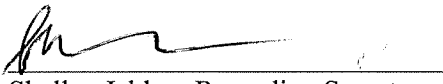
Adjourn:

Motion By: Sauer to adjourn the BOH meeting at 3:08 p.m.

Voice Vote: 5 yeas 0 nay 1 excused **Motion carried**



Gary Sauer, Chair



Shelley Jablon, Recording Secretary