

**BENZIE-LEELANAU DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
Wednesday, January 27, 2021 2:00 p.m.  
Via Microsoft Teams**

Chairperson Gary Sauer called the meeting to order at 2:05 pm.

**Members Present:**

Gary Sauer - Benzie County Board of Commissioners  
Rhonda Nye – Benzie County Board of Commissioners  
Dr. Mark Kuiper – Benzie County Member at Large  
William Bunek – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners  
Patricia Soutas-Little – Leelanau County Board of Commissioners  
Dr. Barbara Conley – Leelanau County Member at Large

**Members Absent:** None

**Members Excused:** None

**Staff Present:**

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

**Guests Present:** None

**Pledge of Allegiance:** It was agreed to dispense with the pledge of alliance today due to the meeting being held via video conference.

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Motion By:** Conley to approve the Regular Board of Health Meeting of November 18, 2020.

**Seconded By:** Sauer

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-Yea, Kuiper-Yea, Nye-Yea, Conley-Yea, Bunek- Yea, Soutas-Little- Yea  
**6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused Motion carried**

**Approval of the Agenda:**

**Motion By:** Bunek to approve agenda as presented.

**Seconded By:** Soutas-Little

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-Yea, Kuiper-Yea, Nye-Yea, Conley-Yea, Bunek- Yea, Soutas-Little- Yea  
**6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused Motion carried**

**Election of Officer for Board of Health Chairperson**

**Motion By:** Soutas-Little to nominate Conley for Board of Health Chairperson.

**Seconded By:** Bunek

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-Yea, Kuiper-Yea, Nye-Yea, Conley-Yea, Bunek- Yea, Soutas-Little- Yea  
**6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused Motion carried**

Conley took over the meeting as the new Board of Health Chairperson.

**Election of Officer for Board of Health Vice-Chairperson**

**Motion By:** Bunek to nominate Sauer for Board of Health Vice-Chairperson.

**Seconded By:** Soutas-Little

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-Yea, Kuiper-Yea, Nye-Yea, Conley-Yea, Bunek- Yea, Soutas-Little- Yea  
**6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused Motion carried**

**Public Comment – None**

**Health Officer Update – Lisa Peacock**

Written Public Health Statement was distributed for review prior to the meeting. Current COVID update given, with details on pandemic risk indicators and information regarding vaccinations for the community.

**Accounts Payable**

**Motion By:** Sauer to approve accounts payable and pay the bills in the amount of \$330,151.52.

**Seconded By:** Bunek

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-Yea, Kuiper-Yea, Nye-Yea, Conley-Yea, Bunek- Yea, Soutas-Little- Yea  
**6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused Motion carried**

**December 2020 Financial Statements**

**Motion By:** Sauer to accept the financial statements as presented.

**Seconded By:** Bunek

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-Yea, Kuiper-Yea, Nye-Yea, Conley-Yea, Bunek- Yea, Soutas-Little- Yea  
**6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused Motion carried**

**2021 Board of Health Meeting Dates**

**Motion By:** Bunek to approve amended dates as presented for future Board of Health meetings.

**Seconded By:** Soutas-Little

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-Yea, Kuiper-Yea, Nye-Yea, Conley-Yea, Bunek- Yea, Soutas-Little- Yea  
**6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused Motion carried**

**Personnel and Finance Committee Appointment**

**Motion By:** Bunek to nominate Sauer and Soutas-Little for Personnel and Finance Committee.

**Seconded By:** Conley

**Roll Call Vote:** Sauer-Yea, Kuiper-Yea, Nye-Yea, Conley-Yea, Bunek- Yea, Soutas-Little- Yea  
**6 yeas 0 nay 0 excused Motion carried**

**Staff Reports:**

**Medical Director – Dr. Joshua Meyerson**

Dr. Meyerson briefly educated on COVID and the mutation of the virus. Mutation produces new variants, that are more transmissible than previous variants. As more strains are identified, over time you will get a virus that becomes less susceptible to respond to the vaccine.

Meyerson suggests that with the new strain being more transmissible to others, that we must be even better about practicing social distancing, wearing masks, keeping social gatherings small and staying home when sick.

**Personal Health – Michelle Klein**

Klein shared information on personal health programs and services that are offered to our

community through BLDHD. Copies were distributed prior to the meeting with programs and descriptions of offered services, as well as the Community Collaboration for 2021. Klein gave a brief update on the Leelanau Early Childhood Program, and goals for 2021.

**Environmental Health – Eric Johnston**

Johnson announced that the Sanitarian position has been filled. Zach accepted the position and is working out of the Benzie office. Other topics of discussion included the Leelanau Mapping Project, COVID-19 Vaccination Clinic assistance from the Environmental Health division and an update on the Environmental Health program efficiency efforts.

**Administrative – Dodie Putney**

Written report distributed prior to meeting for review. Putney's report briefed on administrative divisions currently in focus, such as finances, human resources, technology, building management, purchasing, and billing.

**Public Comment – None**

**Board Comments – None**

**Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 3:55 pm

*Barbara Conley M.D.*

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Dr. Barbara Conley, Chair

*Renee Youker*

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Renee Youker, Recording Secretary