



## **Washoe County District Board of Health Virtual Meeting Minutes**

### **Members**

Oscar Delgado, Chair  
Robert Lucey, Vice Chair  
Michael D. Brown  
Kristopher Dahir  
Dr. Reka Danko  
Dr. John Novak  
Dr. John Klacking

**Thursday, February 24, 2022**

**1:00 p.m.**

**Washoe County Health District  
Commission Chambers, Building A  
1001 East Ninth Street  
Reno, NV**

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### **1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum.**

Chair Delgado called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

The following members and staff were present:

Members present: Oscar Delgado, Chair (excused at 3:05 p.m.)  
Robert Lucey, Vice Chair  
Michael Brown  
Kristopher Dahir  
Dr. Reka Danko (logged in at 1:05 p.m. and excused at 3:56 p.m.)  
Dr. John Novak  
Dr. John Klacking

**Mrs. Valdespin verified a quorum was present.**

Staff present:

Kevin Dick, District Health Officer  
Francisco Vega  
Dr. Nancy Diao  
Erin Dixon  
Lisa Lottritz  
Wes Rubio  
Kelcie Atkin  
Jessie Latchaw  
Rayona LaVoie  
Julia Ratti

### **2. Pledge of Allegiance.**

Dr. John Klacking led the pledge to the flag.

### **3. Approval of Agenda.**

February 24, 2022

**Councilman Dahir moved to approve the agenda for the February 24, 2022, District Board of Health regular meeting. Michael Brown seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.**

#### 4. **Recognitions.**

##### A. Years of Service

- i. Susy Valdespin, 20 years, hired February 13, 2002 - ODHO
- ii. Carmen Mendoza, 20 years, hired February 27, 2002 – EPHP Vitals
- iii. Christine Ballew, 5 years, hired February 21, 2017 - CCHS

Health Officer, Kevin Dick acknowledged all employees for their years of service. He continued to thank and congratulate all employees for their years of service.

##### B. New Hires

- i. Camarina Augusto, January 31, 2022, Health Equity Coordinator - ODHO
- ii. Shayna DeSilva, January 31, 2022, Office Support Specialist- EPHP COVID Program
- iii. Sabrina Brasuell, February 14, 2022, EMS Coordinator - EPHP
- iv. Joseph Cook, January 31, 2022, Public Health Investigator I - CCHS
- v. Jamie Morales, January 31, 2022, Public Health Investigator I - CCHS
- vi. Manuel Coronado, February 14, 2022, Office Assistant II - CCHS
- vii. Hector Mendoza Marin, February 14, 2022, Office Assistant II - CCHS
- viii. Liliana Ponce, February 14, 2022, Office Assistant II - CCHS

Health Officer, Kevin Dick introduced Ms. Augusto as the new Health Equity Coordinator and briefly shared her education and experience.

Mr. Dick welcomed Ms. De Silva as the Office Support Specialist for the COVID-19 unit and Ms. Brasuell as the EMS Coordinator. Mr. Dick briefly shared their extensive experience, background, and education.

Mr. Dick also welcomed Mr. Cook, Ms. Morales, Mr. Coronado, Mr. Mendoza Marin, and Ms. Ponce as the new CCHS team members and briefly shared their expertise, background, and education.

Mr. Dick congratulated all new hires and welcomed them to the Health District.

##### C. Promotions

- i. Kathryn Olson, from Environmental Health Trainee to Environmental Health Specialist, effective January 21, 2022 - EHS
- ii. Gloriana Alvarez, from Department System Tech to Department System Specialist, effective January 31, 2022 - EPHP/ODHO
- iii. Christina Sheppard, from Advanced Practice Registered Nurse to Nurse Practitioner Supervisor, effective February 7, 2022 - CCHS

Mr. Dick recognized and congratulated Ms. Olson for passing the REHS exam, which led to her most current promotion.

Mr. Dick recognized Ms. Alvarez on her promotion and briefly shared her expertise and education.

Mr. Dick also congratulated Ms. Sheppard on her promotion within CCHS as a Nurse Practitioner Supervisor.

Mr. Dick congratulated all employees for their promotions.

##### D. Air Pollution Control Hearing Board retirements

- i. Cathleen Fitzgerald, DNeV, PE, served 12 years - October 22, 2019 - September 27,

2021 - Chair from 2012-2021

- ii. Jeanne Rucker, REHS, served 9 years - October 23, 2012 - October 24, 2021 - Vice-chair 2013-2021
- iii. Jim Kenney, served 9 years - January 26, 2013 - January 26, 2022

Francisco Vega briefly shared the background of some of the members of the Air Pollution Control Hearing Board as well as their duties as board members. He invited Ms. Fitzgerald to address the board.

Ms. Fitzgerald briefly shared her experience on this Board and stated it has been an honor. Additionally, she thanked Janet Smith, Administrative Secretary to the Board, for her efforts in running things smoothly and efficiently.

Mr. Vega recognized Ms. Rucker for her service to this Board.

Mr. Vega also recognized Mr. Kenney for his important role on the Board.

Mr. Vega concluded by extending his gratitude to these members.

Chair Delgado took some time to acknowledge all the employees and members of the Air Pollution Control Hearing Board adding his positive reference for Ms. Brasuell.

**5. Presentation and Recognition Patagonia and Care Chest of Sierra Nevada for their GreenBiz Awards in 2021.**

Staff Representative: Wes Rubio

Health Officer, Kevin Dick, introduced Wes Rubio to present this item.

Mr. Rubio provided a brief presentation describing the criteria used to issue the GreenBiz Awards as well as the efforts of both agencies in support of environmental health.

Mr. Rubio added some of the challenges Patagonia and Care Chest have conquered and shared some of the goals they have set for the future.

Chair Delgado expressed his appreciation for the work of the GreenBiz Award recipients.

**6. Public Comment.**

**Chair Delgado opened the public comment period.**

**Ms. Valdespin made note of Dr. Danko's attendance at 1:05 p.m.**

**Ms. Valdespin began by placing Tom Lenz's email on the record and calling Cindy Martinez.**

Ms. Martinez began her comment by expressing her disappointment that this meeting was not in person. Ms. Martinez requested that this Board add language to the Governor's declaration referencing that there is no state of emergency in the County of Washoe. Additionally, she asked the Board to take action to implement bans on mandatory vaccines and vaccine passports as well as never returning to mask mandates. Ms. Martinez stated she holds those elected into office to a higher standard of responsibility than those who are not elected. She concluded that they are monitoring the allocation of federal money that in her opinion artificially inflates budgets in the County.

Chair Delgado announced meetings will be back in Chambers beginning next month.

Erin Massengale began her comment by requesting an item be placed on the agenda to ban vaccine passports as she believes it creates a 2-tiered system and violates medical privacy. She provided a report on deaths of the triple vaccinated. Additionally, she requested a resolution be made regarding COVID-19 treatments and that mask shall not be mandated again as she opined, they were not helpful. She concluded by inviting the Board to read an article on the Boston Globe regarding the effects of mitigation measures.

James Benthin began his comment by stating he prefers in person meetings. Mr. Benthin stated his opposition to vaccine passports. He added that he would support informed consent by anyone taking a vaccine. Mr. Benthin continued to define his opinion on what is an informed consent. Mr. Benthin quoted Dr. Malone regarding COVID-19 vaccines and encourage the Board to investigate his suggested resolutions.

Val White began her comment by quoting from a February 20 New York Times article regarding CDC data reporting on vaccines. Ms. White relayed that the article highlighted the benefits of publishing the data as it could have helped state and local health officials better target their efforts to bring the virus under control. Ms. White opined there's two sorts of lies commission and omission and believed the CDC has lied to everyone. She opined the Health Officer has followed the lies and not the science. She concluded by requesting the removal of the Health Officer.

Tom Lenz began his comment by referring to the initial document that was placed on the record, knowingly 8 COVID Lies by Mike Yeadon.

## **7. COVID-19 Update & Information.**

Staff Representative: Kevin Dick

Board Representative: Dr. Reka Danko

Health Officer, Kevin Dick opened this item by stating that the District Board of Health (DBOH) does not have any emergency declaration or any mandates in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

He briefly spoke of the 7-day moving average, which is the lowest since July 25, 2021. However, the case rate per 100,000 over the past 7 days is at 132.34 and the test positivity is at 16% but continues to decline. Mr. Dick continued to report on vaccinations, which is at 64.75% vaccinated for those 5 or older and 74.8% of those 5 and older have initiated vaccinated. About 40% of those vaccinated have received booster doses.

Mr. Dick reported on the efficacy of the vaccine, stating that on December 21, the CDC has reported that those 18 and older that are unvaccinated are 2.4 times more likely to test positive for COVID-19. Additionally, in December 2021 the risk of unvaccinated people dying from COVID-19 was 41 times the risk of those vaccinated and boosted. He continued to report the demand in vaccination has declined significantly with only 3,300 doses administered in the past week, down from almost 15,000 the first week of December 2021.

Mr. Dick made note that the State launched a COVID-19 treatment webpage on the Nevada Health Response website at [www.nvhealthreponse.nv.gov](http://www.nvhealthreponse.nv.gov) as well as a Call Center to assist those trying to access treatment at 800-401-0946. The Treatment Clinic and Home Administration Services are being provided in Washoe County by the Northern Nevada COVID Treatment Center funded through the State. Mr. Dick mentioned the home tests are readily available through the federal government website and a number of organizations that obtained them through the State including local pharmacies. Mr. Dick emphasized 3 priorities,

based off all the resources available namely, get vaccinated and boosted when eligible, get at-home test kits and use if symptomatic, and isolate appropriately and explore treatment options if you test positive. Mr. Dick added that although treatment options are limited due to limited supply currently, is anticipated to become more readily available as supply increases.

Health Officer noted he has not read pandemic response plans from numerous countries, but Washoe County's pandemic flu response plan and the federal response plan and both include non-pharmaceutical interventions. He concluded by clarifying he does not practice medicine as he is the Public Health Official and invited Dr. Danko to include her comments.

Dr. Danko stated they continue to applaud the efforts of the Health District on trying to get the most accurate information to the public. Dr. Danko stated she will be cautiously optimistic as COVID-19 has thrown more than one surprise along the past two years. Dr. Danko reported there was a fair amount of COVID-19 cases in the hospital and added that the severe illness in the hospital is much worse than prior flu seasons. Dr. Danko also confirmed the hospital predominantly has unvaccinated patients struggling with COVID-19 and severe illness. Dr. Danko proceeded to explain that although community trends are improving those trends improve slower in the hospital, as patients who have been infected with COVID-19 often struggle with the illness for weeks or even months. Additionally, she highlighted those patients with complications resulting from COVID-19 infections are increasing despite the severity of the infection. These complications included cardiovascular issues, lung problems, blood clotting and strokes.

Dr. Danko concluded by encouraging everyone to be cautious, to continue the prevention mechanisms that worked for COVID-19, and to continue to promote vaccination.

Councilman Dahir asked if the lingering cough in many who have been infected is part of the mentioned complications.

Dr. Danko responded that it could be individualized, and it could depend on the underlying condition of the lungs.

Dr. Klacking asked about it there was supplies of Paxlovid.

Health Officer, Kevin Dick responded there are limited supplies of Paxlovid through the Northern Nevada Treatment Center. He added they are hopeful the allocation will increase soon and will become more readily available.

Dr. Klacking asked if there was any indication as to when the increase would happen.

Mr. Dick confirmed it would be between now and August. Mr. Dick offered to keep the Board informed on those reports.

Dr. Klacking continued to share about the behavioral health problems as a result of being infected by COVID-19.

Dr. Danko agreed that there are behavioral health complications as well as a rise in substance use disorders as they relate to the pandemic and COVID-19. Dr. Danko continued to highlight the importance of prevention.

## **8. Consent Items.**

Matters which the District Board of Health may consider in one motion. Any exceptions to the Consent Agenda must be stated prior to approval.

A. Approval of Draft Minutes

- i. January 27, 2022
- B. Budget Amendments/Interlocal Agreements
  - i. Approve the termination of Interlocal Agreement dated May 28, 2020 between the Washoe County Health District and University of Nevada School of Medicine Multispecialty Group Practice North and all subsequent amendments effective March 31, 2022 at the close of business; and if approved authorize the Chair to sign the termination letter.  
Staff Representative: Kim Graham and Lisa Lottritz
- C. Acknowledge receipt of the Health Fund Financial Review for January, Fiscal Year 2022.  
Staff Representative: Anna Heenan
- D. Recommendation to Uphold Citations Not Appealed to the Air Pollution Control Hearing Board.  
Staff Representative: Francisco Vega
  - i. Montreux Golf & Country Club Inc., Case No. 1323, Notice of Violation No. AQMV21-0043 with a \$1,000.00 penalty.
  - ii. Aspen Earthworks Case No. 1324, Notice of Violation No. AQMV21-0048 with a \$650.00 penalty.
  - iii. Artisan Mystic Mountain, LLC Case No. 1327, Notice of Violation No. AQMV21-0051 with a \$1,650.00 penalty.
  - iv. Nevada Land IV, LLC Case No. 1329, Notice of Violation No. AQMV21-0052 with a \$600.00 penalty.
  - v. Investcor Development Case No. 1342, Notice of Violation No. AQMV21-0053 with a \$700.00 penalty.
  - vi. Investcor Development Case No. 1344, Notice of Violation No. AQMV21-0054 with a \$750.00 penalty.

**Dr. John Novak moved to approve the consent agenda. Dr. Reka Danko seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.**

**9. Employee Recognition Committee.**

Staff Representative: Kelcie Atkin

Ms. Atkin shared a brief presentation about the Employee Recognition Program that is now called Health Heroes Awards. Ms. Atkin spoke of the key components for this program, the structure, and the next steps to launch the program within the Health District. Ms. Atkin also spoke of the process and criteria used to nominate employees.

Ms. Atkin opened her item for questions from the Board.

Health Officer, Kevin Dick, expressed his gratitude to Ms. Atkin and the Committee for leading the committee.

Councilman Dahir stated he feels it is important to pause and thank people for their work. He asked about the recognition prizes.

Mr. Dick reported gift cards are part of those prizes.

Chair Delgado echoed Councilman Dahir's comment and recognized the great work of the committee.

**10. Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council (IHCC) Presentation of Accomplishments.**

Staff Representative: Jessie Latchaw

Jessie Latchaw introduced Brian Taylor, IHCC Chair and REMSA Health's Emergency Manager and invited him to present to the Board.

Mr. Taylor provided a brief presentation to the Board on the Health Care Coalition Accomplishment for 2021. Mr. Taylor highlighted all the agencies involved in this Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council.

Mr. Taylor listed nine accomplishments including but not limited to COVID-19 Grant PPE purchases and distribution, a variety of exercises and training, coalition member's resource & gap analysis provider plan updates, alternate care site plan update, and crisis standards of care updates. Additionally, he described how Hazards and Vulnerability Assessments are created and used to focus the efforts.

Mr. Taylor concluded by reporting on 2022 anticipated activities and stated that this council breaks through the political, financial, and competitive barriers to help each other which creates a stronger health community through this collaboration. He thanked the Board for their support.

Councilman Dahir thanked Mr. Taylor for the presentation. He continued to ask what can be done about the delays in hospitals and if the IHCC is involved with this part of the process.

Ms. Latchaw clarified that EMS Transport/Hospital piece is separate from the focus of the IHCC, which works more on the preparedness for emergencies and not necessarily the EMS transport waiting times.

Councilman Dahir asked if the IHCC can look into the hospital delays as a second pair of eyes.

Mr. Taylor added that REMSA's presentation would be discussing the information that is being requested by Councilman Dahir, later in the meeting.

Chair closed the item by thanking and expressing appreciation for the hard work of the IHCC.

**11. Presentation and possible acceptance of the 2022-2024 Workforce Development Plan.**

Staff Representative: Rayona LaVoie

Rayona LaVoie began her presentation by providing the 50,000-foot view of why there is substantial amount of energy around modernizing the public health system by referring to the challenges that COVID-19 represented for the health system. Ms. LaVoie continued to speak about the role of the Public Health Accreditation Board in modernizing the health system and how it affects the focus of the health district.

Ms. LaVoie continued to speak of Organizational Capacity and how the Strategic Plan and the Workforce Development work hand in hand. She briefly spoke of the workforce focus areas such as on-boarding, core competencies, diversity, equity, and inclusion, supervision and management, leadership development, and resilience and wellness,

Ms. LaVoie concluded by reporting on the next steps which included completing a workplan for implementation and develop scorecards to report out on progress.

Ms. LaVoie opened her item for questions from the board.

Chair Delgado thanked Ms. LaVoie for her presentation and expressed appreciation for all the work. He made note of all the new hires and the opportunities for inner growth.

**Councilman Dahir moved to accept the 2022-2024 Workforce Development Plan. Mike Brown seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.**

**12. Presentation regarding Washoe County Health District and community behavioral health initiatives.**

Staff Representative: Julia Ratti

Julia Ratti thanked Councilman Dahir for his request on this presentation. Ms. Ratti provided an update on the behavioral health initiatives at the County.

Ms. Ratti began by describing the role of the Health District in this area which included a community health needs assessment that facilitates a community process where priorities are set. Ms. Ratti continued to speak on the community health improvement plan (CHIP) priorities as set by the community and financial support for five CHIP initiatives.

Ms. Ratti explained how behavioral health tied to the Strategic Plan through the Impactful Partnerships priority by outlining the goals linked to behavioral health. She continued to highlight the HELLO Project, the Nevada Resilience Project, and the Zero Suicide initiative.

Ms. Ratti continued by focusing deeper on the behavioral health crisis response initiative including the alignment of services toward a common goal and providing details on the change drivers.

Ms. Ratti concluded by providing an overview of the crisis response project including the framework and considerations and opened her item for questions from the Board.

Chair Delgado excused himself at 3:04 p.m. and Dr. Novak presided as Chair in Chair Delgado's absence.

Dr. Novak thanked Ms. Ratti for all the hard work.

Councilman Dahir expressed appreciation for Ms. Ratti's presentation and asked if the place he had previously visited was the Crisis Center Ms. Ratti spoke about during the presentation.

Ms. Ratti confirmed that the Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services campus is a one of the proposed locations for a Crisis Support Unit.

Councilman Dahir expressed one of his goals is to look at this initiative as a Board to assess the services and determine what services are high level priorities. He also expressed his desire to have this initiative be coordinated at large and have this Board be the resource that provides said information to community leaders.

Ms. Ratti thanked Councilman Dahir for his enthusiasm for the project and continued to report that there is a lot of work ahead of this initiative.

Councilman Dahir suggested having a dashboard that represents the progress.

Commissioner Lucey asked if the Medicine School of the University of Nevada, Reno is participating in the formation of this initiative, as he believes one of the issues is the lack of providers for these services.

Ms. Ratti reported the university is not a specific partner on the crisis response implementation plan; however, they are at the table on a separate coalition.

Commissioner Lucey continued if to inquire if the 988 number is statewide or nationwide.



Ms. Ratti affirmed it is a national number and is built on top of the current lifeline system which includes chat, text, and call function and it's scheduled to roll out on July 16, 2022.

Commissioner Lucey followed the response by stating that if the federal government will be funding the rollout, will the Health District have discretion as to how this number gets rolled out in Washoe County.

Ms. Ratti affirmed the Health District does not have a financial commitment to the 988-rollout promotion.

Commissioner Lucey stated that although they service primarily Washoe County and its residents within, they also support a number of Northern Nevada communities; with that he asked if they will be acting as the base for surrounding counties including California.

Ms. Ratti responded that the focus is on building out Washoe County and not thinking much more broadly.

Commissioner Lucey asked to meet with Ms. Ratti to discuss this project from more of a regional standpoint.

Ms. Ratti clarified that her previous response related more to the response of the 988 line; however, the rollout promotion is a statewide collaborative effort.

Dr. Novak delegated his role as acting Chair to Commissioner Lucey.

Dr. Klacking congratulated Ms. Ratti on this project. Dr. Klacking asked Ms. Ratti if she knew the percentage of males and females calling the hotlines.

Ms. Ratti explained she did not have a response but would certainly get the answer and follow up with Dr. Klacking.

### **13. Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority.**

#### **A. Review and Acceptance of the REMSA Health Operations Report for January 2022.**

Presented by: Dean Dow

Dean Dow began his presentation by opening his item for questions from the Board.

**Councilman Dahir moved to approve REMSA Health Operations Report for January 2022. Dr. Novak seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.**

#### **B. Update of REMSA Health's Public Relations during January 2022.**

Presented by: Alexia Jobson

Ms. Alexia Jobson presented the Public Relations report for January 2022.

Ms. Jobson provided updates since the writing of her report. She reported that at the end of January REMSA Health hosted Senator Cortes Masto, organization leaders, and subject matter experts to discuss how federal legislation related to out of hospital health care impacts the organization and employees on a day-to-day basis.

Ms. Jobson added that REMSA Health CEO, Dean Dow partnered up with Sheriff Balaam to raise awareness about car seat safety and recent state law changes. Ms. Jobson announced that REMSA Health's Executive Director of Integrated Healthcare, Adam Heinz, has been appointed to the Board of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, which is comprised of some of the most prominent figures in all segments of the emergency medical services community. Ms. Jobson provided some of the highlights shared on their social media content.

Ms. Jobson concluded by reporting that REMSA Health continues to roll out information to community member about Assess & Refer protocol.

Ms. Jobson opened her item for questions from the Board.

**C. Presentation and Discussion of REMSA's Fiscal 2021 Audited Financial Statements.**

Presented by: Tim Nelson

Tim Nelson, Chairman of the REMSA Board appointed as the CPA representative.

Mr. Nelson noted REMSA received the highest opinion from its auditors. Over the last year REMSA achieved a positive change in net assets. He continued to provide a breakdown of their financial report, attached to this item on the agenda, which included a consolidated statement of financial position, consolidated statements of activities, consolidated statement of functional expenses, and consolidated statement of cash flows.

Mr. Nelson concluded by stating that REMSA remains focused on their philosophy and culture of the employees and the community by adopting a 40-hour work week for field personnel and gave 3.5% wage increase in July.

Mr. Nelson opened his item for question from the Board.

Vice-chair Lucey expressed his appreciation for the presentation and congratulates Mr. Nelson and REMSA for their ongoing work to make REMSA a financially stable organization.

**D. EMS System Updates – Hospital Offload Delays, Mutual Aid, Nurse Healthline, ILS, Assess and Refer, Community Education.**

Presented by: Adam Heinz

Adam Heinz made note that this presentation is a response to a direct request from the Board.

Mr. Heinz provided a thorough look into hospital delays, which included graphs with data regarding number and percent of monthly events and percentage of incidents on bed delay trend. Mr. Heinz explained that any time an ambulance is unable to transfer care within 10 minutes the dispatch teams is notified that the ambulance is in offload delay; additionally, he spoke briefly of the REMSA implementation of NRS 450B, which has been in place since January 14.

Mr. Heinz reported on Mutual Aid use and shared the statistics for January not including Truckee Meadows Fire. Mr. Heinz continued to provide detailed reports on patient navigation and the nurse health line, which included intermediate life support units and alternative destination.

Mr. Heinz continued to discuss REMSA Health's Assess & Refer program, explaining the eligibility, assessment, and clinical presentations which started on January 19, 2022. Mr. Heinz stated the map included in his presentation was a response to Chair Delgado's request to pin the location where these calls are occurring.

Mr. Heinz concluded by reporting on the community education efforts that have been made to keep the public informed of the Assess & Refer program.

Mr. Heinz opened his item for questions from the Board.

Chair Lucey thanked Mr. Heinz for his update and expressed he was pleased to see the offload delays are becoming less arduous.

Councilman Dahir asked about the trainings available to prevent leaving someone behind that actually needs help.

Mr. Heinz responded there are protocols that have been constructed to provide a basis to safely triage patients. He added that this involved continuous training from medical professional to the REMSA team. Mr. Heinz reiterated that constant monitoring of processes is used to identify the efficacy of all protocols. Mr. Heinz also referred to the additional net nurses provide by following up with patients, to ensure that additional resources are not needed. Mr. Heinz emphasized the new generation of paramedics and EMTs are being taught that there are different ways and paths to treat patients.

**14. Public Hearing for review, discussion, and possible adoption of proposed revisions to the District Board of Health Regulations Governing Air Quality Management, Section 040.051 to reduce emissions, attain national ambient air quality standards, update wood-burning device rule to add clarity and transparency to the implementation of the program, and revise rules to provide clarity regarding limits of wood burning devices based on acreage.**

Staff Representative: Francisco Vega

Health Officer, Kevin Dick, opened this hearing by reading the purpose into the record and invited Francisco Vega, AQM Division Director to address the Board.

Mr. Vega opened his item by providing a PowerPoint presentation providing some updates on the process that was being addressed to include the outreach efforts that were made to alert the public of the revisions.

Mr. Vega opened his item for questions from the Board.

Councilman Dahir thanked the Air Quality Management team for their collaboration with the involved parties.

**Dr. Novak moved to adopt the proposed Revisions to the Regulations Governing Air Quality Management Section 04.051 effective July 1, 2022. Dr. Klacking seconded the motion which was approved unanimously with Chair Delgado being absent.**

**15. Approval of the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget.**

Staff Representative: Kevin Dick

Health Officer, Kevin Dick, opened this item by thanking Administrative Health Services Officer and her team as well as the Division Directors for their hard work.

Mr. Dick provided a report on Health District accomplishment, programs, summary of revenues and expenditures, sources and uses of funds, impact of proposed fiscal year 2023 budget on future fund balance, and the next steps in the budget process.

Mr. Dick made note of 3 major awards the Health District has received, namely Washoe Impact Awards-Manager's Award and Effective Communication Award and the 2021 Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award. Mr. Dick made note of the 22 different programs that are provided to the community.

Mr. Dick continued to provide a detailed report on the proposed revenues and expenditures to include County indirect costs as well as all existent and new full-time equivalents for each Division. Additionally, Mr. Dick discussed licenses and permits, grants, and charges for services as sources of revenue. Mr. Dick reported on the projected fund balance through fiscal year 2025-2026.

Mr. Dick concluded by providing a timeline of the budget process through June 1, 2022, and informed the Board the budget may undergo some adjustment based on the feedback from all the parties involved and the cost-of-living percentage.

Mr. Dick opened his item for questions from the Board.

Councilman Dahir asked about the Health District anticipating regarding the inflation. He additionally suggested the Health District should look at the immediate needs in the community when considering putting money away for years to come.

Mr. Dick explained that on the inflation side, the Health District has the CPI increase that provides revenues to address those costs. He noted that the Community Health Needs Assessment was currently being conducted and those results would guide the design of Community Health Improvement Plan. Mr. Dick noted that those efforts would help to inform the Strategic Plan update the Board would be undertaking and would allow discussions of investments the Board believes are important to consider.

Councilman Dahir stated he is looking forward to the update as he opined there are immediate needs that need to be considered.

Vice-chair Lucey expressed concern about the increase in insurance premiums and followed up by asking about the revenue from construction permitting throughout the divisions.

Mr. Dick explained the permitting fees were established taking into consideration the cost recovery for all costs incurred by the Health District. He added those fees are being studied this year, which will potentially represent some adjustments. Mr. Dick continued to clarify Commissioner Lucey's question regarding the costs of insurance.

Commissioner Lucey continued to ask if those services could be redirected out of the Health District back into the jurisdictional permitting entities, to reduce the time spent on those review processes, so that those funds can be reallocated to more necessary programs needed within the Health District.

Mr. Dick explained that is not feasible, as they are public health responsibilities.

Commissioner Lucey stated he is looking for ways to eliminate redundancy and requested to meet with the Health Officer offline to discuss this matter.

Mr. Dick explained the fees collected through the Health District is revenue for the cost of delivering services. Therefore, without services there would be no revenue.

Dr. Klacking shared information on a recent report where it confirms insurance rates will inevitably increase.

Mr. Dick clarified the insurance cost is an unknown, as the negotiations are not yet complete.

**Michael Brown moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Budget. Councilman Dahir seconded the motion which was approved unanimously with Chair Delgado and Dr. Reka Danko being absent.**

## **16. Staff Reports and Program Updates**

- A. Air Quality Management** – New Research Shows How Health Risks to Children Mount as Temperatures Rise, Health Risks of Smoke and Ozone Rise in the West as Wildfires Worsen, Monitoring and Planning, Permitting and Compliance.  
Staff Representative: Francisco Vega

Mr. Vega opened his item for question from the Board.

- B. Community and Clinical Health Services - Divisional Update - WIC Program Update; Data & Metrics; Sexual Health (Outreach and Disease Investigation), Immunizations, Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program, Reproductive and Sexual Health Services, Chronic Disease Prevention Program, Maternal Child and Adolescent Health, and Women Infants and Children**

Staff Representative: Lisa Lottritz

Ms. Lottritz opened her item for questions from the Board.

- C. Environmental Health Services, Erin Dixon, Division Director - Highlighted Program; Program Activities; Consumer Protection (Food/Food Safety, Commercial Plans, Permitted Facilities); Environmental Protection (Land Development, Safe Drinking Water, Vector-Borne Diseases, Waste Management); and Inspections.**

Staff Representative: Erin Dixon

Erin Dixon opened her item by announcing a Townhall meeting that will be held next Thursday in the Washoe County Commission Chambers from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. regarding a mobile or temporary food permit and answering community questions. Additionally, she shared her flyer for this event, this flyer is made available on the District Board of Health website under this meeting's date.

Ms. Dixon opened her item for questions from the Board.

- D. Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness - Communicable Disease, Public Health Preparedness, Emergency Medical Services, Vital Statistics.**

Dr. Diao opened her item for questions from the Board.

- E. Office of the District Health Officer, Kevin Dick, District Health Officer - District Health Officer Report – COVID-19 Response, Joint Information Center, Community Health Needs Assessment, Workforce Development Plan, Health Equity and Health Disparities, and Public Communications and Outreach.**

Staff Representative: Kevin Dick

Mr. Dick opened his item for questions from the Board.

## 17. Board Comment.

Commissioner Lucey requested a ground operations rate increase discussion by REMSA Health be brought forth at next month's meeting.

Having no additional comments from the Board, Vice-chair closed this item.

## Adjournment.

**Vice-chair Lucey adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.**

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**Possible Changes to Agenda Order and Timing:** Items on the agenda may be taken out of order, combined with other items, withdrawn from the agenda, moved to the agenda of another later meeting; moved to or from the Consent section, or they may be voted on in a block. Items with a specific time designation will not be heard prior to the stated time, but may be heard later. Items listed in the Consent section of the agenda are voted on as a block and will not be read or considered separately unless withdrawn from the Consent agenda.

**Special Accommodations:** The District Board of Health Meetings are accessible to the disabled. Disabled members of the public who require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify Administrative Health Services in writing at the

Washoe County Health District, 1001 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Building B, Reno, NV 89512, or by calling 775.328.2416, 24 hours prior to the meeting.

**Public Comment:** Members of the public may make public comment by submitting an email comment to [svaldespin@washoecounty.gov](mailto:svaldespin@washoecounty.gov) before the scheduled meeting, which includes the name of the commenter and the agenda item number for which the comment is submitted. Reasonable efforts will be made to hear all public comment during the meeting. During the “Public Comment” items, emails may be submitted pertaining to any matter either on or off the agenda, to include items to be heard on consent. For the remainder of the agenda, public comment emails will only be heard during items that are not marked FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. All public comment should be addressed to the Board of Health and not an individual member. The Board asks that your comments are expressed in a courteous manner. All public comment is limited to three minutes per person. Unused time may not be reserved by the speaker nor allocated to another speaker.

**Response to Public Comment:** The Board of Health can deliberate or take action only if a matter has been listed on an agenda properly posted prior to the meeting. During the public comment period, speakers may address matters listed or not listed on the published agenda. The *Open Meeting Law* does not expressly prohibit responses to public comments by the Board of Health. However, responses from the Board members to unlisted public comment topics could become deliberation on a matter without notice to the public. On the advice of legal counsel and to ensure the public has notice of all matters the Board of Health will consider, Board members may choose not to respond to public comments, except to correct factual inaccuracies, ask for Health District staff action or to ask that a matter be listed on a future agenda. The Board of Health may do this either during the public comment item or during the following item: “Board Comments – District Board of Health Member’s announcements, reports and updates, request for information or topics for future agendas. (No discussion among Board Members will take place on the item)”

**Posting of Agenda; Location of Website:**

Pursuant to NRS 241.020, Notice of this meeting was posted electronically at the following locations:

Washoe County Health District Website <https://www.washoecounty.gov/health>

State of Nevada Website: <https://notice.nv.gov>

**Under an emergency directive issued by Governor Sisolak on March 22, 2020, and extended by a subsequent directive issued on July 31, 2020, the physical location requirement has been suspended.**

**How to Get Copies of Agenda and Support Materials:** Supporting materials are available to the public at the Washoe County Health District located at 1001 E. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, in Reno, Nevada. Ms. Susy Valdespin, Administrative Secretary to the District Board of Health is the person designated by the Washoe County District Board of Health to respond to requests for supporting materials. Ms. Valdespin is located at the Washoe County Health District and may be reached by telephone at (775) 328-2415 or by email at [svaldespin@washoecounty.gov](mailto:svaldespin@washoecounty.gov). Supporting materials are also available at the Washoe County Health District Website <https://www.washoecounty.gov/health> pursuant to the requirements of NRS 241.020.