

KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING AGENDA

May 5, 2020
12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

**** Please note that this is an online meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic and Governor Inslee's "[Stay Home, Stay Healthy](#)" Proclamation and [Proclamation 20-28](#), Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act. Electronic connection information for the meeting is provided at the end of the Agenda. ****

- 12:30 p.m. 1. Call to Order
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair
- 12:32 p.m. 2. Approval of March 17 and April 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair *Page 3*
- 12:33 p.m. 3. Approval of Consent Items and Contract Updates: See Warrant and EFT Registers and Contracts Signed Report
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair *External document*
- 12:35 p.m. 4. Chair Comments
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair
- 12:40 p.m. 5. Health Officer and Administrator Reports
Dr. Susan Turner, Health Officer & Keith Grellner, Administrator
- 12:50 p.m. 6. Public Comment
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair

INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 12:53 p.m. 7. COVID-19 Update and Discussion
Dr. Susan Turner, Health Officer & Keith Grellner, Administrator *Page 13*
- 1:45 p.m. 8. Adjourn

All times are approximate. Board meeting materials are available online at www.kitsappublichealth.org/about/board-meetings.php

Zoom Meeting Information**

Please note: There is no physical location for this meeting. Board members and staff will all participate remotely. The public may login using a computer or call-in using a phone to listen to the meeting via Zoom. The public may submit verbal comments during the specified public comment segment.

To join the meeting online, please click the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82463334930?pwd=M21lV1psemNqOE5kbUtDZnBjWFVZZz09>

Password: 994155

Or join by telephone:

Dial: +1 (669) 900 6833

Webinar ID: 824 6333 4930

*Zoom meeting is limited to the first 100 participants. A recording of the meeting will be made available on our website within 48 hours of the meeting.

**KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Special Meeting
March 17, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Mayor Rob Putaansuu at 9:02 a.m.

Mayor Putaansuu noted that the room was set up in accordance with Governor Jay Inslee's proclamation requiring social distancing during gatherings. He added that anyone older in age or who has a compromised immune system should consider leaving the meeting for their own safety.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

COVID-19 UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Mr. Grellner, Administrator, said the main purpose of this meeting is to present the current COVID-19 situation in the state and Kitsap county, and to seek comments and direction from the Board.

Dr. Susan Turner, Health Officer, provided a presentation regarding COVID-19. The situation is changing rapidly in all areas of the state, including Kitsap. The majority of cases are located in King and Snohomish counties.

The statewide emergency surveillance system added COVID Like Illness (CLI) as a syndrome in the reporting database. She said emergency department visits for CLI are elevated dramatically across the state, especially among individuals aged 18-64. She said influenza activity is also still elevated.

There are seven positive COVID-19 cases in Kitsap county as of 8:00 a.m. on March 17. Because of the geographical location of cases throughout Kitsap, community transmission is likely. The Health District is urging individuals to practice isolation and social distancing.

The goals of Kitsap Public Health's COVID-19 emergency response are to slow the spread of COVID-19, reduce the risk for high-risk populations and slow the incidence of COVID-19 in our community so that our healthcare system is not overwhelmed. The Health District activated its emergency command system and is pulling more staff into the response. Some staff have been part of the response since the beginning of February.

As of March 13, 30 Health District employees have participated in COVID-19 response efforts, totaling over 2500 hours and a cost of \$175,000 to the District. The Health District response team is coordinating with the Kitsap County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) as part of a county-wide "Unified Command". The DEM also activated its Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Mr. Grellner said the Health District closed to the public on March 16 for the safety of the public and staff and to minimize staff shortages for illness. Many services are available online and by phone. Additionally, he reminded the Board that most of the 30 employees on the emergency response team are having to put their regular work on hold to do COVID-19 related work.

Kitsap jurisdictions have each declared states of emergency which should free up emergency funding, services and supplies. Mr. Grellner said that there are rumors and news reports of available funding, additional testing options and additional supplies. He said they should be in the pipeline but they have not been received yet by local jurisdictions.

Mr. Grellner emphasized the importance of people staying home if they're ill. He reminded the public that if they are ill they *can not* go to work, the grocery store, etc. and need to find someone to help run errands for them. He said these non-pharmaceutical interventions (NPI) are the best tool we have to protect the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

Dr. Turner shared models from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to show the phases of a pandemic if NPI are not implemented early enough. According to the models, Kitsap county is at the start of a steep slope of increasing numbers of COVID-19 cases. However, with NPI in place, we should be able to slow the spread and flatten the curve so as to not overwhelm our healthcare system. This prevents the risk of having to ration scarce healthcare resources and make difficult decisions in providing lifesaving care.

Mr. Grellner said Governor Inslee enacted almost a dozen proclamations regarding COVID-19 in Washington State. Violating the proclamations is punishable as criminal offenses. Per the proclamations, gatherings of 50 or more are prohibited. Gatherings of 49 or less are prohibited unless NPI are implemented (screen people for illness, encourage at risk groups not to attend, rigid sanitization practices). Because of this, Mr. Grellner said the next Board meeting will need to be done by phone or web conference.

The statewide public health system is recommending unity. Mr. Grellner noted that no country in the world has found a way to combat this disease. He said several health jurisdictions spoke on the phone yesterday and agreed that unity in messaging will be important across the state. Mr. Grellner said this public health issue will affect more than just health, such as the economy, and it will take a collaborative effort across all sectors in Kitsap to balance and get through this.

The expertise of the Washington State Department of Health and Seattle King Public Health are informing Kitsap Public Health's efforts to response to COVID-19.

Dr. Turner noted several statewide challenges and gaps related to COVID-19:

- Limited testing capabilities
- Shortages of personal protective equipment and supplies
- Hospital capacity
- School closures creating parental challenges, especially for healthcare workers.
- Behavioral health impacts of fear and isolation

- No funding for response efforts (yet)

She also noted challenges facing Kitsap Public Health:

- Cases continue to rise—Case investigation capacity
- Physician reporting improving (slow or incomplete reporting)
- Labs report electronically, sometimes without patient contact information (slow or incomplete reporting)
- Partner/Public information demands continue to rise
- Misinformation or incomplete information
- Some staff working long weekdays and Saturdays and Sundays with minimal breaks

Mr. Grellner said that, at some point, Kitsap Public Health may reach out to our local jurisdictions to help staff the EOC, help amplify public health messaging, and be good role models of NPI, such as social distancing.

Dr. Turner added that she sees emerging behavioral health issues related to isolation and asked jurisdictions to encourage communities to help each other. She encouraged promoting “Social distancing NOT social isolation”.

Mayor Becky Erickson asked what the local public inquiry line for Kitsap County is. Mr. Grellner introduced Liz Klute, director for the DEM. Ms. Klute said the DEM has worked with the county and 2-1-1 to stand up call centers for the public. Individuals can call “2-1-1” to be directed to the call centers. Lastly, she added that the workflow developed by the Health District, DEM, and 2-1-1 is being adopted statewide.

Mayor Erickson noted concerns about the legality of excluding people from an open public meeting to adhere to the Governor’s proclamation. Therefore, she said the City of Poulsbo council meeting are canceled until further notice. Mayor Putaansuu agreed with Mayor Erickson and said, starting tonight, the Port Orchard city council will ensure social distancing measures are met and will avoid putting controversial items on agenda during this time. Mayor Greg Wheeler added that the City of Bremerton is researching the Washington Open Public Meetings Act. He believes that, if the hosting agency makes a reasonable accommodation for those who are ill or at risk, the meetings can continue. He gave an example of setting up computers in the lobby for those individuals to participate remotely.

Mayor Wheeler also said the City of Bremerton will be shutting down most of its parks, due to the intense level of involvement by employees and supply shortages.

Commissioner Charlotte Garrido said the Board of Commissioners is compiling a chart of what other agencies and partners are doing to maintain social distancing.

Commissioner Rob Gelder said the Board of Commissioners accepted a contract with the Department of Commerce to fund \$750,000 toward setting up homeless and isolation and quarantine centers.

Commissioner Ed Wolfe said the Health Board has great confidence in Kitsap Public Health District and the public should too. He added that he is really impressed with the teamwork in Kitsap County between elected officials, agencies and partners.

Mayor Erickson encouraged the Board and Health District staff to start promoting messaging to the public of what they *can* do: what's allowed and what they can do to help their neighbors and their community. She said the public shouldn't be afraid. They should be prepared and proactive, but not afraid.

Mayor Wheeler said that the Salvation Army will be ground zero if there is an outbreak of COVID-19 in Bremerton. He said the shelter is scheduled to close in 14 days and hopes he can work with the county's quarantine and isolation efforts to ensure the shelter will be kept open.

There was no further comment.

HEALTH OFFICER INTERVIEWS SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 27, 2020

Mr. Grellner said Health Officers interviews were scheduled for March 27. This is being re-evaluated and may be done electronically.

There was no further comment.

RESOLUTION 2020-02 APPROVING TEMPORARY EXEMPTION TO ADMINISTRATIVE TIME CAP FOR EXEMPT EMPLOYEES

Mr. Grellner said about 25 percent of staff are exempt employees: managers, supervisors and directors. He explained that the District has a hybrid payroll system for exempt employees. Exempt employees are only paid for the hours they work. The District has always capped the amount of administrative time exempt staff can accrue at 40 hours. However, the District is asking the Board to consider allowing the District administrator to use his discretion to determine which senior leadership can exceed the 40-hour cap. He said some exempt employees have worked beyond this cap on COVID-19 related work already.

Mayor Erickson moved and Commissioner Gelder seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2020-02 Approving Temporary Exemption to Administrative Time Cap for Exempt Employees. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no further comment.

ADJOURN

There was no further business; the meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.

Robert Putaansuu
Kitsap Public Health Board

Keith Grellner
Administrator

Board Members Present: *Mayor* Becky Erickson; *Commissioner* Charlotte Garrido; *Commissioner* Robert Gelder; *Mayor* Robert Putaansuu; *Mayor* Greg Wheeler; *Commissioner* Ed Wolfe.

Board Members Absent: *Councilmember* Kol Medina.

Community Members Present: Charles DeCosta, *Self*; Mike Riley, *City of Bremerton*; Caroline Tompson, *City of Bremerton*; Lance Walters, *Salvation Army*.

Staff Present: Angie Berger, *Administrative Assistant, Administration*; Yolanda Fong, *Director, Community Health Division*; Keith Grellner, *Administrator*; Karen Holt, *Program Manager, Human Resources*; John Kiess, *Director, Environmental Health Division*; Susan Turner, MD, *Health Officer*.

DRAFT

**KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Regular Meeting (virtual meeting)
April 7, 2020**

The virtual meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Mayor Rob Putaansuu at 12:34 p.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Charlotte Garrido noted an error on the final page and asked the minutes be amended.

Commissioner Garrido moved and Mayor Becky Erickson seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the March 3, 2020, regular meeting as amended. The motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The April consent agenda included no contracts for approval.

Commissioner Rob Gelder moved and Commissioner Ed Wolfe seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda, including the Contracts Update and Warrant and Electronic Funds Transfer Registers. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

HEALTH OFFICER/ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Keith Grellner, Administrator, requested to forgo Health Officer and Administrator reports to have ample room for the action item and presentation. Chair Putaansuu approved this request.

There was no further comment.

RESOLUTION 2020-03: APPROVING EMERGENCY PAID SICK LEAVE TO EMPLOYEES DUE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

Ms. Karen Holt, Human Resources Manager, informed the Board that President Trump signed the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) which became effective on April 1, 2020 and will remain in effect through December 31, 2020. Provisions provide additional paid leave benefits to eligible employees who are impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

As defined by the United States Department of Labor, all public health workers are considered Health Care Providers and Emergency Responders. As such, District employees are specifically exempt from the provisions of the FFCRA.

However, although not required, the District is proposing to provide the Emergency Paid Sick Leave provision as outlined in the FFCRA to all employees in order to protect and preserve the District's essential workforce. It is imperative that essential District employees do not feel compelled to come to work when ill because they do not have enough leave to stay home. All five Health Board jurisdictions in addition to several other local agencies are offering similar benefits to their employees. This additional leave of 80 hours for a full-time employee (prorated by full time equivalency for part time staff) will provide some relief to our staff and their families who are negotiating through this difficult and uncertain time while participating in our community's COVID-19 response.

Mayor Putaansuu noted that the leave policy for the City of Port Orchard is only available during this event.

Councilmember Kol Medina noted the policy states the Emergency Sick Leave expires on December 31, 2020, if it is not used before then. He also asked that "Emergency Sick Leave" be defined in the policy.

Ms. Holt said she will add the definition. She also informed the Board that she created a matrix for staff outlining when and how the Emergency Sick Leave may be available to them. She said she will send the matrix to the Board.

Mayor Erickson moved and Councilmember Medina seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2020-03 Approving Emergency Paid Sick Leave to Employees Due to COVID-19 Pandemic Response. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no further discussion.

COVID-19 UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Susan Turner, Health Officer shared her condolences on behalf of the Health District for the family and loved ones of the first community member death related to COVID-19.

Dr. Turner provided a presentation on the current status of COVID-19 in the nation, state and Kitsap County. She also thanked the community and Board members for their diligence in staying home.

Mr. Grellner reminded the Board that the Health District activated its own public health response team in February and has been coordinating with the Kitsap County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Kitsap County Department of Emergency Management (DEM), Kitsap 911, law enforcement, all of Kitsap County. Since that time, the District has spent \$376,000 and 5,800 hours on COVID-19 response activities. He said the District should be receiving about \$309,000

of funding soon through the state disaster recovery account, which should cover most of these costs. He said 75 of 101 Health District employees participate exclusively on response efforts.

Based on case and contact investigations, the number of close contacts of positive cases appears to be decreasing, compared to close contacts of cases in February, which means nonpharmaceutical interventions (NPI), such as social distancing, appear to be working.

Mr. Grellner said the Health District is starting to look forward to recovery plans for the community while continuing to work on response efforts. He said, when the Governor releases all businesses back to work, the Health District will consider how to resume certain aspects of regular work and continue supporting the community in its recovery.

Mayor Greg Wheeler said he fully supports the Health District's plan to continue contact investigations and asked how the District is doing case/contact investigation inside local military installations.

Dr. Turner said the Health District is working with military partners on military cases and civilian cases with military contacts. She explained that the Navy preventative medicine team investigates Navy cases and contacts, while the Health District investigates civilian cases and contacts. She said the Health District also has a similar process with tribes.

Mayor Wheeler asked how a COVID-19 outbreak at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard (PSNS) would be managed.

Dr. Turner explained that an outbreak at the shipyard would be managed in collaboration with the Department of Defense and the Navy, who have their own federal resources. Depending on the situation, the Health District may have to look at additional resources, such as volunteers, to make its operation larger to handle the caseload. Mr. Grellner noted that case investigation is based on the county of residence and many PSNS employees live in other counties.

Dr. Turner also noted a concern for long-term residential facilities that house elderly and vulnerable populations. She said an outbreak in one of these facilities would challenge the Health District's abilities to respond. Multiple outbreaks would exceed the Health District's capacity.

Councilmember Medina asked if the \$376,000 expenditure was outside the Health District's budget for 2020. Mr. Grellner said that money was included in the budget but was allocated for other regular operations and has been primarily spent on staff hours during this response.

Mayor Putaansuu clarified that the Health District is reimbursed for other work done during normal time, however the Health District isn't currently being reimbursed for COVID-19 response activities and therefore needs the state funding to cover this expenditure. Mr. Grellner confirmed this.

Next, Dr. Turner reviewed the Kitsap County COVID-19 Weekly Surveillance Report. Dr. Turner noted that the percent positive indicated in the report is important because a rise in this

number could indicate a rise of disease. She also added that this data is incomplete due to limited testing and therefore does not represent the whole population.

Commissioner Gelder asked if there is any value in the data since it doesn't include the entire county. Dr. Turner explained that the data allows the Health District to compare Kitsap County to other counties. She said that, when other counties' capacities are being exceeded, the percent positive rises markedly.

Dr. Turner shared a model from the University of Washington Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluations which uses real time data from COVID-19 outbreaks across the world, and how these regions are using NPI or the absence of NPI, to project the course of COVID-19 in Washington State. According to this chart, Washington has recently passed the peak of our curve of hospital resource use. She asked the Board to keep in mind that Washington statistics are driven by our larger counties. She said two large counties started their outbreak before Kitsap, and therefore they are likely 2 weeks ahead of Kitsap for the projected peak. She also said this model is done with the assumption that social distancing measures are kept in place until the end of May.

Mr. Grellner said the Board members were sent resources regarding cloth mask use prior to the meeting from the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The Board members agreed that they liked the clarity of the DOH and CDC resources. Mr. Grellner also clarified that the guidance specifies masks are only recommended for when social distancing cannot be maintained. Masks are not required to be worn.

Councilmember Medina asked Dr. Turner if case contact investigations are enough to prevent a second outbreak? Dr. Turner said it is possible that there are enough people in the state and local community who do not have immunity to this virus that a second wave of the outbreak will occur. Without social distancing measures, vaccines and medication, this [lack of herd immunity] may pose a similar threat to us again, which would require the implementation of similar measures again. She pointed out that the 1918 Influenza pandemic came in three waves.

Councilmember Medina asked what sense Dr. Turner has of how this may unfold, knowing that we have better information flow now than we did in 1918. Dr. Turner said she has not heard that a vaccine will arrive any sooner than a year from now and is concerned about the large number of individuals in the community who are not immune to COVID-19. She emphasized the importance and usefulness of implementing social distancing measures.

Mayor Erickson said she's heard that testing machines from Abbott Laboratories may be sent to Washington State. She asked if Dr. Turner knows where these will be dispatched. Dr. Turner said these machines are point of care tests that run one at a time and are not high volume, lab grade machines. DOH said they will be retaining 3 of them to have replacements available. DOH said 11 others will be distributed across the state, but she did not hear that any would come west of Puget sound.

There was no further comment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO RCW 42.30.110 (1)(G): DISCUSSION TO EVALUATE THE QUALIFICATIONS OF AN APPLICANT FOR PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

At 1:47 p.m., Mayor Putaansuu said the Board would break for executive session and would not return. No decisions were made.

There was no further comment.

ADJOURN

There was no further business; the virtual meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Robert Putaansuu
Kitsap Public Health Board

Keith Grellner
Administrator

Board Members Present: *Mayor* Becky Erickson; *Commissioner* Charlotte Garrido; *Commissioner* Robert Gelder; *Councilmember* Kol Medina; *Mayor* Robert Putaansuu; *Mayor* Greg Wheeler; *Commissioner* Ed Wolfe.

Board Members Absent: *None.*

Community Members Present: Melanie Dalton, *self*; Mindy Fohn, *self*; Roger Gay, *self*; Barbie Iman, *self*; Brian Kelly, *Bainbridge Review*; Richard Kirton, *Kitsap 911*; Monte Levine, *self*; Jor Lubischer, *self*; Austen Macalás, *Kitsap Sun*; Jim Moore, *self*; Rebecca Pirtle, *Kitsap County*; Annika Turner, *Kitsap Immigrant Assistance Center*.

Staff Present: Nancy Acosta, *Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Parent Child Health*; Leslie Banigan, *Senior Environmental Health Specialist, Water Pollution Identification and Correction*; Angie Berger, *Administrative Assistant, Administration*; Windie Borja, *Secretary Clerk 2, Support Services*; Deanna Eakes, *Secretary Clerk 3, Support Services*; Keith Grellner, *Administrator, Administration*; Jessica Guidry, *Program Manager, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response*; Judy Holt, *Program Manager, Support Services*; Karen Holt, *Program Manager, Human Resources*; Rachel Hughes, *Senior Secretary Clerk, Support Services*; Melissa Laird, *Manager, Accounting and Finance*; Megan Moore, *Community Liaison, Chronic Disease Prevention*; Ed North, *Program Manager, Information Technology*; Beth Phipps, *Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Communicable Disease*; Denise Turner, *Senior Accounting Assistant, Payroll*; Susan Turner, MD, *Health Officer*; Layken Winchester, *Environmental Health Specialist, Food & Living Environment*.

MEMO

To: Kitsap Public Health Board
From: Susan Turner MD
Date: May 5, 2020
Re: COVID-19 Update and Discussion

Since December 2019, the world has experienced an international outbreak of novel coronavirus (COVID-19), caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus. The COVID-19 outbreak has been classified as a pandemic by the World Health Organization.

On February 4, 2020, the Kitsap Public Health District “activated” an Incident Command System to efficiently coordinate our COVID-19 containment efforts, and on February 27, we broadened our response to slow and limit the spread of the novel infection. Statewide social distancing and other mitigation methods implemented shortly thereafter appear to have effectively slowed the spread of the infection, thereby preventing the healthcare system from being overwhelmed and reducing severe illness and deaths in Washington State and Kitsap County.

The healthcare system continues to face intermittent shortages in recommended personal protective equipment (PPE), and until this shortage is resolved permanently the healthcare system will continue to be vulnerable to overload should outbreaks or recurrences of viral spread occur. There also remains a national shortage in testing supplies, and as such, testing for COVID-19 is still limited. The limited availability of testing supplies has hampered not only the District’s ability to provide surveillance data describing the status of community spread of COVID in Kitsap, but also hampers the surveillance and recovery efforts at the state and national levels. The shortage of these supplies continues to threaten and undermine our ability to respond to outbreaks and/or to detect a resurgence of community spread moving forward.

During today’s Public Health Board meeting, the District will provide an update on the District’s current activities, expenditures to date, available COVID epidemiologic data, and the status of our preparations for the next stage of response as social distancing measures are relaxed. Our data dashboard can be found here:

<https://kitsappublichealth.org/CommunityHealth/CoronaVirus.php>;

kitsappublichealth.org



and the reports we'll be reviewing are the Kitsap COVID-19 Weekly Report here:
<https://kitsappublichealth.org/CommunityHealth/files/COVID/COVID-WeeklyReport.pdf>

and the Kitsap Lab-Confirmed COVID-19 Case Details here:

<https://kitsappublichealth.org/CommunityHealth/files/COVID/COVID-CaseDetailsReport.pdf>.

In addition, we would like to facilitate a Public Health Board discussion about near-future policies including community events planned over the next few months.

There are several national expert reports published in recent days, linked below, which present the building blocks necessary to support any future relaxation of Stay Home Stay Healthy measures. The recommendations are fairly consistent among all reports, and there is some valuable background information that could help to frame today's discussion about near future KPHD plans and about planned community events over the next several months. These reports are:

1. American Enterprise Institute (4-17-2020) National coronavirus response: a road map to reopening. Accessed 4-4-2020 here: <https://www.aei.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/National-Coronavirus-Response-a-Road-Map-to-Recovering-2.pdf>
2. Center for Health Security, in collaboration with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials and the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health (4-10-2020) A national plan to enable comprehensive COVID-19 case finding and contact tracing in the US. Accessed 4-13-2020 here: https://www.centerforhealthsecurity.org/our-work/pubs_archive/pubs-pdfs/2020/200410-national-plan-to-contact-tracing.pdf
3. Center for Health Security and Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School for Public Health (4-17-2020) Public health principles for a phased reopening during COVID-19: guidance for governors. Accessed 4-24-2020 here: https://www.centerforhealthsecurity.org/our-work/pubs_archive/pubs-pdfs/2020/200417-reopening-guidance-governors.pdf
4. Frieden, Tom (4-6-2020) A new normal with COVID-19: the next steps we must take. Accessed 4-14-2020 here: <https://www.thinkglobalhealth.org/article/new-normal-covid-19-next-steps-we-must-take>
5. National Governors Association in collaboration with the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (4-22-2020) Roadmap to recovery: a public health guide for governors. Accessed 4-24-2020 here: <https://www.nga.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/NGA-Report.pdf>
6. Resolve to Save Lives (4-2020) When and how to reopen after COVID-19. Accessed 4-24-2020 here: https://preventepidemics.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COV020_WhenHowLoosenFaucet_v4.pdf

If you have any questions, please contact me at (360) 728-2250 or susan.turner@kitsappublichealth.org .

Recommended Action

None at this time. For information and discussion purposes.

COVID-19 Update and Discussion

May 5, 2020

Presenters:

Susan Turner MD, MPH, MS, Health Officer

Keith Grellner RS, Administrator



KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT

COVID-19 Pandemic Dates of Significance

- December 2019: Initiation of COVID Outbreak in China
- January 21, 2020 First Washington COVID case
- February 4, 2020: KPHD activated limited Incident Command System
- February 27, 2020: KPHD fully activated ICS
- February 29, 2020: WA Governor emergency proclamation
- March 2, 2020: Kitsap EOC Activated
- March 8, 2020: First Kitsap COVID case & local emergency proclamations
- March 13, 2020: First Gov. proclamations re: LTCF, school closures, prohibiting public gathering
- March 23, 2020: Governor stay home stay healthy order



KPHD Challenges to COVID-19 Pandemic Response

- Small communicable disease staff/insufficient funding
- Huge volume of constantly changing information 24/7
- Major response staff fatigue
- Overwhelming levels of information for partners desiring synopsis, especially with advent of cases
- Inadequate healthcare sector personal protective equipment (PPE) to initial manage disease surge (surveillance issues)
- Inadequate testing supplies, resulting in limited, prioritized testing (surveillance issues)



Local Strengths of COVID-19 Response

- Many collaborative partners
- KPHD ICS scale-up with capable staff (EH, NFP, Clerical, IT, Managers, etc.)
- Strong medical messaging system
- Responsive healthcare system
- Emergency Operations Center support
- Health Board membership support and guidance
- Community and business actions in compliance with Stay Home Stay Healthy
- Washington State Department of Health leadership
- Regional LHJ relationships/coordination
- State and Federal funding “down-payments”
- COOPERATION OF GENERAL PUBLIC



Current Status KPHD COVID-19 Response

- Case & Contact Investigations by CD staff
- Congregate Setting Task Force (with EOC)
- Active participation in EOC and Unified Command
- Active participation in state public health system coordination
- Active participation on KCF Kitsap Cares weekly calls
- Remaining staff planning for new models of service provision
- ICS activation level reduced, planning for next phases, providing information updates and TA to partners, advising DOH, medical messaging
- Enforcement assistance for Governor's Proclamations



KPHD COVID-19 Costs

- 5,800 staff hours to date on COVID, at cost of \$376,000 (3/31)
- \$309,000 disaster response reimbursement received (state)
- Additional \$340,000 coming (federal)
- CARES Act Funding?
- Duration and intensity of response?
- Loss of budgeted revenues for work slowed/suspended by COVID-19

Current KPHD Services Status

- Office remains closed to walk-in customers
- Holding “COVID Reserves” staff on stand-by for case & contact investigations
- Kitsap EOC & Unified Command
- Some “regular” & continuing services:
 - Onsite Sewage & Drinking water (construction, repairs, sales, O&M)
 - Other non-contact EH work
 - Limited CH non-CD work
 - Vital statistics
 - Administrative Services



COVID-19 Testing

- Standard for diagnosis is PCR test distributed by CDC to accredited labs
 - Fairly widely available in Kitsap
 - Testing supply shortages still an issue; lab capacity improved
 - Testing of all symptomatic people recently recommended (4/29)
- Point of care PCR tests problematic
- Many other PCR tests being offered, though not evaluated by FDA
- Current serology testing has no role in diagnosis, no clear role in surveillance
 - [Infectious Diseases Society of America 4-22-2020](#)
 - [World Health Organization](#)



Kitsap COVID-19 Epidemiology

- Go to [DOH webpage](#) (Kitsap test totals and positivity rate)
- Go to [KPHD webpage](#)
 - Kitsap Surveillance Report
 - Kitsap COVID-19 Weekly Report
 - Kitsap Lab-Confirmed COVID-19 Case Characteristics

Governor's Prerequisites for Easing Restrictions of Stay Home, Stay Healthy Order

- Decreasing disease morbidity
- Healthcare capacity
 - Treatment/surge
 - Diagnostic testing for all COVID cases
- Public Health capacity
- Ability to protect high risk populations

See: <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/covid-19-risk-assessment-dashboard>



Near- and Mid-Term Considerations

- Expected continuation of NPIs, with gradual exemptions:
 - Increased elective surgeries within proclamation guidance
 - Increased outpatient visits
 - Increased outdoor recreation
 - Existing residential and commercial construction
- Expert reports on prerequisites for NPI relaxation (see memo)
- Guidance for local events, fairs, & community gatherings
- Preparing for potential next wave of COVID-19 (next flu season?)
- Maintaining public interest and commitment to prevent spread

