

KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD MEETING AGENDA

September 1, 2020
12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

**** Please note that this is a virtual / online meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
Electronic connection and viewing 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 July 7, 2020 Meeting Minutes
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair *Page 3*
- 12:33 p.m. 3. Approval of August 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair *Page 11*
- 12:34 p.m. 4. Approval of Consent Items and Contract Updates
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair *External Document*
- 12:35 p.m. 5. Chair Comments
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair
- 12:38 p.m. 6. Public Comment
Mayor Rob Putaansuu, Chair
- 12:48 p.m. 7. Health Officer and Administrator Reports
Dr. Gib Morrow, Health Officer & Keith Grellner, Administrator

ACTION ITEMS

- 12:53 p.m. 8. Resolution 2020-06, Approving Amended Environmental Health Division Fees for Food Establishments and Public or Semi-Public Swimming Pools and Hot Tubs for 2020 Permit Cycle Due to COVID-19 Pandemic
Keith Grellner, Administrator *Page 18*

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- 1:10 p.m. 9. COVID-19 Update and Discussion
Dr. Gib Morrow, Health Officer & Keith Grellner, Administrator

1:45 p.m. 10. Adjourn

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

The meeting will be broadcast live on Comcast channel 12, WAVE channel 3, the [BKAT website](#) and Facebook.

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 if they are attending the meeting via Zoom.

We apologize, but public comment during the meeting may only be made through a Zoom connection. Written comments may be submitted prior to the meeting via regular mail or email to:

Regular Mail:

Kitsap Public Health Board
Attention: Executive Secretary
345 6th Street, Suite 300
Bremerton, WA 98337

Email: keith.grellner@kitsappublichealth.org

To join the meeting online, please click the link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84317329842?pwd=UHdOdnJaR1VtaWV1TnpSG9VdVlVWUT09>

Password: 542469

Or join by telephone:

Dial: +1 (253) 215-8782

Webinar ID: 843 1732 9842

*Zoom meeting is limited to the first 500 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
Regular Meeting (Virtual)
July 7, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Mayor Rob Putaansuu at 10:32 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Charlotte Garrido moved and Mayor Becky Erickson seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the June 2, 2019, regular meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The July consent agenda included the following contracts:

- 1422 Amendment 1 (2086), *State of Washington Department of Ecology, Well Inspection and Decommissioning Program*
- 2078, *Clallam County Health and Human Services, Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program (YMPEP)*
- 2079, *Jefferson County Public Health, Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program (YMPEP)*
- 2080, *Kitsap County, Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program (YMPEP)*
- 2087, *WA State Department of Health, Rate Agreement (Agreement has been approved; for Board information only)*

Mayor Erickson moved and Mayor Greg Wheeler seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda, including the Contracts Update and Warrant and Electronic Funds Transfer Registers.

Mayor Erickson asked for more information about the three contracts related to youth marijuana and education. Mr. Keith Grellner, Administrator, explained that Kitsap Public Health receives passthrough funds from Washington State Department of Health to distribute to regional partners, Clallam County, Jefferson County and Kitsap County for tobacco and marijuana prevention youth education. The Health District coordinates with the Olympic Educational Service District to primarily do this work through schools in the three counties. The contracts on the consent agenda are subcontracts with the three counties.

The motion was approved unanimously.

CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Putaansuu said the Board recognizes and appreciates the hard work of the Health District staff, who are working long hours and weekends on COVID-19 response.

Next, Chair Putaansuu said the Board historically takes the month of August off from meetings. However, he noted there may be a need to meet before September. He will discuss with the Health District in the next few weeks to evaluate if a meeting needed in August.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Putaansuu shared a written comment received by Jeffrey Carr of Seabeck. Mr. Carr said the county needs stronger enforcement of face mask compliance.

Jennifer from North Kitsap provided comment. She said she has seen people using masks incorrectly and noted there is an opportunity for public mask use education.

Chris Henry with the Kitsap Sun asked what support businesses will get from the County or the Health District to enforce face mask usage per the governor's order.

Mayor Wheeler said the City of Bremerton is considering how to use CARES act funding for this.

Mayor Putaansuu added that the City of Port Orchard has partnered with the Port Orchard Chamber of Commerce to provide masks and hand sanitizer in the city. He said he knows other jurisdictions in Kitsap are doing the same and said Kitsap Transit buses have mask dispensers on board. He also noted that the enforcement agency is Labor and Industries (L&I) and, in some cases, the Liquor and Cannabis Board.

Mayor Erickson said the City of Poulsbo's program has been in effect for six weeks providing personal protective equipment (PPE) to small businesses in Poulsbo. Additionally, the city is providing masks for free at all the city's public counters.

Commissioner Ed Wolfe strongly emphasized that Kitsap County supports wearing masks in public. He added that he believes the sheriff will be providing education and information about mask usage in response to any complaints received.

Commissioner Garrido noted that Kitsap Transit did a survey about masks and respondents strongly felt that individuals should wear masks in public places in Kitsap County.

There were no further public comments.

HEALTH OFFICER/ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

The Health Officer and Administrator deferred their comments to the discussion on COVID-19.

COVID-19 UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Mr. Grellner said the Health District, in partnership with the Kitsap County Emergency Operations Center (EOC), Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), provide tons of information on face coverings on their websites. He strongly encouraged everyone to go to any of those websites to find resources on when and where to wear face coverings, which kind to use, how to make them and how to wear them properly. He said the Health District and EOC include reminders about masks in the daily email and text update as well as on their social media pages.

Mr. Grellner said that wearing a face covering is an executive order from the governor and violating the order is a punishable offense as a misdemeanor. Next, he said agencies must be authorized by the governor to enforce mask usage. He explained that there is a very high level of burden of proof to prove the offense. He also said it's impossible to answer every call for every violation.

He said, as Dr. Susan Turner, Health Officer, and the governor noted, some individuals are exempt from wearing masks due to health issues. Under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), it is illegal to ask what condition someone has and why they cannot wear a mask. You can ask an individual, "Do you have a medical condition that prevents you from wearing a mask?" If they say yes, that's the end of the conversation – you can't legally ask them what their medical condition is.

Mr. Grellner said the Health District understands the frustration people feel when they see others not wearing face coverings. Each of us should do the right thing to protect ourselves, our friends, and our neighbors by showing compassion for others, social distancing and wearing a face covering if we are able to do so. If you observe someone in public who is not wearing a face covering, you should: remind yourself that they may have a medical condition preventing them from wearing one and then socially distance yourself from them.

Lastly, Mr. Grellner said the governor's executive order provides guidance and talking points for business owners on how to talk to customers who do not wear a mask.

On July 6, Mr. Grellner said, a document was released by Challenge Seattle to assist employers in effective contact tracing if one of their employees tests positive for COVID-19. This was sent to the Board and will be posted on the Health District website. Mayor Erickson said she appreciates the Challenge Seattle document. It gives a step by step process for when an employer finds out an employee tests positive for COVID-19.

Next, Mr. Grellner shared an update to the COVID-19 page on the Health District website. There is now a line in the daily surveillance report for active cases. The Health District has received numerous requests from the public to show "recovered" numbers on our website. There is not yet clear guidance or a definition for recovered from the CDC or Washington DOH. This is the number of active cases Health District staff are currently working on.

Commissioner Wolfe asked who these active cases are reported by. Mr. Gellner said these are lab confirmed cases based on positive tests reported to the Health District, through providers, testing sites and the Washington Disease Reporting System.

Commissioner Wolfe also asked what the difference between active cases and positive cases is. Dr. Turner explained that active cases are the positive cases Health District staff reach out to every day during their isolation at home. Health District staff follow DOH's guidance for people who test positive for COVID-19 being asked to isolate for at least 10 days, and 3 days after last fever without fever-reducing medication, whichever is longer. This can be 10 or 13 days. Health District staff maintain daily contact with people during their isolation period. Mr. Gellner explained that positive cases include every lab confirmed case since the beginning of the pandemic in Kitsap County.

Next, Dr. Turner provided a status update on COVID-19 in Kitsap County. She showed the positive case count by collection date graph on the Health District website. She noted an increase in cases at the end of June: 90 PCR cases compared to 11 in May. She explained that there is a delay in reporting of cases, so the most recent five days may have more positive numbers as more information comes in. As of July 2, there were five COVID-19 hospital cases, though the hospital continues to report good capacity for accommodating additional ill individuals. She noted that the case positivity rate is up to 4.4% in Kitsap. The state goal is to remain under 2%. The Health District is currently assisting five residential facilities experiencing outbreaks with isolation and quarantine plans. An outbreak in a residential facility is defined as one or more cases.

Additionally, there have been five workplace associated outbreaks. She noted that the Navy is doing a lot of testing and has seen some clustering of cases. The Health District works with the Navy almost daily and coordinates closely with Puget Sound Naval Shipyard. The Health District is also communicating regularly with the Suquamish and Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribes and does outreach and prevention education with businesses and schools.

The Health District is seeing a lot of cases pop up with asymptomatic testing, which tells us there is community spread in Kitsap. Recently, the Washington DOH has expanded testing guidance to include close contacts of positives and encourages those who are mildly symptomatic to get tested.

The Health District's recommendations remain the same: it is safest to stay at home; it is important to avoid crowds and gather only with family or a limited number of individuals outside the household; maintain a safe distance from others; and in the times when you can't maintain distance for a short time, wear a face covering. There is a difference between PPE and masks. PPE is worn by those who can't prevent close contact, such as law enforcement, emergency medical services and health care. Masks are not as effective at protecting ourselves but protect others by capturing our own respiratory droplets. She reminded people to disinfect public surfaces often, use hand sanitizer and stay home if you have even the slightest illness.

The Health District asks people who are close contacts to a positive case to get tested right away (in 2-3 days). People with mild symptoms that could be just allergies, etc.... should go get tested immediately. Getting tested early will help to not overwhelm the hospital system by ensuring early isolation of positive cases.

Councilmember Kol Medina asked Dr. Turner for her thoughts on masks with a one-way valve that filter air entering the mask and release air from mask. Dr. Turner said she is not very familiar with these specific masks, but directed people to L&I, who provide regulatory mask recommendations for businesses. Councilmember Medina asked if the L&I regulations only pertain to employees in a business and not to customers. Dr. Turner confirmed and said she hasn't seen this guidance for individuals yet, but it should be coming soon.

Commissioner Wolfe asked for clarification that there were five hospitalizations for COVID-19 as of July 2 in Kitsap County. Dr. Turner said that is an approximate number based on the risk assessment dashboard which shows the percent of hospital capacity taken up by positive or suspect COVID-19 patients.

Commissioner Wolfe also asked if Dr. Turner is comfortable with the level of resources at our local hospital? Dr. Turner explained that the hospital reports good capacity levels daily, but with the caution that a residential facility outbreak could overwhelm the hospital system in one day.

Mayor Erickson noted that the data shown today revealed that the highest level of infection is in individuals aged 20-29 years. Additionally, she asked if most of the individuals in this age group who test positive are asymptomatic. Dr. Turner said the Health District has not yet assessed that. She explained that, based on testing availability and criteria, positive test results are more of a result of where the testing is occurring and not the actual infection circulating in our community.

Mayor Erickson asked if the Health District has gotten any more information from DOH about how to move our Phase 3 application along. Dr. Turner said there has been no new information other than to note that several counties are on hold until July 16.

Councilmember Medina asked if Dr. Turner is concerned about the trajectory of infection in Kitsap. Dr. Turner Susan said the Health District knew the number of close contacts between people would increase and infection would spread more quickly. She explained that, with an increase in illness, the risk of severe illness rises. She asked community members to take appropriate actions to prevent the spread.

Mayor Wheeler said it is unclear if there are long-term effects of this virus on individuals over time. He asked Dr. Turner at what point public health intervention phases out with these individuals. Dr. Turner said individuals who have more severe cases may have more severe long-term effects, however there is not enough research to confirm this. Dr. Turner explained that public health's role is to ensure the cases stay in isolation for 14 days. However, she noted, if they continue to have severe symptoms at the end of this period, public health continues to follow the case until their symptoms improve.

Mayor Wheeler asked if the hospital has indicated what their trigger level is for bed capacity. Dr. Turner said the state set capacity metrics for hospitals to meet. The Health District's Risk Assessment Dashboard shows healthcare system readiness.

Mr. Grellner said the Health District, in coordination with Kitsap County, submitted our Phase 3 application on June 19. The Health District was informed early last week that our application was on pause, primarily because of the outbreaks at long-term care facilities. He noted that Kitsap was one of seven counties put on pause before the governor and secretary of health put the entire state on pause until July 16. He said the Health District is assuming the county will need to provide a data update before we can move to Phase 3. The Health District is preparing and asked staff to be ready to submit the new data once the state allows Kitsap to apply for Phase 3 again.

Mr. Grellner said the main concern of moving from Phase 2 to Phase 3 is that it increases the allowed gathering size of non-household members from 5 to 50. He said, seeing how much infection has spread during Phase 2, this gives the Health District cause to worry about moving forward. He noted that recreational facilities will move to 50% capacity. He said it can be difficult to stay distanced in those environments and that generally will not be as diligent about wearing facemasks because they are exercising. Phase 3 opens the last of the business community to open and currently open business with restrictions to open more as long as they can maintain social distancing requirements. Restaurants move from 50-75% capacity. Additional business that can reopen in Phase 3 are movie theaters, museums, and other indoor environments.

Mayor Wheeler said he would like to meet again before September. Mayor Putaansuu agreed and suggested the Board wait to see what changes come and schedule a meeting as and when needed.

Mr. Grellner reminded the community to keep up the good work: keep yourselves safe, keep your family safe, keep your neighbors safe. He noted Kitsap County has done a good job of not politicizing this issue. He said this is not about politics, it is about health. If everyone does their part, we will get through this quicker.

Mayor Erickson noted that this is Dr. Turner's last official Board meeting. She said, looking back at all her time, Dr. Turner has done an amazing job and work on the opioid pandemic, Public Health Accreditation, and this pandemic.

Dr. Turner thanked the Board for the privilege to serve as health officer and be able to contribute during a pandemic.

There was no further comment.

ADJOURN

There was no further business; the meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

Robert Putaansuu
Kitsap Public Health Board

Keith Grellner
Administrator

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

Board Members Absent: *Commissioner* Robert Gelder.

Community Members Present: *Attached.*

Staff Present: Angie Berger, *Administrative Assistant, Administration*; Steve Brown, *Program Manager, Solid and & Hazardous Waste*; Keith Grellner, *Administrator, Administration*; Grant Holdcroft, *Program Manager, Pollution Identification and Correction*; Melissa Laird, *Manager, Accounting and Finance*; Andrew Lau, *Epidemiologist, Assessment and Epidemiology*; Nicole McNamara, *Community Liaison, Chronic Disease Prevention*; Anne Moen, *Public Health Educator, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response*; Megan Moore, *Community Liaison, Chronic Disease Prevention*; Carin Onarheim, *Disease Intervention Specialist, Communicable Disease*; Linda Pandino, *Accounting Assistant 2, Accounts Receivable*; Sue Rhea, *Senior Secretary Clerk, Support Services*; Denise Turner, *Senior Accounting Assistant, Payroll*; Dr. Susan Turner, *Health Officer, Administration*; Kate Wagner, *Secretary Clerk 2, Parent Child Health*.

Kitsap Public Health Board Special Meeting (Virtual Attendance)

Webinar ID **Actual Start Time**
890 8555 5190 7/7/2020 9:35

First Name	Last Name	First Name	Last Name
Brian	Church	Jennifer	
Jennifer	David	bdhem	
Richard	Davis	merridy	
Ivy	Edmonds-Hess	Rheas	
Bremerton	Fire	Lazer	
Kathi	Foresee	jennifermarsland	
Grant	Holdcroft	marcella	
Melissa	Laird	wagnek	
Nancy	Langwith	sandra	
Andrew	Lau	chenry2	
Marcie	Mathis (she/her)	Connie	
Nicole	McNamara	turned	
Carin	Onarheim	Palmer	
Gail	Porter		
Olympic	Region YMPEP		
Katharine	Shaffer		
Amy	Smalley		
Stacey	Smith		
PHEPR	Team		
Denise	Tracy		
Jeff	Wallis		
S	Winslow		
Cynthia	Wooten		
pandil			
Manager			
browns			
Stephen			
moena			

**KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Regular Meeting (Virtual)
August 4, 2020**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Mayor Rob Putaansuu at 10:34 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

Councilmember Kol Medina moved and Mayor Greg Wheeler seconded the motion to approve the agenda for the August 4, 2020 Meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Rob Gelder moved and Commissioner Charlotte Garrido seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the June 19, 2020 regular meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The August consent agenda included the following contracts:

- 1749 Amendment 16 (2095), *Washington Department of Health, Consolidated Contract*
- 2053, *Kitsap County, Clean Water Kitsap*
- 2099, *Kitsap County, COVID-19 Contact Tracing*

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

CHAIR COMMENTS

Chair Putaansuu, on behalf of the Board, thanked Health District staff for their hard work and case and contact investigation. He said Kitsap County will be sending some staff to the Health District to help with COVID-19 work.

Chair Putaansuu welcomed Dr. Morrow, our new health officer to his first Board meeting.

Chair Putaansuu noted that the Board normally takes the month of August off from meetings, but he and Mr. Grellner agreed it was important to continue providing COVID-19 updates during this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Greg lynch, Superintendent of Olympic Educational Service District 114 (OESD), thanked the Health District for their partnership with OESD through this pandemic. He said he is trying to lend his support in any way to get the Health District more resources. Additionally, he noted that most schools in Kitsap will be done remotely in the fall. He also welcomed Dr. Morrow to the team.

There was no further comment.

HEALTH OFFICER/ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Update:

Mr. Keith Grellner, Administrator, welcomed Dr. Gib Morrow, new Health Officer to the district. Mr. Grellner also thanked Dr. Susan Turner for her 6 years with the Health District. Dr. Turner graciously gave the Health District 9 months of notice for her retirement, which helped the Health District prepare and handle COVID-19 response while recruiting for Health Officer.

Mr. Grellner said that operations at the Health District continue to focus on COVID-19. He said of 100 employees at the Health District, the Health District has directed up to 50 staff daily to work on COVID-19 response efforts and another 20 employees are trained to help as needed for surge support. The final 30 employees are either working remotely or working on other District work. He said the Health District is fully focused on COVID-19 response and keeping the community safe.

He said the Health District has reached an interlocal agreement with Kitsap County, who will lend the District 4-5 staff to help with COVID-19 work. The county staff will start training with Health District staff on August 10.

Lastly, he thanked Superintendent Lynch for his comments. The Health District has been working with all the public schools in Kitsap County through OESD to figure out how to continue educational services for our kids. Mr. Grellner said there is no disagreement that we all want our kids in school. The school environment is the best place for kids to learn and grow, but unfortunately COVID-19 is present in the community and poses a risk to in-person learning. The Health District released a letter last week to Kitsap school districts that's support virtual learning. Mr. Grellner said in-person learning may continue after this fall, depending on the spread of the virus.

There was no further comment.

Health Officer Update:

Dr. Gib Morrow, Health Officer, thanked the Board for the welcome. He introduced himself and shared his professional experience. Dr. Morrow spent the last month working closely with Dr. Turner and feels confident moving forward in his role. He said the Health District is a well-oiled machine and feels that the hand-off from Dr. Turning went smoothly. He said this is a thoughtful, collaborative team of people looking to improve the health of people in Kitsap County.

Dr. Morrow said COVID-19 is a very serious disease and it has devastated our economy and caused a tremendously difficult period for all of us. He said that, by conveying the right messages, using data to explain the issues, and being collaborative and kind, we can get through this successfully.

There was no further comment.

COVID-19 UPDATE AND DISCUSSION

Dr. Morrow gave an overview of the current COVID-19 data at the national and state levels, which mirror the activity in Kitsap County. Cases are approaching five million nationally with daily deaths at around 1,000. Some of the places that were initially hit harder (New York City, New Jersey, Seattle, etc.) are in a lull now due to enacting early restrictions and actions.

Dr. Morrow showed the Washington Department of Health (DOH) data dashboard. As of today, there have been nearly 60,000 confirmed cases in Washington State. He also noted that 10% of people who have tested positive in Washington have ended up in the hospital, and 2.7% of positive cases have died. He reminded the Board that these deaths are people's family members who died prematurely.

Next, Dr. Morrow shared the state epidemiologic curves which illustrate how Washington was COVID-19 free until start of February but now has a large presence of disease in the state. He noted that relaxation of restrictions throughout the state correspond with case increases.

Next, Dr. Morrow shared DOH Situation Report 11 and referenced the reproduction level number (R_e) which is above 1 throughout the state. This means that for every 1 person who is positive for COVID-19, they will infect 1.5-2 other people. The threshold for declining transmission is below 1. He noted in Eastern Washington the R_e was never below 1 and has been consistently spreading faster there. He also showed data related to age groups affected by the virus. Right now the younger adult age group (15-35 years) is the highest affected population. He noted that this age group tends to have lower fatality rates and lower hospitalization rates but spread occurs regardless. He explained that this virus is opportunistic and spreads through people who don't know they have it. He said we wear masks and social distance as a form of source control.

Dr. Morrow said it is important for people to self-monitor and be aware that any minor symptoms can be this infection. If you have any symptoms, even allergies, stay home, don't go to work, avoid exposing others and go get tested for COVID-19

Dr. Morrow said no community is immune to COVID-19 and believes we can kick this virus but it will take some effort. We must keep ourselves and each other accountable. We will absolutely get through this but it will take time.

Commissioner Wolfe asked Dr. Morrow asked if the 10% hospitalization rate and 6% positive rate are state or local data. Dr. Morrow said those are statewide numbers.

Mr. Grellner showed the COVID-19 surveillance report on the Kitsap Public Health website. He noted the number of cases has increased significantly in July. The percent of positive tests have

increased from <2% to 5% for the month of July, however, over the last two weeks the percent of positive cases is at 8%.

Kitsap data shows that the highest prevalence of diseases is in people aged 0-39. Mr. Grellner noted that these age groups are school age kids and their young parents, which exemplifies why we can't send kids back to school for in-person learning in the fall.

Mr. Grellner explained that we are seeing a huge increase in the number of close contacts each positive case has since moving to Phase 2 in Kitsap County. There are more close contacts at places of employment and in social gatherings. The Health District believes people are letting their guard down and being more social which is causing spread.

Despite dramatic case in disease activity, Kitsap hospitalizations have been low and our hospital continues to have adequate capacity.

Currently, Kitsap County has a good level of testing. Most people are getting their test results back in about two to three days in Kitsap. Mr. Grellner reminded the public that the percent of positive tests are increasing compared to the number of tests overall. The positives aren't increasing because testing is, which is a common misconception. Kitsap has three to four times the percentage of positives we had before.

Councilmember Medina shared an anecdote of a man telling his friend he doesn't believe in the accuracy of COVID-19 case numbers because he said any time anyone walks into the hospital with any illness it's counted as COVID-19. Mr. Grellner said there is a large part of the community that do not believe COVID-19 is a concern or are tired of staying home.

Councilmember Medina asked if the Health District predicts the case numbers will eventually plateau or will continue to rise unless our community takes some action bring it down. Mr. Grellner said he doesn't have a good feeling about cases plateauing. He said the Health District is starting to see connections between positive cases (whereas cases prior did not have a clear cause) which indicates community spread. If the social gatherings continue at this rate, COVID-19 will be around for a lot longer.

Mayor Wheeler asked if the Health District has comparisons for flu versus COVID-19 hospitalization rates. Dr. Morrow noted that comparisons between the two may be difficult to make because not everyone who gets sick during flu season is tested for the flu. He added that COVID-19 is a more significant illness than the flu for most people that has some evidence of long-term consequences. He said he will look for comparison information to share with the Board.

Dr. Morrow also explained that there is a flu vaccine, which creates major differences from COVID-19. He reminded everyone of the importance of getting their flu shot in the fall.

Commissioner Wolfe said Kitsap County is lending employees to the Health District to assist with contact training. He also asked if we will reach a point where contact tracing will be impossible to do and asked for clarification on community or pool testing.

Dr. Morrow said that contact tracing requires timely, easily readily available testing. He also said that there is a point at which there are too many cases and contact investigation will not be sustainable.

Dr. Morrow explained that pool testing is widespread, large-scale testing of groups (generally 4-10 people) and is done to reduce the cost of testing. However, he noted it is most effective in areas of low prevalence of disease. He said pool testing is generally seen in settings such as universities or military installations. He said Kitsap doesn't have low enough disease prevalence to utilize pool testing.

Commissioner Gelder said he is currently working out of the county's isolation and quarantine center. He noted that most guests are in the age range indicted by the previous charts (under 40). Commissioner Gelder asked if it is expected that we will have a new baseline of disease activity. He said that without a vaccine, the disease activity won't decrease to zero. He asked what the new baseline measure is moving forward.

Dr. Morrow said other communities around the world have managed to get the number down to zero through aggressive identification of cases, isolation and quarantine, and minimizing contacts. He said our baseline does not need to be high enough that we have to decide between saving lives or saving the economy. He believes we can both contain the disease and protect the economy. He said there will be some level of disease present in our community for a while but that we need to rethink how we do things day to day.

Councilmember Medina asked if there has been any discussion of moving backwards in the phases statewide or locally. Mr. Grellner said he has not heard anything lately in this regard from the governor or the secretary of health. It has not been discussed locally. The Health District would engage the Board in that conversation. At this stage, he thinks it would be very difficult to get the community as a whole to go backwards and noted that there are already enforcement issues. He said Kitsap's COVID-19 activity levels are too high for us to move to Phase 3 yet. He said it would help if more people in the county practiced health and safety precautions, like wearing a mask and social distancing.

Mayor Putaansuu said it is our duty as residents of Kitsap to remind people we interact with to maintain a 6-foot distance from us and to help stop the spread of disease.

Commissioner Wolfe said the entire county's elected officials should come together to create a shared message and educate our community. Mr. Grellner said he will talk to the Health District's public information officer about this and will also work with the county's joint information center to increase communications to hard to reach groups and the age groups with the highest disease rates.

There was no further comment.

ADJOURN

There was no further business; the meeting adjourned at 12:04 p.m.

Robert Putaansuu
Kitsap Public Health Board

Keith Grellner
Administrator

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

Board Members Absent: *Mayor Becky Erickson.*

Community Members Present: *Attached.*

Staff Present: *Amy Anderson, Public Health Educator, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response; Angie Berger, Administrative Assistant, Administration; Dana Bierman, Program Manager, Chronic Disease Prevention; Karen Boysen-Knapp, Community Liaison, Chronic Disease Prevention; Keith Grellner, Administrator, Administration; Grant Holdcroft, Program Manager, Pollution Identification and Correction; Melissa Laird, Manager, Accounting and Finance; Megan Moore, Community Liaison, Chronic Disease Prevention; Dr. Gib Morrow, Health Officer, Administration; Linda Pandino, Accounting Assistant 2, Accounts Receivable; Kelsey Stedman, Program Manager, COVID-19; Kate Wagner, Secretary Clerk 2, Parent Child Health;*

Kitsap Public Health Board Special Meeting (Virtual Attendance)

Webinar ID

829 3974 4446

Actual Start Time

8/4/2020 10:13

First Name	Last Name	First Name	Last Name
Walt and Bobbie	Elliott	Stacey	Smith, Kitsap Aging
Amy	Anderson	Michael	Spencer (BKAT)
Peder	Berg	Sandra	Starnes
Angie	Berger	Kelsey	Stedman, she/her
Dana	Bierman	Emma	W
Karen	Boysen-Knapp	Kate	Wagner
Richard	Davis	Robert	Weaver
Salvatore	DeRosalia	Greg	Wheeler
Ivy	Edmonds-Hess	Ken	Winger
Jennifer	Evans	Ed	Wolfe
Bremerton	Fire	JH	
Charlotte	Garrido	Kimberly	
Rob	Gelder	karl	
Keith	Grellner	kgingrey	
christine	grenier	Manzanita	
AUDREY	GUGEL	Connie	
Grant	Holdcroft	jennifermarsland	
Pat	Kirschbaum	Anne	
richard	kirton	SG	
Mark	Krulish	Jenna	
TJ	Legge	ddaugs	
Greg	Lynch		
Austen	Macalus		
Kol	Medina		
Megan	Moore		
Gib	Morrow		
Office	of Senator Randall		
Jessie	Palmer		
Linda	Pandino		
Rebecca	Pirtle		
Rob	Putansuu		
Dave	Rasmussen		
Jerry	Richardson		
Amanda	Rodgers		
Mary	Schofield		
Katharine	Shaffer		
Mike	Simpkins		

MEMO

To: Kitsap Public Health Board
From: Keith Grellner, Administrator
Date: September 1, 2020
Re: Resolution 2020-06, Approving Amended Environmental Health Division Fees for Food Establishments and Public or Semi-Public Swimming Pools and Hot Tubs for 2020-21 Permit Cycle Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

Attached, please find proposed Resolution 2020-06 for your review and consideration.

Kitsap Public Health Board [Ordinance 2014-01](#), Food Service Regulations, stipulates that all food service establishments (FSE) shall obtain a permit to operate from the Health District (Section 6.A.3) and that such permit shall be an annual permit valid from July 1 through June 30 (of the following year; see Section 6.A.4). [Chapter 246-260-101 WAC](#) requires water recreation facilities (i.e., public pools) obtain an operating permit from the local health jurisdiction. Annual permit fee costs are specified in [Resolution 2019-06](#), Environmental Health Fee Schedule.

During the Health Board's May 5, 2020, regular meeting, the Health District recommended to the Health Board that we should extend the 2019 - 2020 permits for FSE's for at least a month until we had a better idea of how FSE's were being affected by the Governor's "Stay Home, Stay Healthy" order. The Health Board concurred with this recommendation. Public pools were prohibited from operating by the Governor's Stay Home, Stay Health proclamation.

During the Health Board's regular meeting on June 2, 2020, the Health District [provided an update](#) about the operations of FSE in Kitsap County. Based on a survey of FSE, 64% of the total number of permitted FSE were open, and an additional 19% were closed but planned to reopen.

Kitsap County then experienced a surge in [COVID-19 cases](#) in July, including 18 outbreaks at employers and health care facilities, which resulted in the Health District implementing its surge support plans. Surge support plans utilize Environmental Health Division staff to supplement Community Health Division staff to conduct case and contact investigations and daily monitoring of cases and contacts. Surge support staff includes the Food Program staff, resulting in another temporary interruption of regular FSE inspection activities due to the pandemic. The Health District has been hiring new staff for COVID-19 work and transitioning Environmental Health staff out of surge support work to their regular work duties since mid-August.

The Health District has not yet issued invoices to FSE for the 2020 – 2021 permit cycle due to the permit term extension that was provided to FSE in May 2020 and the COVID-19 surge support work in July and early August.

Public pools were also affected by the pandemic and the Governor's orders. Public pools (and hot tubs) were ordered closed in March. In June, the Governor issued [new guidance](#) that allowed public pools and other staffed water recreation facilities to open under restricted conditions. Under the new guidelines, only three (3) public pools in Kitsap have reopened (two seasonal and one year-round).

So, like FSE, public pools have also experienced interruptions in service equal to about half the year, and interruptions in regular inspections by the Health District also by about half a year. Since the public pools permit and inspection cycle was interrupted, the Health District desires to take the opportunity to modify the annual permit cycle to separate it from the FSE permit cycle, thereby lessening the burden on accounting staff and staggering permit fee renewals throughout the calendar year.

The Health District convened the Board's Finance Committee (Commissioner Garrido, Mayor Erickson, and Mayor Wheeler) on August 4, 2020 to discuss this situation. In summary, the Finance Committee supported the following proposal from the Health District:

1. The 2020-21 annual permit period for FSE be reduced and modified from July 2020 through June 2021 to October 2020 through June 2021, or 75 percent of the regular annual permit cycle;
2. 2020-21 permit period fees for all FSE be prorated to 75 percent of the published 2020 permit cycle fee to correspond with the reduced permit period;
3. The public and semi-public swimming pools and hot tubs annual permit period for the 2020-21 permit period be reduced and modified from July 2020 through June 2021 to July 2020 through December 2020, or reduced by 50 percent;
4. 2020-21 permit period fees for public and semi-public swimming pools and hot tubs will be prorated to 50 percent of the published 2020 permit cycle fee to correspond with the reduced 2020 permit period; and
5. The public and semi-public swimming pools and hot tubs annual permit period for 2021 and beyond will be modified to correspond to the calendar year, or January through December of each year.

If implemented, this proposal will result in a revenue loss to 2020 budgeted revenues of about \$175,000. However, this loss will be offset by:

1. Since Food Program staff have been pulled into COVID-19 response work during the current positive case surge, reduced effort has been expended by the Health District to do FSE and pool inspections; and
2. The Health District has received new and unbudgeted revenues for COVID-19 response efforts sufficient to cover the loss of these budgeted permit revenues.

The Health District has notified FSE of this pending fee amendment, and will notify public pools if the Health Board approves the proposal.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns at (360) 728-2284 or keith.grellner@kitsapublichealth.org .

Recommended Action

The Health District recommends the Health Board move to approve Resolution 2020-06 to amend the FSE and public pool fees due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Attachment (1)

Approving Amended Environmental Health Division Fees for Food Establishments and Public or Semi-Public Swimming Pools and Hot Tubs for 2020 Permit Cycle Due to COVID-19 Pandemic

WHEREAS, the Kitsap Public Health Board is empowered by RCW 70.05.060(7) and RCW 70.46.120 to establish and charge fees for issuing or renewing licenses, permits, or for such other services as are authorized by law; and

WHEREAS, Board Budget Policy, Article XI, Budget Administration --- Fees, directs the Health District to recover the cost of services for fee related activities; and

WHEREAS, the Board previously passed resolution 2019-06 amending the fee schedule and providing for yearly increases based on the April Consumer Price Index – Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers Index for Seattle – Tacoma – Bremerton (“CPI”) for years 2020 through 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Board may determine that some individual fees may be modified as needed; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic and Governor Inslee’s Stay Home, Stay Healthy and Safe Start proclamations, to help keep Washingtonians safe from transmission of the SARS-CoV-2 virus, have impacted and interrupted the regular operations of many types of businesses; and

WHEREAS, two business sectors that Kitsap Public Health District is required to regulate and permit, namely food establishments and public and semi-public swimming pool and hot tubs, have experienced significant disruptions to regular business operations, including, but not limited to, reduced hours, restricted operations, or closure; and

WHEREAS, also due to the COVID-19 pandemic and disease activity in Kitsap County, the Health District has needed to temporarily reassign most Health District employees from their regular job duties to assist with COVID-19 emergency response operations; and

WHEREAS, the disruptions to regular business operations of food establishments and public and semi-public swimming pools and hot tubs, coupled with the reassignment of duties for most employees of the Health District, has also resulted in significant disruptions to the regular inspections of food establishments and public pools that are open for business by the Health District; and

WHEREAS, the annual Health District permit fees for food establishments and public and semi-public swimming pools and hot tubs are based upon the real costs of administering the permits and conducting the inspections of these facilities; and

WHEREAS, the Board's Finance and Operations Committee considered this issue on August 4, 2020, and recommends to the full Board an adjustment of fees for food establishments and public and semi-public swimming pools and hot tubs for the 2020 permit cycle.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Kitsap Public Health Board that:

1. The 2020-21 annual permit period for food establishments shall be reduced and modified from July 2020 through June 2021 to October 2020 through June 2021, or seventy-five percent (75%) of the regular annual permit cycle;
2. 2020-21 permit period fees for all food establishments shall be prorated to seventy-five percent (75%) of the published 2020 permit cycle fee to correspond with the reduced permit period;
3. The public and semi-public swimming pools and hot tubs annual permit period for the 2020-21 permit period shall be reduced and modified from July 2020 through June 2021 to July 2020 through December 2020, or reduced by fifty percent (50%);
4. 2020-21 permit period fees for public and semi-public swimming pools and hot tubs shall be prorated to fifty percent (50%) of the published 2020 permit cycle fee to correspond with the reduced 2020 permit period; and
5. The public and semi-public swimming pools and hot tubs annual permit period for 2021 and beyond shall be modified to correspond to the calendar year, or January through December of each year.

CONFLICTING RESOLUTIONS: To the extent that the fee schedule described above is inconsistent with prior provisions of the Kitsap Public Health Board Resolutions, the prior provisions are hereby repealed.

APPROVED: September 1, 2020

EFFECTIVE: September 1, 2020

Mayor Robert Putaansuu, Chair
Kitsap Public Health Board