

Board of Health Meeting
April 28, 2025
12:00 p.m.
Roosevelt County Conference Room

Voting members attending – Commissioner Gordon Oelkers, Julie Bach, Dennis Four Bear (via Zoom), Michael Rinaldi, Larry Heater

Reporting members attending-

Roosevelt County employees attending - Patty Presser, AJ Allen, Amy Keller, Darla Zimmerman

Absent – Linda Hansen, Michelle Barsness

Call to order – Commissioner Gordon Oelkers, Roosevelt County Health Department Director, at 12:00 PM.

Additions/Corrections to Agenda – Patty Presser corrected the proposed Bylaws to read the Board consists of eight (8) members, instead of seven (7) members.

Conflict of Interest – None

Old Business – None

New Business –

Adoption of new/revised Bylaws – Motion was made by Dr. Zilkoski and seconded by Julie Bach to accept the new/revised Bylaws as written with changes made. Motion passed and the new/revised Bylaws were adopted.

Tuberculosis Testing in local schools – Patty Presser reported that in 2022, a teacher in Wolf Point was active with Tuberculosis, which caused the entire Jr. High School and High School population to be tested. In 2025, another school employee in Wolf Point was active with Tuberculosis. Patty would like to see testing done before employees can enter the school at the beginning of the school year, since there are several school employees in Roosevelt County that are from Asian countries. Dr. Zilkoski said he could write a generic letter to the superintendents of all the Roosevelt County schools, stating Roosevelt County

wants Tuberculosis screening done before employees enter the school buildings. A motion was made by Larry Heater and seconded by Julie Bach that recommendation of Tuberculosis screening/testing of school employees be done before the beginning of each school year. Motion passed, and Dr. Zilkoski will write a generic letter to all superintendents of the schools in Roosevelt County, recommending that Tuberculosis screening/testing be done by school employees before the beginning of each school year.

Health Officer Report – Dr. Zilkoski reported that numbers are decreasing for positive flu, RSV and COVID 19. He also reported that more RSV testing is being done and to be on the lookout for measles.

Sanitarian Report – Mike Rinaldi reported that there will be a new Dollar Store in Wolf Point. He also reported that there are new septic systems being installed, and there is 1 hotel that needs to be relicensed.

Tobacco Report – AJ Allen handed out Smart Tech. vapes pamphlets to all in attendance, showing the different designs of vaping products. He reported that he's working on his budget for 2025-2026. AJ reported that he had 10 DUI scholarship applications. All legislative acts/proposed bills failed, except making e-cigarettes part of the Clean Indoor Air Act. Alcohol vending machines will start popping up, if our Governor signs that bill. AJ reported car seats are required for children 6 years and younger; 60 pounds or less.

PHEP Report – Patty Presser reported in Michelle Barsness' absence that they are moving forward with PHEP plans/projects, and that she and Michelle will be attending the PHEP Regional Workshop Meeting in Miles City in June.

Immunization Report – Patty Presser reported that our Immunization Nurse, Sydney Thompson, is doing a good job in that role. Measles, Mumps, Rubella reminders are being sent by Darla Zimmerman.

Communicable Disease Report – Patty Presser reported that on January 20, 2025, there was a rise of positive Influenza A, which peaked in February, 2025. COVID 19 peaked in January, 2025, and there was an outbreak at the Roosevelt Medical Center in Culbertson in March and April, 2025. RSV peaked the 3rd week of March, 2025. Patty Presser also reported that she'd like to see more pregnant mothers receiving the RSV vaccine. There was a flu outbreak at Faith Lutheran Home that lasted for 2 weeks in February, 2025. There was also a flu outbreak at Frontier School, which caused that school to close for a week in February, 2025. Patty Presser reported that a Wolf Point School employee became active with Tuberculosis on February 27, 2025. Patty Presser reported that there is a M.O.U. being worked on between Roosevelt County Health Department, Tribal Health and I.H.S. as

to who takes care of Native American patients, as there seems to be some confusion on that.

Director's Report – The State did a big assessment. Patty Presser reported that she would be attending a meeting in Glendive, regarding getting our health department's status. Patty Presser also reported that Policies & Procedures need to be written for the health department and that she would be getting the new budget for 2025-2026 completed and turned in.

Tribal Health Report – None

Comments – Commissioner Gordon Oelkers stated that there will be a proposed reappointment of Board of Health members by at the Commissioner's weekly meeting on April 29, 2025.

Mike Rinaldi stated that there may be a marijuana shop opening on the road to Fort Kipp. Mike Rinaldi also stated that there is a marijuana shop opening in Culbertson.

Next Meeting – July 28, 2025.

Motion to Close – was not made.

Meeting Adjourned by Commissioner Gordon Oelkers at 12:54 pm