

Board of Health

Minutes

July 15, 2019

Chairman Novotny called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. with Commissioner Greenough; Commissioner Perry; Dr. Christiansen, DVM; Dr. Cotant, DDS; Dr. Mark Schueler, M.D.; Trisha Thompson, RN, Public Health; Bill Hawley, Prevention Specialist; Vicki Edelman, County Clerk and Sheila Newcomb, Commissioners Assistant

Dr. Christianson moved to approve the minutes of the January 15, 2019 meeting and Nurse Trisha Thompson seconded. Motion carried.

Reports were presented:

Dr. Christiansen, DVM

Dr. Christiansen suggested that pet owners be vigilant with fleas or insect bites. Most common way to transfer pneumonic plague is bites of fleas or direct contact with an infected animal that has the pneumonic plague by breathing in droplets from the animal if they sneeze. There is a disease in animals called vesicular stomatitis which is a contagious disease that afflicts horses, livestock, wildlife and even humans if they handle the animal. The disease usually runs its course in 10 days. The concern is that you cannot tell if they have vesicular stomatitis because the symptoms which are blister-like lesions develop on the tongue, mouth, nose or lips and is similar to hoof and mouth disease. The 4-H kids showing animals at the fair need to be aware of the vesicular stomatitis symptoms.

Dr. Cotant, DDS

No changes have been made on the reimbursements. Waiting to see how everything ends up with the Legislature. Dr. Cotant and Dr. Hein are still working on getting into the Kaycee schools. They will continue to work on this when school starts back up this Fall.

Trisha Thompson, RN

Trisha Thompson went over percentages of immunizations for Johnson County. Johnson County has a high percentage of vaccinations in all age groups. The state is requesting comments on how vaccinations are given. They are trying to change the state statute on immunizations for school age children and daycares. They want children to be vaccinated by age within 30 days of school. The state of Wyoming is requiring Menactra (Meningococcal serogroups A, C, W, Y vaccine) a vaccination requirement for school. This is for meningitis and the vaccinations are given around 11-12 years old and then before they enter college or military. Salmonella outbreaks are a concern with the fair this year. There were some outbreaks last year. There is a need to spread the message that you need to wash your hands after handling livestock. HPV vaccinations are not a requirement for school. Nurse Thompson asked that Dentists be aware that HPV is considered the number one cause of throat cancer in men.

Dr. Schueler, MD

There has been an increased in staffing and better responsiveness for mental health at the hospital. There have been meetings between law enforcement, mental health and the hospital to clarify their expectations and roles. There is a good working relationship and a quality staff of 4 people. There were 3 cases of Lyme disease in 2017 and the 2018 data has not come out. This is a tick borne illness. One case of West Nile has been reported in Campbell County. There is a healthy mosquito crop this year and so there are concerns. Only 1 case of measles reported in Colorado and the other cases are near the coastal

regions. Buffalo has had some problems with bed bugs. The state health officer said that although they are a nuisance they do not transmit human to human. Therefore they are not a public health threat and public health does not have the authority to quarantine or order someone under statutes of public health. Mitigation for bed bugs is very expensive and very laborious. The infestation of bed bugs here in Buffalo is in private residences. Bed bugs do bite, you do not feel anything, but small red dots do appear along with itching. They usually do not travel on people they just stay within the furniture.

Bill Hawley, Prevention Specialist

Suicide Prevention:

The people involved with suicide prevention coalition helped raise money through private donations and businesses to fund a scholarship. Two recipients received them this year, one from Kaycee and one from Buffalo. The 5K for Hope through Alliance for Hope was a huge success in Kaycee with 42 people coming out to run in 36 degree weather. Hike for Hope was in June and they had 100 participants.

Alcohol Prevention:

For Longmire Days the Chamber has partnered with the Johnson County Prevention Council to check ID's properly and wrist bands.

Tobacco Prevention:

Mr. Hawley will be going to Mayo Clinic to become a Certified Tobacco Treatment Specialist. Dr. Schueler and Dr. Cotant wrote letters of support for him. They will be able to refer patients over to Mr. Hawley to help the patient quit.

Marijuana Prevention:

Marijuana is becoming legal in more states now. There is a state wide alliance in Wyoming called the Wyoming Prevention Action Alliance. The Wyoming Association of Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police (WASCOP) has set out to inform WY about the dangers and risks associated with marijuana.

Chairman Novotny asked Mr. Hawley what is the number of suicides so far this year for Johnson County. Mr. Hawley said that there have been 2 so far this year, 2019. There were 4 in 2018. The Coroner officially determines the cause of death. Mr. Hawley said that Kari White with the Coroner's office provides those numbers for him.

Bill Hawley once again expressed a desire to nominate Diana Foster, County Manager at Northern Wyoming Mental Health Director as an Ex-Officio Member of the Board.

Commissioner Greenough moved and Dr. Christianson seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

(A recording of the meeting is available upon request)