

Hill County Board of Health (HCBOH)
Wednesday, January 15, 2020
Hill County Annex Meeting Room
9:00 am to 12:00 pm

Present

Members:

Diane McLean
Mark Peterson
Mike Wendland
Erica McKeon-Hanson
Kristi Kline

Advisors

Megan Wilkie
Nicole Hungerford
Karen Alley
Kim Larson
Clay Vincent
Jessica Sheehy
Christen Obresley
Bridget Kallenberger

Recorder:

Cortney Detrick

Public:

Neil and Ronda Larson - Landowner
Lewis Hopewell – Landowner
Brett Patrick – Tom Patrick Construction (TPC)
Dave Armstrong – Tom Patrick Construction (TPC)
Brittany Pfeifer – Commissioners Admin Assistant

Absent:

None

Chairman Mike Wendland opened the meeting at 9:02 am

Minutes from October 16, 2019 were reviewed. Mark Peterson motioned to approve minutes, Diane seconded, minutes approved.

Old Business:

Ban on E-Cigarette no update, no complains

New legal age to buy tobacco products is changed to 21, guidance coming from state.

Sanitarian position update:

any applicants? Emails from state about inspections. Checking with Blaine County on possibility to work together to share expenses to provide a full-time person between the two counties. Full time position would attract more applicants. To contract someone is about \$40 per hour plus travel. Rabies protocol needs to be updated.

New Business: *Patrick Sewage Lagoon and Land Application “Kravick Place South of Havre”*

Brett Patrick from Thomas Patrick Construction (TPC) was in attendance to answer questions and concerns the Health Board members and nearby land owners had on his proposed septage storage and evaporation pond project. Brett explained this was an alternative septage disposal option to the current methods used. Currently, TPC disposes of hauled septic to the City of Havre Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Background information of the project details a 4-ft deep, L-shaped evaporation pond with berms around it and a 10-ft deep winter storage pit. The total area of the entire project is about 0.6 acres located on land owned by TPC. Hauled septage loads would be unloaded to the evaporation pond area and allowed to dry. Dried solids will be removed and land applied at another location. Winter operation includes plowing a 2-foot wide channel between the evaporation pond and winter storage pit. Hauled septage loads will flow into the winter storage pit until warmer weather allows for use of the evaporation pond again. Liquid from winter storage pit will be pumped out onto the evaporation pond and any separated solids will be applied to Land Application site which falls under MT DEQ jurisdiction and is currently under review.

Brett shared his paperwork and maps that had been submitted to the MT DEQ in February 2019 for approval of the project. Brett received notification in November 2019 that the evaporation pond and winter storage pit were outside of MT DEQ’s regulatory jurisdiction and referred him to contact Hill County. Hill County Board of Health held a public meeting on the proposed project on December 4, 2019.

Brett also discussed information on these items:

Fencing

- area is currently fenced with barbed wire

Odor control

- TPC is proposing to install a wind-propelled Aerator on the evaporation pond.
- will need to do some more research about using this in the winter storage pond.

Pond treatments

- possible use of enzymes (for treatment)

Mosquito control

- TPC plans to follow Hill County program
- may use chemical discs for use in “standing” water

Discussion from today's meeting resulted in a request for further information of these areas:

- daily loading expectations for site
- additional detail on evaporation/separation of solids with additional loading to site
- more detail on winter storage operation and use of site
- specific soil testing data from the proposed site – concerns on leaching/runoff and need for pond liner
- addressing neighbor concerns about potential odors
- vector controls
- garbage/ screening of solids before application to site – disposal location for screenings
- continued usage of disposal to City of Havre Wastewater Treatment Facility by TPC

Brett will continue to work on gathering the requested information for the next Board of Health meeting scheduled for April 15, 2020.

Sanitarian PHEP Grant – In 2001 after the 9/11 attacks on the United States, counties have received PHEP (Public Health Emergency Plan) grant money from the state. We are struggling with getting the Food and consumer safety deliverables submitted. The State hasn't but will start withholding 4-5% of funds from the PHEP deliverables that are not completed. Every quarter test our afterhours phone, which the State calls our afterhours phone which is the Hill County Dispatch, tells them they are testing the phone system then dispatch calls us. State did a test of the phone system in December which we failed, due to no one received a call. The State redid the test in December and Health Department passed. Looking into what phone system dispatch has. Second quarter just ended, needed to update license establishment those deliverables haven't been submitted. Third quarter deliverables need to be completed, everything in check list needs to be done by end of March. Procedures and protocol. Email Jessica drafts and she will meet with Bridget, Jessica, Kim and Clay. There needs more communication between Sanitarian and Health Department going forward.

Department Reports:

Health and Immunization: Kim Larson reports. Flu season is in full swing. Health Department revenue is above mark, last year around this time we had about 50% of total revenue for the year, right now we are at about 60%. Influenza is increasing, seeing both influenza A and influenza B, a lot of Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) and other similar flu like symptoms going around.

Family Planning: Megan Wilkie trying to get the hang of Family Planning. They now have two people in house that are trained to do the rapid HIV/HEPC testing, takes about 20 minutes from start to finish screening. Family Planning has seen more clients from surrounding communities coming in to be tested. Clients express coming here allows more privacy. Megan is in the process of finding a new Family Planning provider, Karri Lien is stepping down. Provider must be a MD (medical doctor), to sign off on visits. The provider can sign off on charts anywhere due to the cloud base program they use.

WIC: Nicole Hungerford absent, Kimberly Larson reports WIC had their site review yesterday (Tuesday, January 14, 2020) passed, but no official score yet. WIC has now moved to a Tier 1.

Hill County WIC is now starting to see the state-wide trend of clients dropping, their numbers have dropped by 40. But hoping to get it back up since holidays are over.

Environmental Health: Clay reports he has been sending out Food Licenses for Health Officer Jessica Sheehy to sign.

Communicable Disease & Public Health Emergency Preparedness:

Bridget Kallenberger reports there is an increase of Gonorrhea in the State, influenza reports are increasing, both influenza A&B. Handed out preparedness calendar and will have it available in PDF format.

Public comment –

Christen Obresley asked Kimberly Larson when Hill County was in need of their Community Health assessment, Christen said Northern Montana Hospital needs theirs done by June.

Chairman Mike Wendland adjourned meeting at 11:12 am
Meeting adjourned April 15, 2020