Call to Order
Chairperson P. David Myerowitz called the meeting to order at 1:01pm

Attendance

Approval of Agenda
MOTION Bill Burg to approve the meeting agenda.
SECOND Wayne Miller
MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Minutes of October 17, 2019 Regular Meeting
MOTION Miller to approve the minutes of the October 17, 2019 meeting.
SECOND Roger Noble
MOTION CARRIED

Citizen Comments
There were no Citizen comments.
Variance Request – Angel Point – ACTION REQUIRED
Christine Hughes provided background on the 1.3 acre parcel consisting of 4 lots located at Angel Point near Lakeside, MT. The applicant, Gregory Harper, represented by Brent Foley of Foley Engineering, is submitting a proposal for variance request that would cover four specific variances:

1. Installation of absorption system less than 100’ from surface water.
2. Installation of absorption system less than 25’ to slope greater than 25%.
3. Less than 4’ of natural soil between limiting layer and infiltrative surface.
4. 25’ down gradient from the toe of the slope would be disturbed.

The new proposed system would involve removal of the old system, construction of a 4’ sand mound and using Level 2 treatment. Foley described the details of the proposal. Myerowitz, requesting clarification on system specifics, asked if 4’ of sand on top of bedrock would be sufficient for filtration. Foley explained a Level 2 treatment system combined with the media should be sufficient. The different Level 2 systems available were discussed and Foley indicated that the applicant would be willing to follow any recommendations. After more discussion, it was recommended that the applicant look at another system that would further lower the nitrogen level.

MOTION  Miller to table Variance Request.
SECOND  Burg     MOTION CARRIED

Community Health Improvement Plan
Kerry Nuckles discussed the two priorities identified through the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) process. The two priorities are Comprehensive Care and Social Determinants of Health. These priorities, along with Partnership and Capacity Building, were carried forward to the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The CHIP identified strategies specific to these priority areas. The Department will be working with others across the community to implement the strategies identified.

Departmental Reports

Community Health
Lisa Dennison reported for Communicable Disease and Immunizations
- To date there have been no locally acquired PCR-confirmed influenza cases reported.
- Lisa thanked everyone who volunteered, worked or came to the annual flu clinic. One thousand and seven people received vaccinations.
- The school specific immunization rate dashboard was released on September 23. It was well received by schools and the community. The 2019-2020 school year data will be added when it becomes available.

Kerry Nuckles reported for WIC
- WIC numbers are holding steady and there are no new updates.

Holly Jordt reported for Home Visiting
- Jordt introduced the new staff:
  - Andy Harding – First Years Initiative
  - Tyson Roe – CONNECT/Parents as Teachers Father Engagement
Lindsey Douglas – Center for Disease Control and Prevention Public Health Associate
Keara O’Neill – Parents as Teachers team member from Northwest Montana Head Start
Ashleigh Bailey – SafeCare team member from The Nurturing Center

• In September, the waiting list was at 60 families and it has dropped to 24 families thanks to the addition of new staff.
• Roe will serve as the CONNECT team member overseeing Flathead, Lake, Lincoln and Sanders Counties. CONNECT is an online referral system that has been in the community for 3 years and was operated by School District 5 prior to coming to the Health Department. There are currently 50 users ranging from schools, private providers and other community social service agencies.
• In collaboration with the hospital, the Department is pursuing the expansion of the Screening Brief Intervention Referral to Treatment (SBIRT) tool.
• Housing was identified as one of the two priorities from the Sequential Intercept Mapping process in June. The Department is contracting to provide a housing mapping meeting on December 16th, from 8:30 to 12:30 in Conference Room A & B.
• The first phase of the Indoor Air Quality project is completed and a report has been prepared which provides data to the Montana Asthma Program comparing indoor to outdoor air quality between July-September 30, 2019.

Environmental Health
Christine Hughes reported for Environmental Health
• No low scores (C or below) with food establishments this month.

Flathead Community Health Center/Family Planning
Mary Sterhan reported for Flathead Community Health Center
• Sterhan introduced herself and provided some of her background.
• Staffing changes within the CHC include the addition of Rebecca Quillen, the new Clinic Manager; Margaret Walker, the new Dental Director; Susan McEwen, Nurse Practitioner.
• The Health Center is also contracting with an interim Chief Financial Officer from Community Link Consulting.
• As part of their Health Services and Resources Administration grant process they will be visited in April 2020 for a clinical, financial and operational review.
• The Health Center is partnering with Gateway, a company out of Great Falls (who purchased the Flathead Chemical Dependency Clinic when they closed). In this partnership, Gateway will provide substance abuse counseling and the Health Center will provide integrated care management and eventually medical services the Gateway location. This program started on September 9 and they have had over 225 visits in the first 3 weeks.
• The Health Center is also looking to partner with Intermountain to provide psychotherapy services and behavioral health services in school districts in the county.
• Family Planning will be having a site visit in November.
• The Health Center Board Chair (Bruce Meyers) stepped down from the role as Chair. Jim Driscoll has assumed that responsibility until they have elections in December.
Health Promotion

Jennifer Rankosky reported for Health Promotion

- Governor Bullock placed a 120 day ban on flavored e-cigarettes which will be in effect from October 22nd to February 19th. The county and state notified all tobacco and marijuana distributors.
- Rankosky reported there has been one vaping death in Montana.
- October is Breast Cancer Screening Awareness Month and they have been doing a lot of outreach. The fundraising for the mammogram bus is almost complete and the new bus should be available 6 to 9 months after that. It will be set up with 3-D imaging.
- As a quality improvement project, Health Promotion is working with Family Planning to ensure identification of Family Planning patients eligible for the Cancer Screening Program.

Home Health

Courtney Gwiazdon reporting for Home Health

- There were 41 consults in September with nine referrals declining services.
- Active patient census is 67 with two pending referrals.
- Referrals remain widespread through assisted living facilities, skilled nursing facilities, physician’s offices and the hospitals.
- PDGM has begun in the nursing facilities and will begin for Home Health in January 2020.

Animal Shelter

Cliff Bennett reported for the Animal Shelter

- The Shelter is getting close to finishing the kennel enhancement project (installing flap doors on the exterior walls). This will help retain heat in the winter months when the access doors are opened to allow dogs’ access to the outside.

Mosquito District

No report available for the Mosquito District

Financial Report

Kirk Zander reported on the Financial Report

- The Annual Flu Clinic did well with approximately 1,005 clients served and approximately 65 to 70% billed as of the report.
- Flathead County is in the process of their annual audit.
- The General Health Fund is looking good with about $763,000 in cash which will drop a bit towards November until we receive our tax revenue funds.
- First quarter expenses were down $531,000 from last year’s $578,000.
- Home Health cash balance just over $206,000 with account receivable up approximately $13,000.

Health Officer’s Report

Hanson reported on the Health Officer’s Report

- Work has begun on the National Public Health Accreditation annual report. This report is due at the end of December and has to be completed on a yearly basis.
• The strategic planning process is ongoing. Themes were developed based on meetings with staff, management and the Board.

Follow-up Items
• Myerowitz gave an update on the Columbia Falls Aluminum Plant and what he had learned at a recent meeting. He discussed the contaminated areas around the plant and indicated the extent of the contamination. Engineers will now determine how the contamination will be removed.

Committee Reports
Miller indicated that in the ongoing discussion of septic sewage issues the Solid Waste Board has agreed to co-fund the expense of the planned septic study.

Other Business
There was no other business.

Board Member Comments
There were no comments.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 2:51pm.

Transcribed by Nikki Bishop