

Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC)

June 9, 2020 • 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7082128355>

Meeting ID: 708 212 8355

Phone: (253) 215-8782

www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/PublicHealth/phac.cfm



AGENDA ITEM	DESIRED OUTCOMES	LEAD	TIME
Welcome	Welcome, introductions, review agenda, approve minutes from March meeting	Annie Paulsen	5:30
COVID-19 Data and Contact Tracing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">PHAC members receive an update on data and metrics Washington County has been monitoring and will continue to monitor as we move forward with re-opening the county	Eva Hawes	5:40
COVID-19 Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none">PHAC members receive an update on the current situation in Washington CountyUpdates on reopening and continued work towards Phase 2	Tricia Mortell and Alex Coleman	6:20
Q&A (Community members may also submit questions and comments at this time)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">PHAC members and community members are encouraged to ask questions about the County's response to COVID and its plans moving forward	Alex Coleman and Tricia Mortell	7:10
Closing		Annie Paulsen	7:25

Next Meeting: No Meeting in July

Future PHAC Meetings:

- August 11, 2020
- September 8, 2020

Future Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Subcommittee Meetings

If you are interested in attending any of these meetings, please email vivianna_lindley@co.washington.or.us

All our CHIP committees are currently on hold due to COVID. As we make plans for how to continue moving this forward, we will let you know when and how they will reconvene.

Electronic information: www.co.washington.or.us/HHS/PublicHealth/phac-meetings.cfm

For assistance on the evening of the meeting contact:

Alex Coleman (971) 724-0089 or alex_coleman@co.washington.or.us

Public Health Advisory Council (PHAC) Meeting Minutes

June 9, 2020



ATTENDING: Ann Marie Paulsen, David Eppelsheimer, Robin Bousquet, Hemi Pariyani, Jennifer McElravey, Larysa Thomas, Nicole Bowles, Sonja Ackman, Tom Engle, Shabba Woodley, Dick Stenson, Leticia Vitela, Eileen Derr, Pam Treece

ABSENT: Larry Boxman, Andrea Lara Silva, Karen Reynolds

STAFF: Tricia Mortell, Alex Coleman, Vivianna Lindley, Eva Hawes

COMMUNITY MEMBERS: None present

Welcome

Annie started the meeting with introductions and an ice breaker.

Approve March Meeting Minutes

May's minutes were reviewed. Dick Stenson motioned to approve the minutes, and Jennifer McElravey seconded. All in favor and none opposed. The motion was passed.

COVID-19 Data and Contact Tracing

- Eva Hawes gave the council an update on the data and metrics Washington County is monitoring for COVID-19. See PowerPoint for more information.
 - Large disparity in the Latinx community
 - Positives are counted even if the exposure was outside of Washington County – it is counted by a Washington County address, not where it was contracted.
 - There are many data dashboards for COVID-19 information out there – the County has many thoroughly researched ones on their website: <https://www.co.washington.or.us/apps/covid-19/>
 - OHA metrics are not perfect and should not be taken as the full picture of the situation.
 - Bringing on many Contact Tracers to help the County during reopening
 - There are 807 cases and 18 deaths for Washington County as of 6/9/2020

Q&A

Q: How many hospitalizations are in the positive Latinx cases? **A:** Don't have that data tonight.

Q: Is there more information on soft contact of the virus? **A:** Less transmission is seen among objects, but there is still a lot we don't know. It is much less concerning than person to person spread.

Q: How are there people not wearing masks in medical facilities? **A:** It is required for the staff, and strongly encouraged, but not required for the patrons.

COVID-19 Update

- Tricia gave an update on Washington County's current status for Phase 1 and the plan for Phase 2.
 - We have hired a third of the surge staff needed.
 - We are still in Phase 1.
 - Cases are going up, but this is for a variety of reasons.
 - It is expected that new cases will arise from the protests that have been going on.
 - OHA has started to share the names of business that have 5 or more positive cases.
 - Governor released information that counties who have been in Phase 1 for at least 21 days can apply for Phase 2. Many counties have already applied and been approved. Some have been asked to wait. The state is watching for a significant increase in cases as a red flag not to move onto the next phase for any county.
 - Washington County can enter Phase 2, if approved, as early as June 22nd.
 - Public Health is working with the EOC and policy makers to decide if we are ready for Phase 2.
 - Washington County does not have access to a rapid testing machine currently.
 - Commissioners supported a framework for how the CARES money will be used
 - 61% will be used to protect the public's health
 - 26% to stabilizing the economic
 - 5% to support Washington County CBOs and non-profits
 - Allocating 4 million to childcare
 - 5 million is allocated to supporting Community Based Organizations who are doing amazing work partnering with Washington County during the COVID-19 response.
 - Opened 2 business recovery centers in Beaverton and Hillsboro yesterday. Two more will open on June 17th in partnership with Adelante Mujeres and Tualatin Chamber of Commerce
 - This week has been very interesting from an ethics standpoint. With all the protests Public Health is being asked what their recommendation is for staying safe. Public Health understands that racism is a public health crisis and is promoting safe protesting with masks and hand sanitizer, and distancing as much as possible.
 - There is a concern of testing asymptomatic people. If someone is asymptomatic but tests positive they cannot go to work. Have been considering recommending it as safe for asymptomatic positive cases to continue working in a field or outdoor setting where spread is less likely.
 - Undocumented workers feel like they cannot stop working because they are frequently the only income for their family. There is a fear to report symptoms because work is so important.
 - Some migrant workers are guaranteed 70% of wages even if they don't work.
 - Working on actionable plans to support migrant/seasonal farmworkers who lose work due to COVID-19.

Q&A

Q: Have the false negatives in tests been resolved? **A:** This is not fully resolved. Testing continues to have problems for many reasons.

Q: Where can people find available childcare? **A:** We are working on getting childcare more accessible and supporting businesses during their reopening process. Referral number for childcare is: 971-223-6100.

Q: Is there consideration to use some of the funds to hire more school nurses? **A:** Have not thought of that. Schools reopening plans will have to be approved by Public Health.

Q: Is it workers comp if you get COVID-19 from your workplace? **A:** This is still not certain. It is very hard to determine the source of exposure. More to come on this in the future.

Q: An HOA is deciding if they should open the clubhouse and gym, and a board member is wondering if they are responsible if a resident gets the virus while using the facility. **A:** This a concern of many businesses. The possibility is always there that COVID-19 could be contracted in any business or facility. Each place must make their own decision. There are guidelines for reopening on the Governor's website.

Q: Did the County's budget get approved? **A:** It was approved, but there is an understanding that things will be amended during this environment. It is being approached with caution.

Q: If the worst-case scenario happens, will the county go into a shutdown again? **A:** This is a possibility. It will be very difficult to go back after reopening and it is unknown how it would be handled at this point, but the state is thinking about this possibility.

Q: Is all other Public Health work on hold right now? **A:** Public Health is taking into consideration the most important work that needs to continue and planning for how to execute that continuation.

Closing

No meeting in July. Next meeting August 11th location TBD.