

Idaho Immunization Assessment Board
Board Meeting, Monday, July 13, 2020
Virtual (Zoom), hosted by the Department of Insurance

Board Members Present:

- Director Dean Cameron – Idaho Department of Insurance
- Ted Epperly, M.D., Chair – Family Medicine Residency of Idaho
- Norm Varin, Secretary – PacificSource Health Plans
- Mike Hodge – Albertsons LLC & New Albertsons, Inc.
- Senator Fred Martin – Idaho Senate
- Ralph Woodard – BlueCross of Idaho

Board Members Absent:

- Idaho House of Representatives – position currently vacant
- Chase Ropelato – Idaho Power
- Christine Hahn, M.D. – Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Ginger Sinclair – Idaho Associated General Contractors
- Sean Robbins – Regence BlueShield of Idaho

Others Present:

- Renee Iverson – Idaho Department of Insurance
- Pamela Murray – Idaho Department of Insurance
- Tamarie Olson – Idaho Department of Health and Welfare
- Sarah Leeds – Idaho Department of Health and Welfare

Call to Order:

Meeting called to order at 3:03 pm by Chairman Dr. Ted Epperly.

Approval of Minutes from April 6, 2020 meeting:

Motion to approve the minutes. Motion by Senator Martin. Second by Dr. Epperly. Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative.

Financial Report: as of 6/30/2020 – Renee' Iverson (see attached)

On page 1, there was a reduction in the number of lives by 397. On line 5, there are 271,272 lives and an anticipated amount of \$18,989,040.00. Total Assessments Collected, line 26, is \$12,307,312.50. Assessments Receivable, line 36, is \$6,118,297.50, the majority of accounts received. Reminders were sent out and I anticipate the money soon.

Page 2 of 5, line 1, shows a cash balance of \$9,748,795.49. Line 25 shows transfers received of \$13,791,970.01. And, line 37, the cash balance of \$6,039,755.88. The DOI and DHW match!

Page 3, Covered lives actual is 261,310, with assessments of \$13,065,500.00, the same figure on Line 9, cash receipts. Line 7, Balance Forward, is \$6,946,145.49. Line 16, Total Expenditures/Outflows is \$17,501,009.62. We will carry forward \$2,510,635.87.

Page 4, we're just starting to collect; no expenditures yet. Line 6, Funding needs forecast is \$20,453,322.00. The budget as voted is \$20,638,206.00. The actual cash receipts is \$12,307,312.50. Assessments do not include July or quarterly payments over to next year.

Questions.

Senator Martin: Because of COVID, has there been a reduction in people not getting their immunizations? Would it show?

Tamarie: We saw a decrease in April and May. June numbers will be up. I don't know what will continue to happen. Our decrease (30%) doses administered is (10%) down. We didn't get orders, so we didn't spend the money.

Senator Martin: Follow-up. By the end-of-year, will they catch up?

Tamarie: We can't say right now what's going to happen. We're encouraging that immunizations be administered.

Dr. Epperly: I agree with Tamarie. We saw a reduction in March/April/May. We played catch-up in June and into July. We'll probably see a reduction again. Assuming schools reopen, we're playing catch up. Vaccination requirements still stand. Kids will still have to get vaccinations. The biggest impact is in the 0-2-year-old age group.

Ralph: Reneé, if it all pans out, does that mean our cash balance will be \$7 million?

Reneé: No, it will be \$1 million. We count on spending carryover.

Dr. Epperly: On page 4, line 18, we see the actual overage of \$1,046,353.88. I think the finances look solid. The ebb and flow of this will be managed. Idaho's majority is interested in getting kids vaccinated. I think we will be challenged especially in the newborn-2-year-old age group. If we go buy vaccines and moms don't bring in kids, do we eat the cost?

Tamarie: We have controls on expirations. Bulk vaccines go to the distribution area. We're not purchasing them if we don't need them.

Sara: The program issued 38,500 postcards for the 0-3-year-old age group for missing or behind on doses. We'll see how many come back with bad addresses and who comes in.

Director Cameron: The difficulty we have is that we don't know what the future holds. We don't know about a rebound catch up. Will a COVID vaccine availability increase other vaccines administered? Other people are buying insurance and having coverage. There are a lot of moving pieces/parts that could impact the budget. It's good to plan on carryover. We don't know what a COVID vaccine would cost. Adopting the fiscal report is important.

Approval of financial report. Motion by Norm Varin. Second by Ralph Woodard. Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative.

Norm: In the private and public sector, people will be interested in this information. Is there anywhere else this information is captured?

Dr. Epperly: DHW will be monitoring vaccines across the state. They work with the health districts with data points.

Tamarie: We share with healthcare providers throughout the state.

Dr. Epperly: in the future, it may be appropriate to share somewhere.

Old Business:

a. Dr. Epperly (for Dr. Chris Hahn) gives update on COVID-19: The Treasure Valley is the third highest in the nation. In two-three weeks, we'll see increased numbers in ICUs. The Central Health District will mandate masks. As far as a vaccination goes, there are well over 175 under development worldwide. Several have been brought to phase 3. The CDC says there may be something before Christmas. One problem is that there are frequent mutations of the virus which makes developing a vaccine difficult. It's going to take herd immunity to get back to normal. 15-20% is not enough; you have to have close to 80% which could take a couple of years. A vaccine at this level would have to come from the federal government so our program wouldn't have to cover the costs. The highest risk group are

older folks and those immune compromised. Healthier groups would be the last group to receive vaccinations.

We'll be entering flu season in September/October and the vaccine match seems pretty good. The CDC is making late season doses. Normally, we allocate across all jurisdictions. There are seven million this year.

Sara: 47,500 additional doses are prebooked for late-season, November-January.

Tamarie: We focus on pediatrics and don't anticipate being able to get more if we need them.

Dr. Epperly: There are a lot of moving parts. It's complicated. I know we budgeted for additional meningococcal for high schoolers.

Tamarie: It's just getting started. We stepped back but are now getting conversations going again. It's getting a slow start. We're on solid footing going into the year.

b. Appointments/Reappointments. Director Cameron: Mike Hodge is retiring September 1st. We're going through the process for getting more names. There's also still that vacant House Member position.

New Business:

a. Election of Officers

Chair: Norm nominates Dr. Epperly. Ralph seconds the nomination. Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative.

Vice Chair: Ralph nominates Norm. Senator Martin seconds. Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative.

Secretary: Norm nominates Ralph. Senator Martin seconds. Unanimous voice vote in the affirmative.

Executive Committee: Dr. Epperly, Chair; Norm Varin, Vice Chair; Ralph Woodard, Secretary.

Appreciation to Mike Hodge for his service.

Next meeting date:

Monday, November 9, 2020 3pm - 5pm

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 4:02pm, MDT