

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

November 13, 2024, Board Meeting Recap

The State Board of Health (Board) met on November 13, 2024 ([watch the recording](#)). After attending to the business of approving the [agenda](#), adopting [minutes from the October 8, 2024, meeting](#), and receiving public comment, the Board received updates on the following topics:

- Michelle Davis, Executive Director, provided updates on recent rulemaking for the [emergency filings for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances \(PFAS\)](#), and the [Cheney](#) and [Yakima](#) variance requests. Additionally, Executive Director Davis shared the [Board's public comment to the Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission](#) on proposed rules for prescription drug label accessibility standards.
- [Dr. Jen Freiheit](#), Interim Director of Thurston County Public Health & Social Services discussed the county's ongoing efforts to address social isolation as a public health crisis, strategic planning, improving data systems, and expanding partnerships to enhance community impact and address health disparities.
- Board Members reviewed and approved the Boards [2025 meeting schedule](#).
- The Board heard from a panel of experts from the Department of Health (DOH) and Department of Ecology (ECY) on their respective office efforts towards PFAS mitigation. The panel consisted of four members; [Barbara Morrissey](#) (DOH), [Bonnie Brooks](#) (ECY), [Claire Nitsche](#) (DOH), [Holly Davies](#) (DOH), and [Marissa Smith](#) (ECY).
- The Board considered and [declined a petition to amend WAC 246-290-220](#), Drinking Water Materials and Additives, within the Group A Public Water Supplies rules.
- Board staff Kelly Kramer provided an update on the 2024 [Newborn Screening Criteria \(NBS\) Review Project](#). The Board also voted to approve the NBS technical advisory committee (TAC) to assume that the Federal Recommended Uniform Screening Panel conditions meet the Board's qualifying assumption. Additionally, the Board approved the TAC to continue reviewing NBS criteria.
- Board staff Andrew Kamali provided an update on the School Environmental Health and Safety Rule Project and announced the [November 19 Spokane Listening Session](#).
- The Board adopted a motion to delegate rulemaking authority to the [Department of Health to adopt by reference the newest version of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program \(NSSP\) Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish](#).
- The Board [acknowledged and commended Board Member Kate Dean](#) for 25 years of dedicated service revitalizing communities. Member Dean's final day on the Board is December 31, 2024.
- Board Member Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett provided an update on Washington State's first cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI).

The next Board meeting will be held on January 8, 2025, in Tumwater, WA. Board staff will distribute a draft agenda on Tuesday, December 24, 2024 and final agenda on Tuesday, December 31, 2024.

To request this document in an alternate format or a different language, please contact the Washington State Board of Health at 360-236-4110 or by email at wsboh@sboh.wa.gov. TTY users can dial 711.