

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

March 12, 2025, Board Meeting Recap

The State Board of Health (Board) met on March 12, 2025 ([watch the recording](#)). After approving the [agenda](#), adopting minutes from the [January 8, 2025](#), meeting, and receiving public comments, the Board received updates on the following topics:

- Michelle Davis, Executive Director, welcomed new Board staff members [Marcus DeHart](#), Communications Consultant, and [Crystal Ogle](#), Administrative Assistant, to the team.
- The Board heard from Interim Secretary of Health Jessica Todorovich, Board Member Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, and Department of Health (Department) Chief Financial Officer Amy Ferris on updates regarding the state budget deficit and Secretary recruitment efforts. They also provided information on federal impacts on funding, data integrity, and proposed budget reductions.
- Board and Department staff provided an update on the [Shellfish rulemaking project](#).
- [Chantell Harmon Reed, Director of Tacoma-Pierce County Public Health \(TPCHD\)](#), provided an [update on TPCHD's work](#). The update included their 2025-2029 Strategic Plan, program highlights, septic on-site and maintenance, and School Safety Program.
- The Board received and approved recommendations from the Newborn Screening Technical Advisory Committee to [update the newborn screening process](#) with a clarifying change to modify criteria six to “Public Health Infrastructure Readiness.” Additionally, the Board determined that [branch-chain ketoacid dehydrogenase kinase deficiency should not be included on the newborn screening panel](#) at this time.
- Board and Department staff provided an in-depth overview of the process and outcomes of the [School Rule Project](#).
- The Board approved the motion to [delegate rulemaking authority to the Department](#) to adopt by reference new, federal National Primary Drinking Water Regulations related to per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances into chapter 246-290 WAC and chapter 246-390 WAC.
- Board staff Molly Dinardo and Hannah Haag discussed planning for the [2026 State Health Report](#).
- The Board [acknowledged and commended Board Member Dimyana Abdelmalek](#) for their leadership and expertise in public health, global health, and emergency medicine. Member Abdelmalek has significantly contributed to improving health services and provided valuable insights on critical health issues as Chair of the Health Promotion Subcommittee.
- Chair Patty Hayes will present the work of the Board to Northeast Tri-County Public Health on March 20. Additionally, Member Kwan-Gett discussed presenting the State Health Improvement Plan at a future Board meeting.

The next Board meeting will be held on April 9, 2025, in SeaTac, WA. Board staff will distribute a draft agenda on Wednesday, March 26, 2025.

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.