

**From:** [Ruth Esparza](#)  
**To:** [Barry Kling](#)  
**Cc:** [Kevin Overbay](#); [Jill Thompson](#); [John Sterk](#); [Doug England](#); [Marc Straub](#); [Dan Sutton](#); [Sharon Waters](#); [mbutler@cvch.org](mailto:mbutler@cvch.org)  
**Subject:** Re: Plan for reopening businesses  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 09, 2020 3:09:10 PM

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Barry,

I apologize if my perception is wrong but Kevin asked and I asked and we don't have a meeting scheduled to discuss this yet.

Ruth

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 9, 2020, at 2:30 PM, Barry Kling <[barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov](mailto:barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov)> wrote:

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of Wenatchee. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Disagreeing with a board member is not obstructing a board member much less the entire board. I have never suggested the board should not discuss this though I do not see why it is an emergency to do so. (That has nothing to do with the urgency of reopening, to which I have given many hours of hard work.)

I have always thought that part of my job is to give you my best professional opinion. I am sorry you do not like the opinion this time around but it is a mistake to accuse me of obstruction much less of being (along with our staff) the biggest threat to the health of the community. That is the truly disrespectful matter here. I will do my best to treat you with respect and believe you will get the best results by trying to do the same with me.

If the rest of the Board does not feel it is appropriate for me to comment on matters such as pandemic plans I hope the Board will instruct me accordingly so I will know what to do. This has not been the position in the past.

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Barry Kling  
Cell 509-264-7045  
Office 509-886-6480  
[Barry.Kling@cdhd.wa.gov](mailto:Barry.Kling@cdhd.wa.gov)  
[Barrywkling@gmail.com](mailto:Barrywkling@gmail.com)

Sent from my iPhone

On Jun 9, 2020, at 1:02 PM, Ruth Esparza  
<[REsparza@wenatcheewa.gov](mailto:REsparza@wenatcheewa.gov)> wrote:

Barry,

Again, with all due respect, you cannot ignore the board members or my concerns even if I missed a couple of meetings because of prior engagements at the beginning of the year which is when I started on the board. I care what happens to our community and am exercising my duty to speak up on what is best for our community. I am not politicizing the issue as you continue to accuse the board members of doing just because we want to discuss other plans or ideas on how to get out of this crisis. We need to work together, but it is my humble opinion that you are trying to obstruct the board from doing our due diligence as elected officials. All we ask is that you keep an open mind on other ways to make sure our community stays healthy overall. We need a meeting to discuss the issue Kevin brought to the table.

Thank you.

Ruth

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 8, 2020, at 6:45 PM, Barry Kling  
<[barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov](mailto:barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov)> wrote:

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Funny, Ruth, but you hardly ever showed up at board meetings until you had a political axe to grind about COVID.

To suggest that us career public health professionals care only about COVID is what is belittling, disrespectful and uncooperative. We were working on other important public health issues long before you started missing BOH meetings, and will do so long after. I am sorry your political frustrations have caused you to so badly lose your perspective on this. It may be a mistake, from a job security perspective, for me to tell you the truth about this, but it is time someone did.

Barry

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**From:** Ruth Esparza <[REsparza@WenatcheeWA.Gov](mailto:REsparza@WenatcheeWA.Gov)>

**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 6:08 PM

**To:** Barry Kling <[barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov](mailto:barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov)>

**Cc:** Kevin Overbay <[kevin.overbay@co.chelan.wa.us](mailto:kevin.overbay@co.chelan.wa.us)>; Jill

Thompson <[thompson.jilldaling@gmail.com](mailto:thompson.jilldaling@gmail.com)>; John Sterk  
<[jsterk@east-wenatchee.com](mailto:jsterk@east-wenatchee.com)>; Doug England  
<[Doug.England@co.chelan.wa.us](mailto:Doug.England@co.chelan.wa.us)>; Marc Straub  
<[mstraub@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:mstraub@co.douglas.wa.us)>; Dan Sutton  
<[dsutton@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:dsutton@co.douglas.wa.us)>; Sharon Waters  
<[yomama21@frontier.com](mailto:yomama21@frontier.com)>; Malcolm Butler  
<[mbutler@cvch.org](mailto:mbutler@cvch.org)>

**Subject:** Re: Plan for reopening businesses

Board members,

I believe we need a meeting as soon as possible on this issue. I see this proposed plan as draft to start a discussion not to vote on as is. We have a board for a reason. We have a responsibility to the Counties of Chelan and Douglas. We cannot just rely on permission from the Governor who is not helping this community. There is no reason we cannot have two different plans going at the same time. I don't think we are politicizing this. We have a duty to this community.

COVID is not the only health issue that we are facing. We are facing mental health, drug/alcohol addiction, and suicide issues that are only going to get worse. We are not a COVID prevention board, we are a public health board. Our response to COVID and other health issues at this time is the greatest threat to the health of this community.

Barry, with all due respect, you have been working very hard but your tone is belittling, disrespectful and uncooperative.

No offense but we need to work together and look at all avenues afforded to us. We cannot just look one way to solve a crisis. We are all intelligent and need to deal with this crisis with a broader approach.

We need a meeting as soon as possible.

Ruth

Sent from my iPad

On Jun 8, 2020, at 1:27 PM, Barry Kling  
<[barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov](mailto:barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov)> wrote:

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of the City of Wenatchee. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Kevin I am very troubled by your intentions here.

You advocate local control but spring on us some plans developed behind our backs by someone who doesn't live here.

Those plans misuse the earlier pan flu plans in order to assert that they should govern our COVID response and, by the way, reassert local control, using essentially the same argument as the recent local lawsuits. As a participant in the development of those pan flu plans I can tell you that they apply only in part of the COVID situation, which differs considerably from an influenza pandemic.

You seem to assume we have no plan but we do. Take a look at the SitReps and Incident Action Plans issued regularly by CDHD and Chelan County EM. Further, BOH recently endorsed the concept of a phased reopening plan and the Governor's is not a bad one (it resembles those of several Republican governors) if we can use it more at our own pace. Meantime we not only have our own plans and efforts under way, but are monitoring local, state and federal data, science and advisories. Even with local control, we are not an island and must pay attention to these things. If you can tell me what COVID will do over the next several months then I can give you a more specific plan for that period.

Please, please do not so politicize the Health District. Do whatever you must do as a county official, have any political fight you feel you must fight, but please do not use the Health District as a tool in those efforts. Let us do our jobs. You may truly not realize the extent to which these lawsuits, depositions and records requests are sapping the ability of CDHD management to do our work.

If you want me to comment in detail on Shiloh's suggestions I can, but I do think the content needs some work. Like her suggestions for the reopening proposal, they come too late to be useful. The Secy is considering our proposal today. If we take any time to correct Shiloh's piece and send it as an addendum, it will only delay a decision. I fail to see how that required urgent discussion by BOH.

I am sorry to be so opposed to your suggestions because I almost always admire and appreciate them, but I beg you not to do this to the Health District.

With all my heart –

Barry

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**From:** Kevin Overbay  
<[Kevin.Overbay@CO.CHELAN.WA.US](mailto:Kevin.Overbay@CO.CHELAN.WA.US)>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 8, 2020 11:33 AM  
**To:** Barry Kling <[barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov](mailto:barry.kling@cdhd.wa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Jill Thompson  
<[thompson.jilldaling@gmail.com](mailto:thompson.jilldaling@gmail.com)>; John Sterk  
<[jsterk@east-wenatchee.com](mailto:jsterk@east-wenatchee.com)>; Doug England  
<[Doug.England@co.chelan.wa.us](mailto:Doug.England@co.chelan.wa.us)>; Marc  
Straub <[mstraub@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:mstraub@co.douglas.wa.us)>; Dan  
Sutton <[dsutton@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:dsutton@co.douglas.wa.us)>; Ruth  
Esparza <[resparza@wenatcheewa.gov](mailto:resparza@wenatcheewa.gov)>;  
Sharon Waters <[yomama21@frontier.com](mailto:yomama21@frontier.com)>  
**Subject:** [QUAR] FW: Plan for reopening  
businesses

Barry attached are the documents I spoke about in my earlier email. I know you are busy but if you could review and let me know your thoughts I would appreciate it. The author lives outside the area and has experience in public health I would appreciate your feedback on the contents. Perhaps we can discuss as part of a requested meeting tomorrow (if it is scheduled).

Thank you,  
Kevin

**Kevin Overbay**  
**Chelan County Commissioner, District 1**  
**Office: (509) 667-6218**  
**Cellular: (509) 630-3263**

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**From:** Shawn Ballard  
<[ShawnB@ballardambulance.com](mailto:ShawnB@ballardambulance.com)>  
**Sent:** Sunday, June 7, 2020 6:46 PM  
**To:** Kevin Overbay  
<[Kevin.Overbay@CO.CHELAN.WA.US](mailto:Kevin.Overbay@CO.CHELAN.WA.US)>; Doug  
England <[Doug.England@CO.CHELAN.WA.US](mailto:Doug.England@CO.CHELAN.WA.US)>;  
Dan Sutton ([dsutton@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:dsutton@co.douglas.wa.us))  
<[dsutton@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:dsutton@co.douglas.wa.us)>; Mark Straub  
([mstraub@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:mstraub@co.douglas.wa.us))  
<[mstraub@co.douglas.wa.us](mailto:mstraub@co.douglas.wa.us)>  
**Subject:** Plan for reopening businesses

**External Email Warning!** This email originated from  
outside of Chelan County.

Gentlemen,

This is Shawn Ballard and I am sending you a document/plan that I would like you to review and see if this would be something helpful in facilitating the opening of businesses in our valley. As you all are aware there has been a concerted effort by many folks in our valley to find a way to safely reopen businesses in the two county area of which I have been a part of. The current restrictions by Governor Inslee I believe are far overreaching and don't accurately take into account the local conditions. I was given contact information to Darcy Webber who had contacted someone in our group and volunteered her expertise in helping with the reopening efforts. As you will see by the attached resume she has extensive background in many areas that includes public health, government, military and private business that lends itself to the issues we are having in reopening quest.

When I contacted her I asked if she would review the health district's current pandemic plans and weigh in with the goal or hope of her using her background to generate a plan that would be agreeable to all parties with a common goal of safely open businesses here in the two county area and have it done by local officials who I believe are much more qualified and positioned at this time to do it effectively. She agreed and has sent me the attached plans that I have read and believe offers us a well written guide for us to proceed with reopening at a local level. As I have told many folks in the last couple of weeks that we have tremendous people in the medical community, the business community, the faith community and in our elected officials that if we can get everyone on the same boat (united) we could bring about much needed relief to our valley and do it safely! I am hoping an outside perspective from an expert in the field will allow us to do this. Please look over the attached plans and see if this would be helpful. I have also attached a cover letter that she included with her response. Feel free to contact me or her directly should you have any questions and thank you in advance for your urgent consideration.

Sincerely,

Shawn Ballard