

CENTRAL NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT PLANNING

Marena Works, MSN, MPH, RN
Consultant Public Health Policy & Planning
Churchill County Initiative
Office of Statewide Initiatives
University of Nevada, Reno School of Medicine



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BACKGROUND

Health districts in Nevada

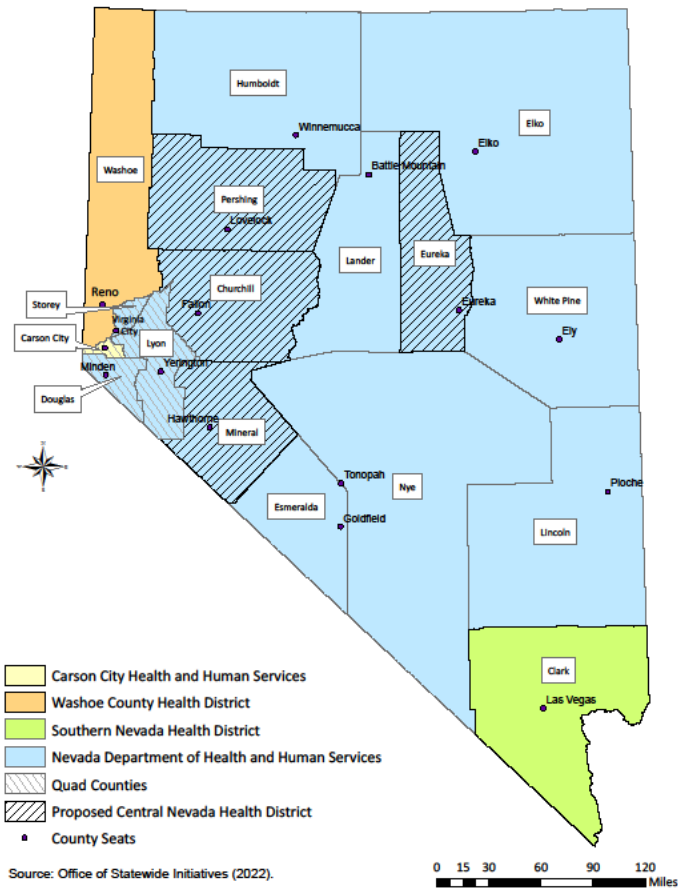
Authority for counties/cities to form Health Districts

Vision to form the Central Nevada Health District



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Health Districts in Nevada - 2022



NRS 439.370

By affirmative vote of:

- ✓ Boards of county commissioners of 2 or more adjacent counties, governing bodies of 2 or more cities or towns within any county, or,
- ✓ The board of county commissioners and governing body or bodies of any incorporated city or cities, town or towns, in such county,
- ✓ **AND**
- ✓ Approval of the STATE BOH there may be created a health district with a health department consisting of a district health officer and a district BOH



BACKGROUND OF CHURCHILL COUNTY

In 2011, the Washoe County Health District (WCHD) was awarded a Cross-Jurisdictional Sharing Grant to explore cross jurisdictional sharing arrangements in 7 northern Nevada rural counties (Churchill, Elko, Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Pershing and White Pine). After assessing the public health readiness in these counties, it was discovered that many of the counties did not have an appointed county health officer and had not routinely convened a local board of health (BOH) meeting. The only county that was poised to revitalize their county board of health was Churchill County. After this assessment, the WCHD determined it was more feasible to focus on development of the Churchill County BOH to be used as a model for the other counties and that a cross-jurisdictional arrangement was premature at this time.



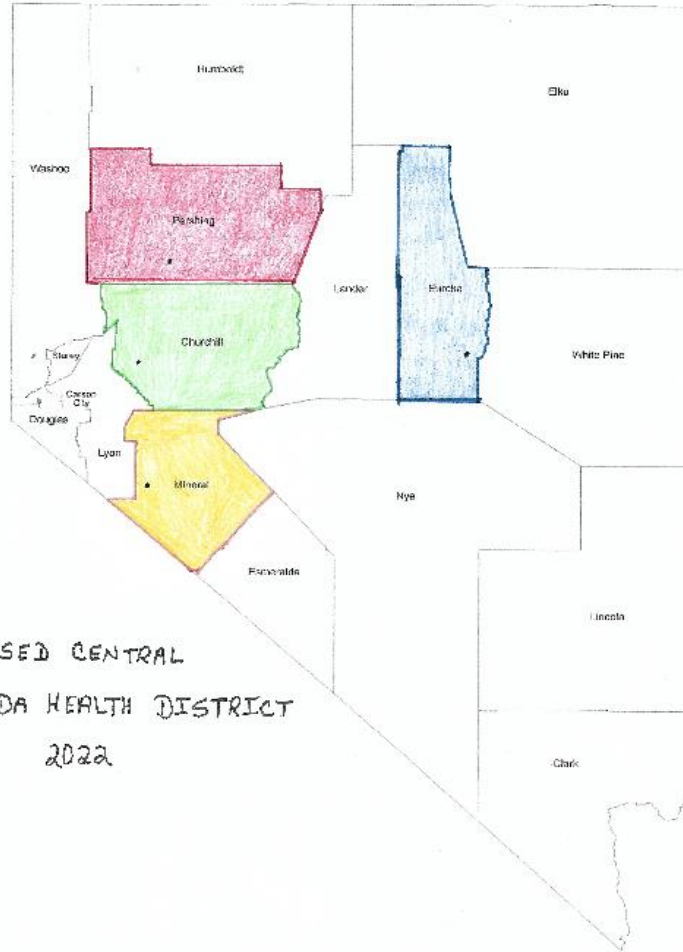
READINESS TO MOVE FORWARD

Since that time, Churchill County has continued to regularly convene their BOH and, especially since COVID-19, have expanded to carry out more public health services not only in their county, but assisting Pershing, Mineral and Eureka as well. Additionally, they are standing up a satellite public health laboratory in Fallon which should be open to processing samples within the next month or two.



RELATIONSHIPS



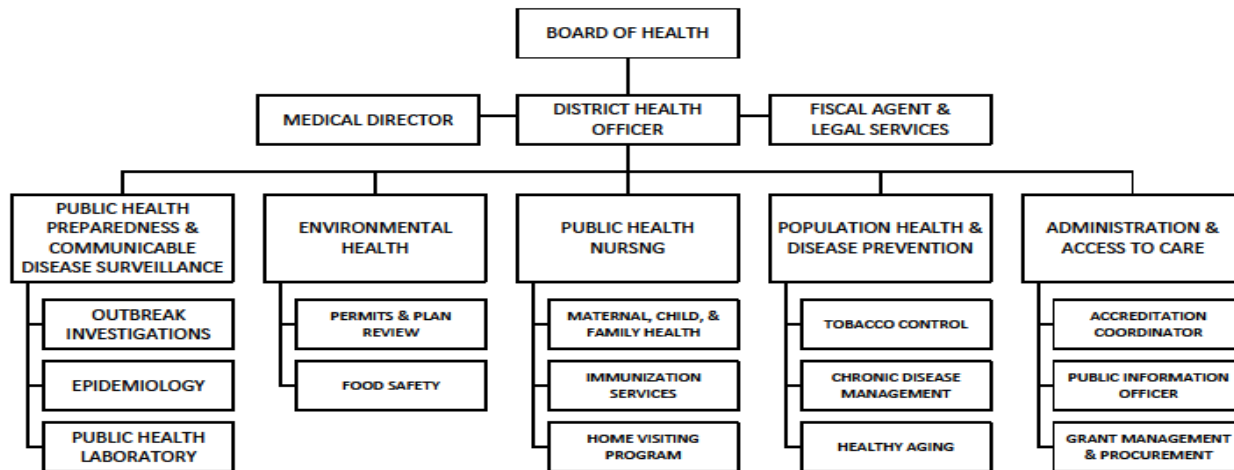


PROPOSED CENTRAL
NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT
2022



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CENTRAL NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT



NRS 439.4905

- 2011 Legislature “pass down” to the counties for some services the state provided
- Example Environmental Health: state took cost of running the program, subtracted fees collected and came up with an assessment to charge the counties the remainder of program costs
- Included 441A in the legislation



Process to Assume Services

NRS 439.4905

- Once agreement has been reached with the participating counties to move forward:
 - Proposal to the Governor requesting the newly formed health district carry out the services described
 - Governor approves the proposal and submits a recommendation to the Interim Finance Committee (IFC)
 - IFC may approve the exemption
 - If approved, must wait 6 months to take affect



FUNDING OPTIONS

- State Grants
- County Funds
- Fees for Service
- Insurance Billing



PROGRESS TO DATE

- Ongoing meetings with four county workgroup
- Met with leaders from DPBH
- Presented to Nevada Association of Counties (NACO)
- Drafting suggestions to change/update NRS 439
- Draft of needed county codes to develop a HD
- Beginning the procedure outlined in 439.4905



TIMELINE

- January: begin monthly meeting with county partners
- February: meet with state leaders and present to NACO; begin drafting county codes needed to form a HD
- March: present to State BOH
- April: present to legislative committee on Health and Human Services
- May or June: send letter to Governor requesting an exemption for the counties to pay the state for services (namely EH & indigent STD and TB testing and treatment) and have the HD perform these



TIMELINE

- October: request permission from the Interim Finance Committee (IFC) for an exemption for services according to NRS 439.4905
- November onward: pending a positive outcome from IFC put procedures in place to transfer services
- December: Request approval from State BOH to form the Central Nevada Health District on July 1, 2023
- January 2023-June 2023: implement communication plan; develop policies; create job descriptions and begin hiring process



Additional Information

Marena Works

marenaw@med.unr.edu / 775-315-3136 (c)

UNR Med Office of Statewide Initiatives

Shannon Ernst

Director Churchill County Social Services

ssdirector@churchillcounty.org

(775) 428-0211



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