

Thursday, September 9, 2021

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Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

I write to support our public health officials, doctors, medical scientists and researchers, and science-based public health measures.

Washington lost more men in the Revolutionary war to disease than to bullets. So he mandated that every soldier be vaccinated (against small pox). Non-compliance was not an option during our War for Independence.

Nevada City mandated masks during the Spanish Flu (1918-21), and fined the then-mayor \$100 for appearing in public without a mask, according to Nevada City Clerk, and avid archivist, Neil Locke.

I grew up overseas and had significantly more vaccinations than most children. Yet here I am, at the wonderful age of 70, alive and well. Indeed, vaccinations played a very significant role in doubling life expectancies in the 20th century. Antibiotics played the other major role, along with many other helpful discoveries (of God's Laws of Nature).

I have a friend who knows someone who swears that ivermectin cured her covid.

My mother worked for CARE in Africa for many years working in villages with tribal members to improve outcomes. One of the practices she had to overcome with love, patience, and respect was that of witch doctors - the local healers - who cured excessive bleeding after childbirth by packing the woman's uterus with dung. Astoundingly a few women actually survived; most died quickly. But we know from modern psychology that intermittent reinforcement by far endures the longest. So the rare survival reinforced the witch doctor's conviction that packing dung was the correct solution.

The problem with both of the above is that neither was substantiated by research, by double blind studies producing positive results that are then attempted many times in different settings to determine what actually works for most people. In the case of the person being certain that ivermectin cured her, we don't know what actually did. Was the ivermectin dose a cause of her recovery, or simply a coincidence. Did she believe in it so strongly that the real cause was the placebo effect? We don't know. "Science" experiments again and again through well designed and well executed studies to find out ...what works for most people. That's why the science of Covid 19 changes over time. Medical guidance changes accordingly.

Another huge factor, that is currently bedeviling us, is the very nature of a virus. It is merely a packet of reproductive code encapsulated in a 'casing' of mostly fat, and protein. It's so small it enters a living cell, goes into the nucleus, takes over the reproductive capacity of the cell and reproduces itself so much that it bursts and kills the host cell. The thousands of replicated packets then attack other cells. But here's another key: while most of the reproductions are accurate, some come out a bit messed up (mutations, or variants). Most of the tweaked packets are not viable and do nothing. But out of billions being replicated every second of every day - because Covid is so widespread and active now - all it takes is one. If it is MORE efficacious and contagious than the original it eventually becomes the dominant strain. That's Delta. There

are already other identified variants. There is the possibility that a more deadly, and/or more contagious variant will emerge. Or one different enough to escape most of the vaccine produced antibodies that many of us now have. At that point we all become much more susceptible.

The ONLY way to get control of the virus is to minimize, or eliminate replication. That means massively reducing transmission. Masking, distance, and vaccines are the best means of accomplishing that. Period. Less careful behaviors mean more virus swirling around, more variants, more disease and death. Period.

It is possible that we could wait it out and that the virus could mysteriously vanish. No one is quite sure why the Great Influenza (Spanish Flu) Pandemic suddenly ended in early 1921. Do we want to take the chance that after a few years Covid would peter out on it's own?

Scientifically speaking there is at least as great a chance that the virus could mutate in ways to kill off vastly more people. The Black Death killed off an estimated 30-60% of the population of Europe in the 14th century along with tens of millions of people elsewhere. That situation would mean 100 million to 200 million Americans dead plus 100s of millions of people elsewhere. Do we want to take those kinds of chances? Play roulette with millions of lives? Sure, we could be lucky. Or not.

Personally, I have a strong preference for minimizing my risk of death, or debility.

Let me try a hypothetical. Let's say you won a 2022 Maserati in some lottery. You love the car, and are proud to roar around in it. A month later it breaks down suddenly. Are you going to go to facebook to see if you can find the answer, or take it to a Maserati dealer?

Please, let's keep the health professionals doing their jobs, respect their advice, and do the best we can to quash Covid. Thank you for your support of our county health experts, CDC and state guidance.

Sincerely,
Peter Minett

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of Peter Minett.

From: [Rick Beaty](#)
To: [Heidi Hall](#); [Ed Scofield](#); [Dan Miller](#); [Sue Hoek](#); [Hardy Bullock](#); [BOS Public Comment](#)
Subject: I support you
Date: Thursday, September 2, 2021 5:30:09 PM

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Dear Supervisors :

Here is my public comment to be included in the Board meeting on August 24th.

We support your public health policies including the wearing of masks, to keep our businesses and schools open.

We should be following science, common sense and the care of our community thru the tools we have available to us: masks, vaccines and social distancing.

We have seen a campaign to malign public health workers and recommendations and we condemn that in the strongest way. We need voices of reason, experience, science and knowledge in dealing with this pandemic and we feel Dr. Kellerman is an excellent public health director. His life has been devoted to humanitarian causes and giving the highest medical care. He needs to be supported.

Thank you.

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Rick Beaty

