

GRANT COUNTY

County Courthouse
P.O. Box 37
Ephrata, WA 98823
(509) 754-6060



HEALTH DISTRICT

1038 W. Ivy Avenue
Moses Lake, WA 98837
(509) 766-7960

BOARD OF HEALTH

April 8, 2009

7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Anstine with the following members, staff and guests present.

MEMBERS

Jon Lane – Moses Lake
Tony Massa – Warden
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek
Carolann Swartz – Commissioner
Bruce Reim – Ephrata

Keith Anstine – Quincy
Gerald Sands – Electric City
Richard Stevens – Commissioner
Cindy Carter – Commissioner

STAFF

Peggy Grigg – Administrator/PH Director
Jerry Campbell – EH Director

Pattie Anderson – Admin Services Mgr.
Jim Whitaker – Attorney

ABSENT

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer

GUESTS - None

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of March 11, 2009 were approved as written (M/S Sands/Kelby – unanimous).

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PERSONAL HEALTH /ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Peggy Grigg

Communicable Disease Update – Mrs. Grigg reported that there was one suspected mumps case that turned out to be negative. Some vaccinations were administered and no other mumps cases were reported.

There have been no pertussis cases in Grant County. We have continued to investigate potential contacts and individuals have been vaccinated.

Through our communicable disease activities it is very clear that we need to increase the capacity to visit with our healthcare providers and clinics more frequently to assure their understanding of how to appropriately diagnose, intervene and report notifiable conditions.

The number of positive influenza tests reported in Grant County peaked in mid-March with 400+ cases being reported through the season. According to the state DOH, there was one (1) pediatric death reported which was not in Grant County.

There are currently no active Tuberculosis cases being treated in Grant County.

Public Health Funding Update – Mrs. Grigg reported on the letters that had been sent to the Senators and Representatives in March regarding Public Health funding.

In the Senate, funding was cut by \$4,000,000 from the 5930 funds – about a 25% reduction. Other funding sources remained the same.

However, in the House, it was proposed to cut the 5930 funds entirely, which amounts to \$162,000 for the Health District which is 8% of the District's revenues. The MVET replacements funds are also at risk which is currently at \$118,000 per year which is approximately 6% of our revenues. Both of these funding sources are flexible funding sources. Mrs. Grigg has received word from Representative Judy Warnick that she would work to sustain the flexible funding monies; Representative Bill Hinkle has also indicated his support for maintaining public health funds. If these monies were to be eliminated, it would mean staff reductions – approximately 2-4 positions.

On a positive note, the District has received notice that the City of Quincy has approved their 2009 City contribution which amounts to approximately \$11,000.

The Health District is currently being audited. We no longer need to have a single audit because we do not receive more than \$500,000 in federal funding (and/or federally funded vaccine) or a compliance audit which means a reduction in 2009 audit costs of approximately \$10,000.

Oral Health – The District has applied for an ABCD grant (Access to Baby and Children's Dentistry). Mrs. Grigg explained about the grant which includes increased dental access for children and an education component for the parents to ensure that they make their appointments.

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jerry Campbell

Revised Fee Ordinance – Mr. Campbell again briefly reviewed the revision of the fee ordinance. A motion was made to adopt Ordinance 2009-1 (M/S Lane/Swartz – unanimous).

Food Inspections – Food inspections for March totaled 67.

There were a few food recalls recently which included yogurt that contained sanitizer. Another was pistachios which could cause salmonella. No interventions related to these two have been requested of the Health District.

The third recall were some Chinese spices found in Oriental foods. The state advised local public health to visit Chinese restaurants and stores who sold these products to look for these spices.

Approximately three weeks ago Mr. Campbell received a few phone calls from some food establishments inquiring about hand washing signs. It was discovered that these establishments had received a letter from the Washington Food Service Compliance Center stating that they needed these signs and that they could provide them for around \$20.00. Mr. Campbell provided them information as well as some free hand washing signs.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny was on vacation and Mrs. Grigg provided relevant information in the Administrator report.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending March 31, 2009 totaling \$147,340.27 (#1-#4 totaling \$126,215.52) and (#5-#49 totaling \$21,124.75) were approved (M/S Kelby/Lane - unanimous).

OTHER BUSINESS –

Public Health Partner Awards

Jordan Brzezny for donating his time to assemble Oral Health Kits.

N. “Jay” Atwood for supporting GCHD staff health and safety

Awards were presented to the following for their support during the Chickenpox Outbreak:

Chris Hendricks, Discover School
Kristen Diaz, Secretary at Garden Heights Elementary School
Kristie Hofheins, Principal at Garden Heights Elementary School
Kellie Almquist, Secretary at Lakeview Elementary School
Sylvia Perez, Secretary at Lakeview Elementary School
Ryan Pike, Principal of Lakeview Elementary School
Jennie Snegosky, Secretary at Longview Elementary School
Robbie Mason, Principal of Longview Elementary School
Kelly Almquist, Secretary at Lakeview Elementary School
Trish Tracy, Director of Special Services
Yoshimi Yamamoto, RN, School Nurse
Jodie Sainsbury, RN, School Nurse

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Laura Cromer, RN, School Nurse

Lisa Ballard, RN, School Nurse

Cathie Hunt, RN, School Nurse

Mr. Kelby asked Mr. Campbell if a septic tank that has never been used, could be dug up and moved to another location. Mr. Campbell said this was acceptable as long as the tank remains intact during the removal.

Mr. Sands informed the Board of Mayor Ray Halsey's passing. He was the longest running Mayor in the state of Washington, 34 years. Mr. Sands also stated that he was an unpaid Mayor. There will be a memorial service for Mr. Halsey on Friday, April 24 at 1:00 p.m. at the Fire Hall.

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. (M/S Carter/Kelby – unanimous).

The next meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Works meeting room in Ephrata.

Keith Anstine, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Alexander Brzezny, M.D., Health Officer