

GRANT COUNTY

County Courthouse
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Ephrata, WA 98823
(509) 754-6060



HEALTH DISTRICT

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

BOARD OF HEALTH

August 10, 2011

7:00 PM

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

MEMBERS

Tony Massa - Warden
Dr. David Curnel – Moses Lake
Richard Stevens – Commissioner
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek

Tony Gonzalez - Quincy
Mark Wanke - Ephrata
Carolann Swartz – Commissioner

STAFF

Jeff Ketchel – Administrator
Pattie Anderson – Admin. Services Mgr.
Shawta Sackett - CPH Mgr./Epidemiologist

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer
Michael Wyman – HD Attorney

ABSENT

Cindy Carter – Commissioner

Troy Ritter – Electric City

GUESTS

Lauren McLaughlin - Grant Co. Journal

A couple of items will be added to the agenda. Under the EH Report, item c will be Gorge Amphitheater and under the Administrator's Report item e will be a budget update.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of July 13, 2011 were approved as written (M/S Curnel/Stevens – unanimous).

VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending July 31, 2011 totaling \$142,209.66 (#1 - #9 totaling \$106,487.06 and #10 - #44 totaling \$35,722.60) were approved (M/S Curnel/Stevens– unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS – Mr. Ketchel read an e-mail which was received by Deborah Roberts regarding her septic tank permit application. Because of circumstances beyond her control, she has not been able to install her septic system. She once again was seeking permission to renew her permit application without payment for another year. The legal action between another homeowner and the county has been resolved which now gives her access to her property. A motion was made to renew the permit for another year without payment (M/S Stevens/Gonzalez - unanimous).

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT - Jeff Ketchel

E.H. Report - Mr. Ketchel gave a brief report on the activities for the first half of 2011 which included water, food, septic, solid waste, West Nile Virus, animal bites, meth labs swimming pools and well delegations. We are on pace in most of the programs.

Fees - In September, Mr. Ketchel will be bringing a revised fee schedule to include changes primarily in the food and septic programs.

Mr. Wanke stated that by utilizing the Ephrata Public Library to obtain your food worker permit, is very interesting and knowledgeable as well as providing flexible access to obtain your permit. Mr. Ketchel stated that this might be eliminated because of a new system put in place by Tacoma-Pierce Health Department accessible on the internet. The drawback of this process is that Tacoma-Pierce would receive \$3.00 of the \$10.00 fee from those agencies who participate.

A motion was made to set a Public Hearing for next month regarding the new fee schedule (M/S Swartz/Wanke - unanimous).

Gorge Amphitheater - This last weekend Phish performed at the Gorge. It was discovered that there were dozens of vendors operating without valid permits at the campground. Rules and Regulations were not being followed as well. On Friday afternoon, Mr. Ketchel went down to assist with the inspections and after discussing the situation with Dr. Brzezny, some vendors were permitted or they were closed down. On Saturday, two Sanitarians did more inspections and were there for approximately five hours. We are one of the few LHJ's who allow vendors to operate who have not previously obtained a permit.

Today, Mr. Ketchel and Jerry Campbell met with the Campground manager and advised him that he needs to work with the vendors and the Health District to prevent this from happening again. He advised the District that he had no control over the issue last weekend.

In total, 12 facilities were closed and the District permitted 15-20.

COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT – Jeff Ketchel

Community Public Health Manager - Mr. Ketchel introduced Shawta Sackett, Community Public Health Manager. She stated she has a BSN and has a MPH in School of Rural Health. She has been working at the City of Houston. She previously lived in Moses Lake from 2000 to 2003 and is glad to be back.

Mr. Ketchel stated she will be working in MCH, Immunizations, CD, clinics, Emergency Preparedness and doing Assessment.

Safe Kids Grant County Update - Mr. Ketchel distributed the January - June 2011 Safe Kids Grant County Activity Report. The District works with Fire Departments, Law Enforcement and the medical community to put on clinics throughout the county.

ASSESSMENT REPORT - No report

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Jeff Ketchel

Community Transformation Grant - Mr. Ketchel reviewed the grant which will start on October 1, 2011. The District has not yet heard if we are one of the agencies to receive the grant.

NALBOH Conference - The conference will be held on September 7, 8 and 9 in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Mr. Ketchel will be attending. NALBOH offered to lower the registration fee to \$100.00 if we were to buy a NALBOH membership which is \$120.00. So in essence, we would be paying \$20.00 for the membership fee. The board gave its approval to join and Mr. Ketchel is looking forward to attending the meeting.

Ephrata Healthy Communities Project - The kickoff will be held on September 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. which will involve parents, teachers and community members. This is in response to the walking audit that was conducted earlier this year. The CDC funds Healthy Communities and they are going on a tour and want to visit Grant County to see what we have been doing locally. They will also visit Moses Lake who has been active in projects, such as the Community Gardens. They want to hear from us regarding our current work and what our future plans will include.

Addressing the Intersection: Preventing Violence and Promoting Healthy Eating and Active Living -

The Board received in their binders an article regarding this subject. Mr. Ketchel stated that "if people don't feel safe, they aren't going to be healthy". If people don't feel safe this will cause them to be less physically active and spend less time outdoors. It also alters people's purchasing patterns, limiting access to healthy food. Experiencing and witnessing violence decreases motivation and capability of eating healthfully and being active. These are just some of the items within the article.

Mr. Ketchel is on a committee in Quincy which was started by Mayor Jim Hemberry which promotes healthy, safe communities. This project includes representatives from law enforcement agencies, fire and hospital districts, churches, Health District, schools and citizens. By working together they hope to

identify and solve safety issues in the community. The problems addressed will be the type of chronic, long term issues that keep Grant County residents unhealthy.

Budget - At the end of June we are on track as far as revenues and expenditures. There will be more cuts at the state level and there is a conference call scheduled for August 17 to discuss the possible cuts at the LHJ level.

Dr. Curnel asked how the Pertussis outbreak was affecting the budget. Dr. Brzezny stated that in 2010 the outbreak cost around 2 - 6 cents per resident and will probably be higher in 2011. The District is structuring this as an Emergency Preparedness drill and therefore can use those funds to help with the costs incurred.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Pertussis - Since last month there have been 5 more confirmed cases and 11 more suspect cases for a total of 5-16 additional cases. If a child is coughing they are advised to see their Physician and stay at home. With school starting in approximately three weeks, there is concern regarding the spread of the disease. A good number of the cases have been immunized but are at the age where a booster should be administered. It has now been approved that pregnant women can receive the vaccine. Day care centers and any place that children congregate are of the greatest concern for the spread of the disease.

A letter has been drafted and a conference call with the school nurses has been arranged to discuss the situation. Alerts and letters have been sent to churches to post at their nurseries also.

Q Fever - The patient that was hospitalized is now home and doing well. A valve replacement was done but it is hard to tell if the situation developed before or after exposure. To date there have been no confirmed cases.

Influenza - There have been sporadic cases nationwide. There has been no cases reported in Grant County or statewide. We should be receiving our flu vaccine by the end of the month. Dr. Brzezny encouraged everyone to receive the vaccination this year. Dr. Curnel stated that there might possibly be a multi-year vaccine (2-3 years) available soon. Dr. Brzezny said they are going to distribute the vaccine more slowly this year instead of saturating the market.

Campylobacter - To date, there have been 18 cases reported. In all of 2010 there was a total of 18 cases. The last case was due to unpasteurized dairy products.

Other Updates - None

Executive Session - An executive session was held at 8:05 to last 20 minutes regarding union negotiations and personnel issues. The meeting was extended by 5 minutes. The open meeting was re-opened at 8:30 p.m.

BOARD OF HEALTH
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OTHER BUSINESS – None

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:31 p.m. (M/S Curnel/Swartz – unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Pattie A. Anderson, Clerk of the Board