

# 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 February 11, 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  
Bruce Reim – Ephrata  
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek  
Cindy Carter – Commissioner

Keith Anstine – Quincy  
Gerald Sands – Electric City  
Richard Stevens – Commissioner  
Carolann Swartz – Commissioner

### STAFF

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer  
Peggy Grigg – Administrator/PH Director

Pattie Anderson – Admin Services Mgr.  
Jim Whitaker – Attorney

### ABSENT

Tony Massa – Warden

Jerry Campbell – EH Director

### GUESTS

Rod Gillespie – Electric City

Mr. Anstine introduced Mr. Bruce Reim who is the new representative from Ephrata. He received an orientation regarding the Board of Health from Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Grigg earlier this week.

**Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman** – With Mr. Wanke no longer on the Board of Health an election was held to select a new Chairman. Mr. Stevens nominated Mr. Anstine (M/S Stevens/Sands – unanimous). Since Mr. Anstine was the Vice Chairman an election was held to replace his position. Mr. Kelby nominated Mr. Lane who in turn nominated Mr. Massa as Vice Chairman. Mr. Stevens seconded the motion for Mr. Massa's nomination (M/S Lane/Stevens – unanimous).

**PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS - None**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of January 14, 2009 were approved as written (M/S Sands/Carter – unanimous).

**PERSONAL HEALTH /ADMINISTRATOR REPORT** – Peggy Grigg

**Lease Agreement with the County** – Mrs. Grigg presented the lease agreement which has been discussed at previous meetings. It includes the county providing space, janitorial services, etc. for the Health District and billing the District for these services. In turn, the county will include this amount in addition to their regular contribution, as specified in a companion inter-local agreement, which has previously been approved. Legal counsel has reviewed both documents. Mrs. Grigg asked for a motion to approve the lease agreement (M/S Stevens/Sands – unanimous).

**Personal Health Report 2008** – The report had previously been sent to the Board. Mrs. Grigg related to the Board that if there was any other items that they wanted her to report on, change of format, etc. they should let her know. There were a couple of recent changes to the report which Mrs. Grigg reported. She also distributed a Measles Survey Summary and provided additional reporting on Oral Health and Children with Special Health Care Needs. If anyone has questions, they can contact Mrs. Grigg.

**Grant County Health District Report 2008** – The only changes to this report included the wording on the front page to specify types of administrative staff, and the addition of the signing of a mutual aid agreement with other health jurisdictions. Also included were staff reports on Core Functions of Public Health with related Essential Public Health Services.

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT** – Peggy Grigg

**Solid Waste Fees** – In Mr. Campbell's absence, Mrs. Grigg presented the fee schedule for the solid waste section. The Board was provided a copy of the revised fees which deleted one item and included a couple of fees not previously on the schedule. Mrs. Grigg requested that a public hearing be held next month to adopt the revised fee schedule (M/S Stevens/Carter – unanimous).

**E.H. Quarterly Report** – If the Board has questions, Mr. Campbell will be available next week to answer them. Mr. Lane mentioned that in the water program section it mentioned that the GCHD is responsible to verify as to both the quantity and quality of water. Mr. Campbell will be consulted and the wording will be corrected or clarified.

**HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT** – Dr. Brzezny

**Influenza Update** – Dr. Brzezny reported that outbreaks are occurring on the East coast and are heading this way. Our county has had reports of both Influenza A and B. The flu vaccine is working

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very well this year (more than 80% protection) in comparison to last year (less than 60%). Three quarters or more get sick with the A type virus. There is no current epidemic and it is still not too late to receive the immunization.

Mr. Reim inquired as to how long the flu shot provides protection. Dr. Brzezny said usually 6-7 months, possibly longer. The flu season usually peaks in February or March, but has also appeared as early as October.

Dr. Brzezny distributed a couple of handouts regarding life expectancy by sex, race and proportion of population. Another handout was the leading causes of death for residents in 2006. Coming in 8<sup>th</sup> was influenza and pneumonia (frequently a complication of influenza).

The third was a graph showing the influenza positive tests reported to CDC by U.S. WHO/NREVSS Collaborating Laboratories, National Summary, 2008-09.

These are just a few of the statistics that are provided every couple of years. If the Board has other items that they feel is a priority, they should inform Dr. Brzezny.

**Salmonella Typhimurium** – It has been determined that peanut butter products have also been identified in the salmonella outbreak. Public Health did not fail in this instance. The owners were told there were issues but they went ahead and distributed the peanut butter anyway, thus creating the outbreak. There have been 18 cases in Washington with none being reported in Grant County.

**Listeria** – There have been nine cases being reported since January 2009. This disease was reported during the past year in Grant County and can have adverse effects for a pregnant woman's infant. No cases have been reported in our county and no links have been established. Educating the public is critical to prevent these cases from developing. Unpasteurized cheese is a common cause of Listeria and until the public ceases from eating certain food products, it will continue. Restaurant inspections alone do not necessarily decrease food borne illness.

Mr. Reim stated that it appears that the Health District has a large number of individual issues to deal with. He asked Dr. Brzezny what he thought the top three would be. Dr. Brzezny said it depends on a number of things. There are programs that we are mandated to do. Important programs that we deal with are tuberculosis, infectious disease, communicable disease, immunizations, restaurant inspections, sewage, and water quality and safety.

Mr. Sands asked if all water should be chlorinated. Dr. Brzezny said no. Unless water samples come back with coliform, they do not need to be chlorinated.

Discussion was held regarding informing the public about issues that the Health District faces as well as information about Public Health in general.

### **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

The vouchers for the period ending January 31, 2009 totaling \$101,564.60 (#1-#4 totaling \$73,516.87) and (#5-#61 totaling \$28,047.73) were approved (M/S Lane/Carter - unanimous).

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**OTHER BUSINESS** – Mrs. Grigg gave an update on the cities that have contributed to the Health District this year; currently the contributions are at about 75% of what has been projected.

Mrs. Grigg also announced that the union contract document, as ratified last month, was ready for signatures.

Also, Public Health Advocacy Day and a Public Health officials meeting will be held next week Thursday. It is encouraged that we set appointments to meet with Legislators as well as Board of Health members to meet with them. Mrs. Grigg will be attending next week's meetings.

Dr. Brzezny talked briefly on the State Board of Health and encouraged the members to possibly attend one of their meetings also. They are very informative and provide insight as to what other counties encounter, etc.

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. (M/S Carter/Kelby – unanimous).

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Works meeting room in Ephrata.

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Keith Anstine, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

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Alexander Brzezny, M.D., Health Officer