

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 13, 2008 7:00 P.M.

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

MEMBERS

Mark Wanke – Ephrata
Jon Lane – Moses Lake
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek
Gerald Sands – Electric City

Tony Massa - Warden
LeRoy Allison – Commissioner
Cindy Carter – Commissioner

STAFF

Peggy Grigg – Administrator/PH Director
Pattie Anderson – Admin Services Manager

Jerry Campbell – EH Director
Jim Whitaker - Attorney

ABSENT

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer
Keith Anstine – Quincy

Richard Stevens – Commissioner

GUESTS

Erika Simmons – Safe Kids (Central Basin Traffic Safety Task Force)
Cindy Morris – Safe Kids (Catholic Family Services)
Barbie Maier – Safe Kids (Grant Co. Fire District #5)
Rick LaGrave – Safe Kids (Grant Co. Sheriff's Office)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of January 9, 2008 were approved as written (M/S Allison/Kelby – unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS -

Erika Simmons spoke in support of the Safe Kids program of which Grant County Health District is currently the lead agency. Erika and Cindy Morris had sent letters of support for the Safe Kids program to the BOH.

She expressed her concerns with the prospect of the Health District removing itself from being the lead agency and seeking out another agency taking over the lead. The group is concerned that the program might face the possibility of failure or operating in a reduced capacity if the Health District were to remove itself from its current position as lead agent.

Recently, the Board reviewed an agreement related to fiscal management for the Safe Kids organization which was not approved for signing by the Health District.

Mrs. Grigg explained the reasoning behind the decision to consider having another agency taking over the lead position. This included the Board of Health strategic planning and prioritization process that was done at the end of 2006, and the recent Washington State Public Health priorities, in which the Safe Kids program was not identified as high priority. Meeting the goals that did make the prioritization list, such as the vaccination program, having the capability to respond and investigate communicable diseases, building other programs and obesity prevention were mentioned. Another factor is that funding has been decreasing. A public health nurse resigned in October and it was decided not to re-hire for that position, because of limited funding for the 08 budget. She explained in further detail some of the other aspects that went into this decision.

Cindy Morris stated that she does not want to lose the momentum that the program has developed. The Safe Kids program will remain in Chapter status for now, possibly moving into the coalition status in the future. Currently, MCH money is being used to fund the Safe Kids program, but with the immunization program having been \$72,000 short this past year, it is hard not to allocate the funds to a program which was identified as a priority instead of a program that was not.

Mr. Allison inquired if this was going to be a Board of Health or an Administrative decision. Mr. Whitaker reminded the Board that a public entity cannot spend money on a private organization. All agreements are to be taken to the Board for approval.

The representatives thanked Mrs. Grigg and the Board for the explanation and for letting them express their views on the Safe Kids program.

PERSONAL HEALTH REPORT – Peggy Grigg

2007 Personal Health Final Report – Some additional material was included in the packets which Mrs. Grigg reviewed with the Board. If anyone has questions, they should contact her.

2007 Agency Final Report – The Board received the year end report and if they have any questions regarding this report, they should contact Mrs. Grigg.

New Position – The District has received one application, from out of state. We are continuing to advertise for the position of Community Public Health Services Manager.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jerry Campbell

Ordinance 2008-1 – Food Ordinance - Mr. Campbell reviewed the changes in the food ordinance. An additional change was made in 4.02 where it was clarified as to when fees need to be received in order to prevent a double fee.

Mr. Wanke inquired as to the outcome of the restaurant that was discussed last month. Mr. Campbell informed the Board that they had paid their re-inspection fee.

A motion was made to close the public hearing and adopt Ordinance 2008-1 (M/S Allison/Carter – unanimous).

Fee Schedule Changes – Revenues have not kept up with the expenditures in the Environmental Health programs. After comparison the food and septic rates have increased approximately 9-10% and water recreation, solid waste, water were increased approximately 15-20%. Other counties similar in size with ours have comparable fees. Discussion was held regarding the increases and comparison with other counties. A motion was made to set a public hearing for next month (M/S Lane/Sands – unanimous).

Plat Review Form – Mr. Campbell went over the form with the Board that he would like to have approved. It takes away the responsibility from us and shifts it to the Department of Ecology regarding the quantity of water. Mr. Allison asked if the form had been reviewed with Planning and Mr. Campbell stated he had shared it with Dave Nelson and Dorothy Black and they did not disagree with the form. Mr. Whitaker stated that the language used was taken from the state law. Mr. Allison wondered if the form would suffice as to the county needs. A motion was made to approve the plat form (M/S Massa/Lane – discussion. Mr. Allison would like to table the issue until next month so the commissioners can confer with the Planning Department and their legal counsel. A motion was made to table the issue until next month (M/S Allison/Carter – unanimous).

Mr. Campbell had distributed a flow chart for applying exemptions to lots/building permits. He went over the chart briefly.

2007 Environmental Health Final Report – Mr. Campbell briefly reviewed the report that had been sent to the Board last week.

Mr. Campbell also provided the Board with the January food inspections.

A restaurant sent a letter requesting extra time to pay for their re-inspection. Mr. Whitaker stated the time line needs to be consistent with the policy that has been recently adopted and should indicate a specific date that the re-inspection needs to be paid by. A motion was made to allow the establishment until the end of February to pay for their re-inspection (M/S Allison/Massa – unanimous).

Another letter was received by an establishment requesting that they not have to pay a double fee for their food establishment. After discussion it was determined that the establishment did not need to pay the double fee.

Mr. Wanke indicated that it seemed like the District was receiving numerous letters asking us to relieve them of some of the fees that have been imposed on the establishment. Discussion was held regarding this issue. The Board was informed that there were more than usual due to the fact the E.H. staff did numerous food inspections in December which resulted in more than usual re-inspections. The timing was such that their 2008 food establishment permits and their re-inspection fees came due around the same time.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Mrs. Grigg informed the Board that Dr. Larson from Kittitas Co. was covering for Dr. Brzezny until he returns and that Dr. Brzezny will cover for Dr. Larson at the end of the month. Dr. Brzezny will also cover for Dr. Tim Moody for emergencies until May when he returns.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending January 31, 2008 totaling \$174,197.64 (#1-#4 totaling \$140152.221) and (#5-#54 totaling \$40,045.42) were approved (M/S Allison/Carter – unanimous).

OTHER BUSINESS –

The Board had received a handout from NALBOH which informed them what the membership benefits would include. Mrs. Grigg reviewed the handout briefly.

Mrs. Grigg went over a letter that had been received from Mary Selecky, Secretary of Health, regarding the new revised standards for Public Health. The Health District is currently working on the 2008 standards.

Public Health Partner Awards were presented to:

Dan Durand and the Grant County Jail Work Release Facility for assisting with taking out trash from the Moses Lake office.

Tim Snead, Quincy Administrator, who secured a grant from the Department of Ecology to improve a composting site and brought it into compliance.

Royal Organics for taking a solid waste problem and made it into a successful composting business.

Mr. Campbell gave a brief update on the peat fire. A 5 inch main line irrigation pipe will be installed to provide water that will put out the fire. District 12 is assisting with this project.

An environmental fact sheet regarding the Moses Lake Wellfield Contamination Superfund Site was also distributed. A public meeting was being held tonight which was sponsored by the EPA. The Air Force base used TCE to clean airplane parts and now the waster is contaminated.

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The open meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m. for an executive session regarding personnel and possible litigation expected to last 10 minutes.

The meeting was re-convened at 8:50 p.m. with no action being taken.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 p.m. (M/S Lane/Massa – unanimous).

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Works meeting room in Ephrata.

Mark Wanke, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Alexander Brzezny, M.D., Health Officer