

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 January 14, 2009 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

Jon Lane – Moses Lake
Tony Massa – Warden
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek
Mark Wanke – Ephrata
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 Manager

Jerry Campbell – EH Director
Jim Whitaker – Attorney

ABSENT - None

GUESTS

Randy Bracht – Grant County Journal

Mr. Wanke welcomed Commissioner Swartz to the Board of Health; she has previously received orientation from Mrs. Anderson and Mrs. Grigg.

Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman – Mr. Massa nominated Mark Wanke as Chairman of the Board of Health. Mr. Lane made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot (M/S Lane/Kelby – unanimous).

Mr. Stevens nominated Keith Anstine as Vice Chairman of the Board of Health. Mr. Massa made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot (M/S Massa/Carter – unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 10, 2008 were approved as written (M/S Lane/Stevens – unanimous).

PERSONAL HEALTH /ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Peggy Grigg

Interlocal Agreement for Sanitarian Services – An interlocal agreement has been drafted and is currently being reviewed. It will be discussed at a future meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jerry Campbell

Food Inspections for December – Mr. Campbell provided the Board with the food inspections that were done in December. Septic system permits were decreased, which allowed the staff to catch up on their food inspections. Of interest was one establishment that had a record five re-inspections which was due to non-compliance with food worker permits for the employees.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Salmonella Typhimurium– There is an ongoing investigation regarding a salmonella outbreak that involves the King Nut Peanut Butter originating out of Minnesota. Since the contaminated peanut butter was in 5 lb containers, predominantly stricken were hospitals, schools and long term care facilities.

There have been 11 cases being reported in Washington and none located in Grant County. Nationwide there have been 388 cases including 3 deaths. For every case being reported, there are probably three times as many that have not been reported. Public Health is the only agency, besides restaurants, closely involved in controlling the outbreaks.

Seasonal Flu Update – Dr. Brzezny reported that the influenza has not yet reached epidemic proportions. The Health District has been participating in providing flu mist to school age children in Ephrata, Quincy, George and will be traveling to Wilson Creek tomorrow. The flu mist, donated via the National Association of City and County Health Officials (NACCHO), is administered free of charge, by virtue of the contract with the donor. Flu vaccine is still plentiful and it is not too late to receive the immunization.

The Influenza A virus this year is resistant to Tamiflu so another medication is usually prescribed as well. It is the H1N1 that is resistant to Tamiflu. Influenza B is not spread as easily and is not resistant to Tamiflu.

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With budget cuts in the state, there is a strong possibility that the vaccine program funding will be cut which could possibly have an impact on vaccination numbers.

China has reported one Avian flu death.

Measles – Measles in Europe is emerging. There is an ongoing outbreak with large numbers being reported.

Measles, Pertussis, etc. are all vaccine preventable diseases. Reasons for Grant County being a location where these diseases occur is unvaccinated children, migrant population, schools, etc.

Food borne illness is also likely due to the migrant population, the farming community, etc.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending December 31, 2008 totaling \$157,759.69 (#1-#4 totaling \$132,025.56) and (#5-#54 totaling \$25,734.13) were approved (M/S Lane/Massa - unanimous).

OTHER BUSINESS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – The public meeting was adjourned and an executive session was called to discuss labor relations to last approximately 15 minutes at 7:24 p.m.

The public meeting was re-opened at 7:39. A motion was made to ratify the proposed Union contract (M/S Massa/Lane - 7 yes, 2 no).

A motion was made to approve the same wage proposal for the exempt staff (M/S Lane/Sands – 7 yes, 2 no).

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. (M/S Anstine/Carter – unanimous).

The next meeting is scheduled for February 11, 2009 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