

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 13, 2010
7:00 P.M.

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

MEMBERS

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

Manuel Guerrero – Quincy
Heidi Schultheis – Ephrata
Cindy Carter – Commissioner

STAFF

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer
Jim Whitaker - Attorney

Pattie Anderson – Admin Services Mgr
Jerry Campbell – EH Director

ABSENT

Richard Stevens – Commissioner
Peggy Grigg – Administrator/PH Director

Gerald Sands – Electric City

GUESTS

Andrew St. Pierre – Ephrata
Justin Falconer – Ephrata

Mrs. Kelby – Wilson Creek

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN - Mr. Lane nominated Tony Massa as Chairman of the Board of Health. Mrs. Swartz made a motion to cease nominations and cast a unanimous ballot (M/S Lane/Swartz – unanimous).

Mr. Lane nominated Mr. Kelby as Vice Chairman of the Board for 2010. Mr. Massa seconded the motion and moved to close the nominations and cast a unanimous ballot (M/S Lane/Massa - unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS – Mr. St. Pierre inquired about the H1N1 vaccination clinics that the Health District has been providing. Dr. Brzezny stated that a report would be provided later in the meeting. Mr. St. Pierre was satisfied with this.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of December 9, 2009 were approved with one word change (changing why to how) in the last paragraph at the bottom of page 2 (M/S Carter/Lane – unanimous).

PERSONAL HEALTH /ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Dr. Brzezny informed the Board that an executive session would be held at the end of the meeting regarding the newly hired Administrator, Mr. Jeff Ketchel.

Mrs. Grigg will be providing the quarterly report at next month's meeting.

Mr. Ketchel might possibly be attending the February meeting.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jerry Campbell

Monthly Report - The Board received the monthly report for December inspections, etc. All food inspections that could be accomplished were completed. Less time was spent in H1N1 clinics in December.

A couple of issues pending include: Apple Valley Septage Lagoon – they are currently dealing with the Department of Ecology to resolve issues. It is critical they resolve the issues since a good deal of pumpers use this lagoon.

Royal Organics Compost – They are currently re-writing their plan and then the Health District can re-issue their permit. An example of waste that is composted is rotten potatoes, yard waste, Christmas trees and chipper debris.

The Delano landfill in Electric City has now closed. The Health District will be responsible to issue a permit to verify compliance with monitoring requirements and stability of the capping fill.

Ms. Schultheis inquired as to when it becomes an issue regarding dead animals piling up on a piece of property.

She was informed that the preference is for the land owner to dump the animals in a landfill, render or bury them. Department of Agriculture can also be contacted to help remedy the situation.

As far as the Health District is concerned, we are mostly concerned with the threat to the public's health. In some cases, finances prevent the owner to accomplish what is asked of them. We ask them to take care of the animals and if they don't, then Dr. Brzezny will be consulted to determine if we want to pursue the issue.

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HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

TB Update – The District closed one active case last month which currently leaves two, a husband and wife. A new case which is still being investigated has been reported in south county. Approximately \$150,000 - \$200,000 has been spent in the tuberculosis program. Dr. Brzezny explained various kinds of tuberculosis, treatment, etc.

H1N1 Update – Dr. Brzezny informed the Board that the Health District had conducted an H1N1 clinic at Big Bend Community College this morning and had approximately 320 people being vaccinated. The staff also provided H1N1 immunizations at the Moses Lake Senior Center today and had provided around 150 vaccinations so far.

The District may provide other clinics as well. Dr. Brzezny applauded Phyllis Fries, Ephrata School District nurse for her efforts in providing vaccinations. Mrs. Fries and Mrs. Grigg vaccinated around 50 people at the basketball game last Friday night.

There is still currently vaccine available, but is less in demand. There have been approximately 405,000 Washingtonians that have been immunized. It is possible to get H1N1 more than once during the season. Around 15% of people do not have any symptoms. January and February are usually the peak months for influenza outbreaks. It is predicted that a milder seasonal flu season will occur this year. It is estimated that there is a 70 – 80% immunity rate in the schools. The cost so far for the Health District is \$250,000. Dr. Brzezny said it is predicted that H1N1 will last until 2011.

There has been one case of campylobacter and a giardia case being reported. There has not been much norovirus which might be due in part to the campaign on proper hand washing. Vector reports continue to be reported, usually dog and cat bites.

Mrs. Carter asked about viral meningitis. Dr. Brzezny said we do not track that as much as Hantavirus and West Nile Virus.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending December 31, 2009 totaling \$178,352.95 (#1 - #44 totaling \$160,653.77) and (#45 – #74 totaling \$17,699.18) were approved (M/S Carter/Lane – unanimous).

OTHER BUSINESS – Mrs. Carter asked Mr. Campbell about the Roberts plat. The issue was having to pay a renewal on a septic system. Mr. Campbell will look into the matter. Previously, the Board had approved the request to waive the renewal fee because of circumstances that were beyond her control.

The meeting then moved into executive session at 7:43 p.m. regarding personnel expected to last 7 minutes. The executive session was closed at 7:50 p.m.

A motion was made to accept the Administrator salary as proposed, impose a 12 month probationary period and to approve the leave that was presented.

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 p.m. (M/S Swartz/Kelby - unanimous).

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The next meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Works meeting room in Ephrata.

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Alexander Brzezny, M.D., Health Officer