

# 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 12, 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

Tony Gonzalez - Quincy  
Cindy Carter – Commissioner  
Carolann Swartz – Commissioner

### STAFF

Jeff Ketchel – Administrator  
Pattie Anderson – Admin. Services Mgr.  
Jerry Campbell – EH Program Facilitator

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer  
Jim Whitaker – HD Attorney

### ABSENT

Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek

Heidi Schultheis – Ephrata

### GUESTS

Randy Bracht - Grant Co. Journal  
Lauren McLaughlin - Grant Co. Journal

Don Crawford - D.K.'s Drive In

There will be an item e (Strategic Planning Update) added to the agenda under the Administrator's Report.

**ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN FOR 2011** - A motion was made to re-elect Tony Massa as Chairman and Raymond Kelby as Vice Chairman of the Board of Health (M/S Carter/Swartz - unanimous). The Board members thanked Mr. Massa for serving as chairman this past year.

**Seat 7 Board Member (North)** - Mr. Sands resigned his position as the representative for Seat 7 which includes Electric City, Grand Coulee, Coulee City and Hartline. Mrs. Anderson contacted the cities/towns and there was no replacement named for the position. There was interest by a non-elected official to serve and it is permissible to allow this if agreed upon by the members of the City Councils. A letter has been sent to the cities/towns requesting permission for this individual to serve or if they have someone interested to please submit their names. No response has been received to date.

**PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS** - Mr. Don Crawford appeared before the Board requesting that we look into our current fee schedule for food establishments. He feels that the fees are not fair among the various establishments. Mr. Ketchel explained how the fees are currently determined. However, he is currently having the Environmental Health staff tracking their time to see how long it takes to complete their inspections. He will evaluate the information at the end of six months. This should allow us to more accurately determine fees.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of December 8, 2010 were approved as written (M/S Stevens/Swartz – unanimous).

#### **ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT** – Jeff Ketchel

**Organizational Chart** - Mr. Ketchel presented the current organizational chart for the Health District. The Environmental Health Manager has been moved to the Program Facilitator position and the Assessment Coordinator position has been eliminated.

**Budget Update** - The last two weeks of December saw many changes being made at the state level. Consequently, more cuts needed to be made at the District. The tobacco prevention monies were cut by \$16,000. In Oral Health, the reduction was \$19,400 which helped fund a PHN to facilitate the Oral Health Coalition in Grant County. The funds also helped leverage the ABCD grant. The money ceased on December 31, 2010. The HIV/AIDS prevention money was reduced to nothing, which is what the District had anticipated and had planned for in the budget process.

There are three flexible funding sources which include Blue Ribbon (5930), LCDF and the former MVET monies. From January - July 2011 these have been cut by \$8,000. These cuts ate our entire cushion and actually put the expenses higher than the revenues. Consequently, hours were cut for staff in the Oral Health program and the E.H. division.

In the past year expenses have been reduced by 18% and revenues by 12%. There are 4.2 less FTE's for a total of 19 FTE's currently.

**Public Health Education Day in Olympia** - Next Wednesday Mr. Ketchel will be visiting four (possibly five) of the six Legislators in Olympia. There might possibly be more opportunities to visit in February or March also. Mr. Ketchel will be using our Legislative Agenda that was adopted by the Board and focusing on sustaining the flexible funding. As an example the Pertussis outbreak has cost the District approximately \$45,000 in which the flexible funding money is used for.

**Health District Performance Reports by Jurisdiction** - Reports are being collated for each city and the county. They are currently in draft form and nearing completion. Mr. Ketchel will be visiting the city councils again later in the year and presenting the reports.

**Strategic Planning Update** - Mr. Ketchel is currently working with an intern from WSU who is planning community forums throughout the county to obtain feedback about the role of Public Health.

**COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT** – No report

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT** – Jerry Campbell

**Monthly Report** - The board received the monthly report for December food inspections.

The staff has completed the sanitary surveys for which they receive \$500 for each survey. There were a total of 18 in which 4 were completed in December. Each staff member is certified to conduct the survey.

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

**Pertussis Update** - There continues to be Pertussis cases which are hard to determine when the outbreak is over due to the trickling in of the reports.

Dr. Brzezny gave a review of the CD case report which the Board had received in their packets. The cases of Hepatitis C has doubled this past year along with Salmonella. He pointed out that rural food handling practices differ from urban practices. STD's have also increased.

In the last 10 years the per capita expenses have decreased from \$28 per person to \$18 per person. The 2010 data has yet to be compiled.

Dr. Brzezny predicts that there are more cuts to come in the next couple of years.

**Influenza Update** - Influenza has been reported in Grant County. The CDC has reported that 2/3 of the cases are Influenza A and 1/3 are Influenza B which is less concerning. The vaccine is a good match for the A strain. Dr. Brzezny presented a handout that showed an increase in cases in the 51st week of 2010 but he foresees it peaking in the future. It is still not too late to receive the vaccination which will lessen your symptoms and is less likely to spread. Approximately 20% of the public show no symptoms.

Some hospitals and clinics are requiring their staff who has not received the immunization to wear masks while at work.

Mr. Gonzalez asked Dr. Brzezny where he saw the District in three years. Regarding immunizations for children, the District charges an administration fee and the vaccine is free from the state. Vaccinations actually belong in the medical facilities. Each person should have a medical home and the District is promoting that effort. We have discontinued providing immunizations in the Ephrata office.

Dr. Brzezny foresees the District providing no vaccinations in the future. He feels the schools will be working with the Dr.'s offices and that vaccinations will increase overall.

### **VOUCHERS**

The vouchers for the period ending December 31, 2010 totaling \$152,594.05 (#1 - #30 totaling \$138,367.42 and #31 - #62 totaling \$14,226.63) were approved (M/S Gonzalez/Curnel – unanimous).

### **OTHER BUSINESS** - None

**Executive Session** - A motion was made to adjourn to executive session at 8:02 p.m. for 5 minutes regarding union negotiations. The open meeting was re-opened at 8:07 p.m.

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With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 p.m. (M/S Stevens/Carter – unanimous).

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Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

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Alexander Brzezny, M.D., Health Officer