

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

July 14, 2010

7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Mr. Massa with the following members, staff and guests present.

MEMBERS

Tony Massa – Warden
David Curnel – Moses Lake
Gerald Sands - Electric City
Richard Stevens – Commissioner

Tony Gonzalez – Quincy
Cindy Carter - Commissioner
Carolann Swartz – Commissioner
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek

STAFF

Jeff Ketchel – Administrator
Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer
Carol Schimke - Program Facilitator

Pattie Anderson – Admin Services Mgr
Jim Whitaker - Attorney
Jerry Campbell – EH Director

ABSENT

Heidi Schultheis – Ephrata

GUESTS

Jon Ness - GCHD

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS - Mr. Ketchel read a portion of the August 2009 Board of Health minutes in which Deborah Roberts requested an extension of her septic system permit at no cost to her. Due to circumstances beyond her control she was unable to install the system within one year. She still is unable to install her system and is again requesting the waiving of the fee and another one year extension on her permit. A motion was made to grant the request (M/S Sands/ Kelby - unanimous).

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of June 9, 2010 were approved as written (M/S Curnel/Stevens – unanimous).

Mr. Massa informed the Board of a couple of changes/additions to the agenda. One was to move item 5b to 3a and the other is to add an executive session regarding a personnel issue. A motion was made to approve the changes/additions (M/S Stevens/Curnel - unanimous).

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT - Mr. Ketchel introduced Jon Ness, an Environmental Health Specialist who gave a presentation of what is entailed in a restaurant inspection. He also handed out the inspection report, which shows the point value of each violation, which is filled out at the time of the inspection. A copy of the report is left with the establishment and the other is returned to the office in which the information is entered into a database. This is the information that will be posted on the website.

City Council Visitations - Mr. Ketchel has begun to visit the various City Councils within Grant County. He has been to Quincy and Hartline so far. The visits will be made in July and August.

Strategic Plan Update - Next month Mr. Ketchel will start the staff level focus groups and then progress into the communities. He intends on inviting the City Councils as well as putting notices in the newspapers. The goal is to see what the concerns of the community are.

State Audit Final Report - The final report has been received. There were no findings in the audit.

Performance Appraisals - Mr. Ketchel will be re-vamping the performance appraisals. He informed the Board that he welcomes feedback and if the Board has any expectations of him that are not being met, to please advise him of their concerns. Mr. Gonzalez asked if he had visited any of the hospitals. Mr. Ketchel stated that he and Mrs. Grigg had visited most of them when he first arrived at the Health District.

National Children's Study Update - An e-mail was received at the end of June informing the District that they could not enter into a sub-contract, but would accept a Memorandum of Understanding. The Health District will pursue the MOU.

Washington State Biomonitoring Study - The Board had received paperwork related to the Washington State Biomonitoring Study. The southern part of Grant County has been selected as a block group which will participate in the study. They will answer questions and provide urine and blood samples. It will take approximately 15 - 20 minutes. Participants will receive an incentive.

Legislative Agenda - The Board had received paperwork regarding the 2011 WSALPHO Legislative Agenda. Mr. Ketchel asked the Board if they would like to approve their own legislative agenda. It would mostly involve writing letters of support or opposition on the agenda that had been approved by the Board. There could possibly be pieces of a bill that would be supported or opposed instead of the entire bill.

The central and eastern part of the state has always been under represented. It was decided that Mr. Ketchel will bring a draft to the August or September meeting for the Board to review.

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Summer Intern - Laina Dilling graduated from the University of Washington in June with a degree in Public Health and Scandinavian studies. She will be working on developing a social media policy and also what a new website could look like.

COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT - Issues will be discussed later in Health Officer report.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jerry Campbell

Monthly Report - The Board received the monthly report for June inspections.

Placing Food Inspection Results on Web Site - The Board had received paperwork showing what would be included on the website regarding food inspection reports. The restaurants would be informed prior to the start of the postings which would be around September.

There is concern regarding whether establishments have applied for and received a food permit. On mobile units it is difficult to see the permit. Mr. Campbell will write a policy regarding the posting of permits where they will be visible to the public.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

West Nile Virus - Grant County was the first in the state to report WNV in mosquitoes. The county has two (2) pools that are tested. Dr. Brzezny suspects that WNV will show up in horses, birds and more mosquitoes. There have been nine (9) human cases reported in the U.S.

Salmonella - There was an outbreak that resulted in 4 cases in British Columbia and 3 cases in the U.S. It originated at the Gorge during the Sasquatch Festival Memorial Day weekend. They seem to be linked to the same location, however not the same vendor. Some changes have been made which promote improved food safety.

TB Suspect Case - There were two (2) cases that were recently investigated. The first case is an older gentleman who possibly has another type of lung disease among other health issues. The second case is now considered not to be an active case with negative sputum cultures.

E. Coli - This disease can be deadly and is difficult to track. Recently there were 5 cases in Yakima County and 7 cases in Kittitas County. Daycares were affected and were shut down temporarily.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending June 30, 2010 totaling \$184,008.07 (#1 - #9 totaling \$139,371.09 and (#10 - #78 totaling \$44,636.98) were approved (M/S Stevens/Curnel – unanimous).

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At 8:28 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session regarding a personnel issue expected to last approximately 10 minutes. At 8:38 the meeting was extended another 5 minutes. The public meeting was re-convened at 8:43 p.m.

OTHER BUSINESS – None

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. (M/S Sands//Curnel - unanimous).

The next meeting is scheduled for August 11, 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