

# 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**

**June 8, 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  
Cindy Carter – Commissioner  
Richard Stevens – Commissioner

Carolann Swartz – Commissioner  
Heidi Schultheis – Ephrata  
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek  
Troy Ritter – Electric City

### **STAFF**

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

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer  
Michael Wyman – HD Attorney

### **ABSENT**

Tony Gonzalez - Quincy

### **GUESTS**

Suzie Dunn - CBH, Physicians Assistant

Lauren McLaughlin - GC Journal

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of May 11, 2011 were approved as written (M/S Curnel/Schultheis – unanimous).

**VOUCHERS**

The vouchers for the period ending May 31, 2011 totaling \$122,233.51 (#1 - #10 totaling \$109,758.41 and #11 - #32 totaling \$12,475.10) were approved (M/S Carter/Curnel – unanimous).

A couple of items will be added to the agenda. Under the Administrator's Report item d will be the Results of 2010 Audit. An executive session will also be added to discuss results of potential litigation.

**PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS** – None

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT**

**Monthly Food Inspections Report** - The food inspections for May was provided to the Board. Not as many routine inspections were done, however there was an increase in temporary events.

**Environmental Health Updates** - Staff have also been involved in the Q Fever investigation and also attended a water meeting.

Mr. Ketchel also pointed out that the Emergency Preparedness program was transferred over to the E.H. division and some staff have been involved in this program. The Strategic National Stockpile plan is being updated and will be graded by DOH next year.

We are also entering into the West Nile Virus season and reminded the BOH that out of 126 positive samples taken last year 115 of them were in Grant County. Two birds tested positive and one of the two human cases was also located in Grant County.

Mr. Ritter inquired about staff coming to Electric City to do food worker cards for the Lions Club. Mrs. Anderson explained the process to him and advised him to have them contact the Ephrata office.

**COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT** –

**Community Public Health Updates** - The Board of Health received the notifiable condition report which included the month of May statistics.

Pertussis seems to be slowing down.

**ASSESSMENT REPORT** -

**Assessment Updates** - Mr. Ketchel handed out a color coded map of Washington State which showed the Washington State Kindergarten Exemptions by County for SY 2009-10. Our county has one of the lowest percentages (less than 3%) of exemptions. On July 22 a new law will go into effect that requires

Providers to sign exemption forms with regards to medical issues. The Religious exemption is still in effect but the religious preference must be indicated on the form.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT** – Jeff Ketchel

**CPH Manager Update** - Shawta Sackett has accepted the position of CPH Manager and will start in early August. She is an Epidemiologist with a Masters in Public Health from Texas A&M Health Science Center's School of Rural Public Health. She is also a Registered Nurse receiving her BS from Pacific Lutheran University. She also has Assessment experience which will also be very helpful since we no longer have an Assessment Coordinator on staff.

**NALBOH Conference** - The National Annual Local Board of Health Conference will be held in Coeur 'd Alene this year from September 7 through the 9th. Also invited are the Administrators and Health Officers. This is a conference the Board might want to consider attending. Mr. Ketchel is considering attending as well and Ms. Schultheis encouraged him to attend.

**Budget Update** - The budget has passed the House and Senate but Governor Gregoire has not yet signed it. The flexible funding (5930 monies also known as the Blue Ribbon funding) was cut to 10 million dollars for the biennium. The monies allocated are based on an algorithm so it is yet to be determined as to how much of a cut the Health District will receive. Other funding sources were not affected. At the federal level there are some cuts but we are unsure what those cuts involve. Some of our programs that we receive federal funding include Emergency Preparedness, MCH, Tobacco and chronic disease which is our Healthy Communities work.

**2010 Audit** - The Board of Health received copies of the results of the Single and Accountability Audit which were both clean audits.

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

**Q Fever** - This is a dangerous and infectious disease. Grant County now has three probable human cases of Q Fever. It is unknown how many goat herds are affected. The CDC is now involved and will be sending staff to visit us on Monday. Cases are also being reported in Montana and possibly Alberta, Canada. Dr. Brzezny explained the disease and the difference between an acute case versus a chronic case. The disease cannot be spread from human to human. CDC will be looking at the size of the outbreak, possibly drawing blood, making sure these are acute cases, etc.

The Health District has been tracking people who have had contact with both the humans and the goats. We have been tracking the sale of the goats to see where they have been transported. The ICS (Incident Command System) has been activated to help with the investigation. We will be able to charge our time to the Emergency Preparedness fund.

**TB Update** - No new cases to report, however there were two possible cases reported.

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**Meningitis** – There was a possible meningitis patient that was transferred to Central Washington Hospital. Numerous contacts of the patient were contacted and given prophylaxis.

**E-Coli from Europe** - There has been many cases of E-Coli particularly in Germany. Out of 642 cases mainly in Germany, there have been 15 deaths. This particular toxin affects the kidneys and many times the patient develops HUS. There has been one confirmed case in the U.S. with three more suspect. Proper hand washing, food safety, etc. are excellent ways of prevention.

**OTHER BUSINESS** – Mr. Ketchel reminded the Board about the gathering in honor of Jim Whitaker on June 18th. An invitation was included in the notebooks.

Ms. Schultheis advised the Board that this would be her last meeting. She has recently married and will be moving out of state. The Board thanked her for her participation and she will be missed. She stated that she has enjoyed being on the Board.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION** - A motion was made at 7:50 p.m. to have an executive session regarding the results of potential litigation expected to last no longer than 10 minutes (M/S Curnel/Carter - unanimous).

The meeting re-opened at 8:00. With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 p.m. (M/S Curnel/Schultheis – unanimous).

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Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

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Pattie A. Anderson, Clerk of the Board