

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

March 12, 2008

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

Mark Wanke – Ephrata
Jon Lane – Moses Lake
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek
Keith Anstine – Quincy

Tony Massa - Warden
LeRoy Allison – Commissioner
Cindy Carter – Commissioner
Richard Stevens – Commissioner

STAFF

Peggy Grigg – Administrator/PH Director
Jerry Campbell – EH Director
Pattie Anderson – Admin Services Manager

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer
Jim Whitaker – Attorney

ABSENT

Gerald Sands – Electric City

GUESTS - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of February 13, 2008 were approved as written (M/S Massa/Carter– unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS - None

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PERSONAL HEALTH REPORT – Peggy Grigg

Public health indicators and local priorities – Mrs. Grigg had distributed a list of recommended local public health indicators. An assessment report will be built around the indicators as well as the Healthy Youth Survey.

The Metrics to Support 5930 Performance Measures document was also presented. There are three (3) measures and it is expected that you do them in order. This is in regards to the new funding that the Health District received in January. The first measure deals with immunizations, the second one with notifiable conditions and the third with obesity.

The last handout was the program prioritization which was last revised in December of 2006. The Board members were asked to contact Mrs. Grigg if they had any suggestions/changes to the programs before the next meeting. Updated prioritization information will be sent in the next mailing.

Mr. Wanke announced that there will be an executive session at the end of the meeting to last approximately 10 minutes regarding possible litigation.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jerry Campbell

Ordinance 2008-2 Fee Schedule Revision – Mr. Campbell reviewed the need for the increase in fees as was discussed at last month's meeting. A motion was made to adopt Ordinance 2008-2 (M/S Stevens/Allison – unanimous).

Plat Review Form – Mr. Campbell again presented the water availability and sewage disposal suitability approval form for new plats. This had been discussed at length at the last Board meeting and had been tabled to allow the Commissioners to confer with their Planning Department and legal counsel.

A lengthy discussion was held again. The Commissioners stated county concerns regarding the Health District continuing to sign county plats, and their concern regarding county liability if the District does sign the plats. The Commissioners presented a handout which was received from Bob Meinig who is a MRSC Legal Consultant regarding RCW 58.17.150. The Commissioners believe the wording of the RCW is such that it can be interpreted in different ways.

RCW. 19.27.097 was also presented which addresses the Building permit application – Evidence of adequate water supply – Applicability – Exemption.

The county is in the process of updating its UDC policy, but this will take some time to accomplish. The Health District will participate in that process with suggested text changes to remove plat approval by the District.

Dr. Brzezny stated that Kittitas County and Department of Ecology are currently in discussions regarding the issue of exempt wells and what agency will control their use right now. This has

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become an item of concern to many Health Districts across the state. Dr. Brzezny is seeking guidance from the Board as to what they want the staff to do regarding the approval of exempt wells for plats and the signing of plats.

The general consensus is that DOE tries to have the Health Districts do the work that they are supposed to do; the responsibility then falls upon local public health. It also takes them a very long time to approve anything and history shows that DOE has not backed up other local government agencies when needed.

Mr. Anstine inquired as to whether we had been sued while using the current form. Mr. Whitaker said no, but lawsuits were beginning to be seen with issues related to land development.

This issue remains tabled. Mr. Campbell will obtain forms currently being used in other counties, along with the current form Grant County is using, to present along with the new proposed Health District form.

E.H. Inspection Reports – These were included in the Board's packets.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Pertussis – In relation to the case we had in January, 81 contacts have been treated with antibiotics with us seeing approximately 50% of the cases.

Mumps – Dr. Brzezny stated we have had no good contact with the suspect case and does not believe it is a positive case of the mumps.

Meningitis – There has been one case of bacterial meningitis that has had contact with approximately 32 individuals (mostly healthcare workers) in which all have been prophylaxed. The individual is now off the respirator and is recuperating. Testing has been done to verify that the medication used for the contacts is effective.

TB – We have had two (2) active cases this year with one closed and one remaining open. The patient's condition is improving.

Listeriosis – There has been a case of neonatal and perinatal listeriosis reported. The Mom is recovering nicely. It is suspected that unpasteurized cheese is the cause. The infant, born prematurely, remains hospitalized.

George Elementary School – There is a 50% absenteeism rate this week which is probably related to influenza. Even though immunized, numerous individuals are still coming down with the flu.

Moses Lake Superfund – Dr. Brzezny announced that the EPA is in charge of this project and they will supply filters for water sources that are found to contain TCE. They will also pay the Health District to test the water in new construction sites for TCE.

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APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending February 29, 2008 totaling \$151,555.65 (#1-#4 totaling \$131,573.59) and (#5-#50 totaling \$19,982.06) were approved (M/S Stevens/Carter – unanimous).

OTHER BUSINESS

Mrs. Grigg met last month with representatives from Grant County Hospital District #7 to discuss partnering with them. Mrs. Grigg received an e-mail informing her that they would be sending us funding to support partnership activities, specifically \$2,000 for immunizations/vaccines, \$1,500 for TB prevention and \$2,000 for help with the printing of the Resource Guides.

Mr. Allison thanked Mr. Campbell for sending him the pictures regarding the corn waste issue.

The open meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. for an executive session regarding possible litigation expected to last 10 minutes.

The meeting was re-convened at 8:33 p.m. with no action being taken.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 p.m. (M/S Stevens/Carter – unanimous).

The next meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2008 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