

# 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 October 8, 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**

Jon Lane – Moses Lake  
Tony Massa – Warden  
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek  
Mark Wanke – Ephrata

Keith Anstine – Quincy  
LeRoy Allison – Commissioner  
Cindy Carter – Commissioner  
Richard Stevens – Commissioner

### **STAFF**

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer  
Peggy Grigg – Administrator/PH Director  
Pattie Anderson – Admin Services Manager

Jerry Campbell – EH Director  
Jim Whitaker – Attorney

### **ABSENT**

Gerald Sands – Electric City

### **GUESTS - None**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of September 10, 2008 were approved as written - (M/S Anstine/Lane – unanimous).

### **PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS - None**

### **PERSONAL HEALTH /ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Peggy Grigg**

**Interlocal Agreement/Commercial Lease Agreement** – The Board of Health was presented with both an Interlocal agreement between the Health District and Grant County regarding lease payments

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that was prepared by the District and also a Commercial Lease Agreement that was prepared by the County. The two agreements are to work in conjunction with each other and both are to be signed.

After making a few adjustments to the agreements, they will be submitted for adoption next month.

**Preliminary Budget Information** – After preliminary budget preparations, Mrs. Grigg met with the county Commissioners to request additional funding in 2009 of \$38,000 to maintain at least one month of expenditures in the ending fund balance.

Since that meeting, the District has acquired additional grant funding. Also, there has been an employee who has submitted their resignation. Although this position is partially funded by a grant, we will not be re-hiring for this position. Mrs. Grigg reminded the Board of a nursing position as well as a managerial position that were never filled.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT** – Jerry Campbell

**Food Inspections** – Mr. Campbell presented the monthly food inspection report.

**West Nile Virus** – In September, there was a bird in Grant County that was identified as having West Nile Virus. The homeowners found two more additional birds, but were not tested due to the condition of them. After a visit from the homeowner's daughter, she experienced some symptoms as well.

**Update on Fairgrounds Septic System** – Mr. Campbell informed the Board that a response has been received from Richard Benson, DOH, Spokane regarding the fairground septic systems that have recently been installed. If anyone has any questions, they can ask the Commissioner's who will be preparing a response.

Mr. Wanke inquired as to the score of a food establishment that had been discussed at last month's meeting. He wondered if the score reflected the penalty of smoking within the establishment. Mr. Campbell advised that the score needed to be modified since the Board waived the re-inspection penalty fee.

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

Dr. Brzezny reported on the Health Officer's meeting that was held recently. Public Health funding was and continues to be of major concern. Last year the Joint Select Committee on Public Health Finance estimated \$600 million shortage of funding for public health services in our state. The committee requested \$50 million and only \$20 million were authorized with our county receiving \$161,706.

Local health jurisdictions are facing major layoffs which include Snohomish losing 90 employees which is close to half of their work force; Tacoma-Pierce 120; Chelan-Douglas, 26 and Benton-Franklin laying off 50. They are eliminating programs, cutting services, etc. which eventually the

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consequences of these acts will arise in 5 – 10 years. For example, TB will increase as well as teenage pregnancies, communicable disease, etc.

Mississippi and Louisiana are the only two states whose funding is worse than Washington's.

Other local health jurisdictions will also be asking the cities within their area to contribute towards funding public health as we have been doing for the past few years. Dr. Brzezny has written a letter to the City Councils requesting that they continue their support and funding. He also asked that the Board members address their councils regarding this issue and to have them contact their legislators regarding public health funding.

There is a legislator who is going to support a bill that will possibly implement a tax on medical supplies in which the tax will go towards Public Health.

Dr. Brzezny asked that the Board pass a Resolution that supports dedicated funding to Public Health that would be a consistent source of revenue.

Possible cutbacks in our county may include fewer restaurant inspections, school inspections, latent tuberculosis infection, etc.

Mr. Wanke said that the Resolution might also be sent to the Washington Association of Cities and Towns.

Dr. Brzezny was on KBSM/KDRM radio yesterday discussing various issues.

**West Nile Virus** – Dr. Brzezny reported that this has been the mildest year to date with 19 deaths reported in 2008 compared to 124 in 2007. This year eastern Washington has had 37 horses infected with the WNV and 3 human cases which have been related to travel out of our area.

**Pertussis** – There has been a Pertussis death in Illinois.

**Salmonella Poona** - This particular type of Salmonella has originated in Canada. There have been 48 cases reported with one possibly in Grant County. The source of the outbreak is possibly another meat slicer.

**Listeriosis** – There have been 20 deaths from Listeriosis in Canada.

### **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

The vouchers for the period ending September 30, 2008 totaling \$178,976.30 (#1-#4 totaling \$136,768.25) and (#5-#56 totaling \$42,208.05) were approved (M/S Lane/Stevens - unanimous).

**OTHER BUSINESS** – None

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A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. (M/S Anstine/Carter – unanimous).

The next meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Works meeting room in Ephrata.

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Mark Wanke, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

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Alexander Brzezny, M.D., Health Officer