

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 13, 2010

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
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek
Gerald Sands – Electric City
Heidi Schultheis – Ephrata

Dr. David Curnel – Moses Lake
Cindy Carter – Commissioner
Richard Stevens – Commissioner
Carolann Swartz – Commissioner

STAFF

Jeff Ketchel – Administrator
Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer
Michael Wyman – HD Attorney

Vicky Rutherford – IT Coordinator
Jerry Campbell – EH Director
Janet Saito – Accounting Clerk

ABSENT

Pattie Anderson – Admin. Services Mgr.

Tony Gonzalez – Quincy

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of September 8, 2010 were approved with an amendment to reflect the presence of Carolann Swartz at the meeting (M/S Carter/Stevens – unanimous).

Mr. Massa informed the Board of an addition to the agenda. An addition of (d): Variance for public works operation of a landfill to item 5. Environmental Health. A motion was made to approve the addition (M/S Curnel/Sands – unanimous).

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – Jeff Ketchel

Legislative Agenda – Mr. Ketchel presented a legislative agenda for the board to review. After discussion of the three interests on the agenda, Mr. Ketchel requested the board approve the agenda so the Health District could support or oppose legislation that was consistent or inconsistent with the interests of the District. A motion was made to approve the 2011 Legislative Agenda prepared by Mr. Ketchel (M/S Curnel/Schwartz – unanimous).

Strategic Planning Update – Mr. Ketchel shared documents and information from Washington Public Health Association Conference. Mr. Ketchel shared the “Agenda for Change” authored by local and state public health officials in Washington State, the Ten Essential Services of Public Health and the Spectrum of Prevention. Some of the highlights Mr. Ketchel spoke of were:

(1) The District must focus its communicable disease capacity on and enhance the most effective and important elements of prevention, early detection and swift responses to protect people from communicable diseases and other health threats. The Health District is updating its internal communicable disease communication and tracking system. It is moving from a mostly paper and email system to our local intranet site improving staff efficiency and communications, which are critical during communicable disease outbreaks. The District is developing a quarterly newsletter to medical providers that will include notifiable conditions information. The first edition of that will be going out in the next couple of weeks.

(2) Focus on policy and system efforts to foster communities and environments that promote healthy starts and ongoing wellness, prevent illness and injury, and better provide all of us the opportunity for long, healthy lives. By approving the Legislative Agenda the Grant County Health District has entered into policy efforts. We are receiving money from the State to do a “healthy communities project” focused on systems and policies changes.

(3) With healthcare reform, it is time for public health to more effectively and strategically partner with the healthcare system to improve access to quality, affordable and integrated health care that incorporates routine clinical preventive services and is available in rural and urban communities alike. The District will be utilizing public health nurses to build and sustain stronger relationships with our providers and hospital districts.

Mr. Ketchel stated in the 8 months of his employment with the Health District he has noted we need to develop and sustain internal leadership capacities.

Washington State Funding Update – Gov. Gregoire issued a 6% cut across the board for all state agencies. There is a shortfall in the last 9 months of this two year biennium budget. We

will have a \$7,500 cut in one of our flexible funding sources which is our MVET replacement funding. Things could change in January when the Legislature reconvenes.

Public Health Standards - Mr. Ketchel has talked with the board at previous meetings about the Public Health Standards. It is a very large project and in the past has been an unfunded mandate. Some Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs), because of the costs of participation, are choosing to not participate this year. The State responded by announcing the standards will be connected to Local Capacity Development Funding. The District had already decided to participate in the Standards review regardless of the funding implication.

November Meeting – There was discussion as to whether a quorum would be available for the November 10th meeting because the Commissioners will be out of town that day. After discussion, it was decided to keep the meeting on the original scheduled date as it was felt that there would be a quorum. A motion was made to schedule a public hearing on November 10, 2010 for 2011 budget adoption (M/S Curnel/Schultheis – unanimous).

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jerry Campbell

Monthly Report - The board received the monthly report for September food inspections. It was noted that the local newspapers had an article about the availability of the inspections on line.

Perkins Restaurant Update – Mr. Campbell stated after the second inspection, all of the previous deficiencies were corrected. The refrigeration issue has been resolved and the food is being kept at the proper temperature.

Fee Schedule Revision - Mr. Campbell talked with the Board about a reorganization of the fee schedule. The Temporary Food permits are currently classified as potentially hazardous or non hazardous. That is being changed to three categories, (high risk, moderate risk and low risk) in the hopes that it will encourage the vendors to look at a less hazardous way to prepare foods. The fees will reflect the changes in the categories.

The Health District sells various items to clients so the fee would reflect cost plus ten percent. It is proposed that fees be added for pile storage permits, and a fee for Septic System Installer test materials. It is available on our web site free of charge. Mr. Campbell requested a motion to set a public hearing on November 10, 2010 for the revision of Ordinance 2010-4 (M/S Schwartz/Carter – unanimous).

Variance of Public Works Operation of a Landfill - Public Works requested a waiver from the Board of Health regarding moderate risk waste (MRW) collection. The regulations require that someone be present to record the number of people and quantities of MRW. This is costly and difficult for Ephrata Landfill as people don't bring this waste in that often. Public Works

requested the requirement of keeping track of the number of people that come in each day be waived and only have to record the volume at the time it is picked up by the vendor.

Washington State Department of Ecology has reviewed the request and feels it is a reasonable request for this type of operation. The Health District has an Ordinance stating the Board of Health has to approve any waiver request. After discussion a motion was made to approve the waiver request (M/S Schultheis/Carter – unanimous).

Cross Connection Issue - Mr. Sands stated in Electric City there are approximately 15 residents that have a non-potable water system on their property. The State requires that there be a double check valve system connected only if it is on a potable water connection, but they don't require anything if it is not connected. The problem is it has been found that in the past someone has cross connected the system. Mr. Sand's concern is that will happen again and possibly contaminate the water system.

Mr. Campbell stated that water systems are the jurisdiction of the Department of Health and not the Health District. Mr. Wyman stated the City can supplement the plumbing code to require a double check valve system.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Pertussis - Dr. Brzezny stated there is a continued rise in Pertussis in the country. Four states have outbreaks currently versus 2 states last month. California has the largest number of cases.

Summary Report H1N1 – The state issued a H1N1 report. Last year there were a total of 1,600 severely ill patients with H1N1 influenza in the state. The most impoverished counties had the highest rate of severe illness.

Seasonal Influenza – There has not been any reported cases of Influenza in Grant County to date.

TB Update – There is one active case of TB in Grant County right now. The patient is currently on therapy.

Notifiable Conditions Rates – Dr. Brzezny gave the board a copy of the most recent notifiable conditions. Grant County continues to rate very high in Chlamydia.

VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending September 30, 2010 totaling \$158,115.59 (#1 - #9 totaling \$127,602.38 and #10 - #77 totaling \$30,513.21) were approved (M/S Carter/Curnel – unanimous). A question was raised as to whether it was ok for a board member receiving a

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check for mileage to approve the vouchers. Mrs. Saito stated that it is such a small amount of money that the Auditor does not have an issue with it.

A motion was made to move into executive session at 8:21 p.m. to address personnel issues, budget issues and possible litigation expected to last 15 minutes (M/S Carter/Schwartz - unanimous). At 8:36 the executive session was extended another 10 minutes. At 8:46 the executive session was extended another 5 minutes. The executive session was closed at 8:51 p.m.

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:53 p.m. (M/S Carter/Sands – unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Alexander Brzezny, M.D., Health Officer