

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
September 9, 2009
7:00 P.M.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Anstine with the following members, staff and guests present.

MEMBERS

Carolann Swartz – Commissioner
Jon Lane – Moses Lake
Raymond Kelby – Wilson Creek

Keith Anstine – Quincy
Bruce Reim – Ephrata
Cindy Carter – Commissioner

STAFF

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer
Peggy Grigg – Administrator/PH Director
Jerry Campbell – EH Director

Pattie Anderson – Admin Services Mgr
Jim Whitaker – Attorney

ABSENT

Tony Massa – Warden
Gerald Sands – Electric City

Richard Stevens – Commissioner

GUESTS –

Wendy Brzezny – GCHD Oral Health Coordinator

Daniel Wilson - GCHD

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS – None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of August 12, 2009 were approved as written (M/S Lane/Kelby – unanimous).

PERSONAL HEALTH /ADMINISTRATOR REPORT – Peggy Grigg

ABCD Program – Wendy Brzezny, Oral Health Coordinator presented a program on the Access to Baby and Child Dentistry program. The Health District has been presented with a 2 yr. \$42,000 grant to provide preventive dentistry to children between the ages of 0 – 6 who have a medical coupon.

Ms. Brzezny explained the problem (dental decay), the ABCD goals, public and private partnerships such as state DOH, Washington Dental Service Foundation, local Health Jurisdictions/Community Organizations, etc., the interventions and networking with community partners such as Maternity Support Services, WIC, Head Start, DSHS, dental providers, and dental society among others.

An ABCD Kick Off and Provider Training will be held on October 23 in Moses Lake at Samaritan Healthcare in which she invited the Board to attend. Ms. Brzezny stated that “healthy smiles lead to better health”.

Letter of Understanding – Grinovations – The Board had been sent a letter of understanding between “Grinovations” and the Grant County Health District to meet the dental care needs of elementary school children in the public school system of Grant County. The LOU is a non-binding document that describes the working relationship between Grinovations and the District.

A motion was made to pass the document (M/S Lane/Swartz – unanimous).

Public Health Cooperative Flu Shot Agreement – An agreement between Quincy Valley Medical Center, Sageview Family Care, Quincy Community Health Center, GC Fire District No. 3 and the Grant Co. Health District to conduct an inter-agency flu shot clinic was presented to the Board.

A motion was made to adopt the agreement (M/S Swartz/Lane – unanimous).

Cities/Towns Public Health Contributions – Mrs. Grigg verified that the Board wished to continue the invoicing of the cities and towns as has been done in previous years. This funding has provided additional services within their communities among other services throughout the agency.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jerry Campbell

Monthly Inspection Report – The monthly inspections and activity report was distributed to the Board. Food inspections were increased due to the annual Grant County Fair.

Mr. Campbell informed the Board of the contract between Aramark and the District in which the Health District inspects the Gorge six times a year. At a recent inspection, Mr. Campbell stated that they generally followed safe food handling practices. At the campground however, the situation could be improved. There were approximately 30 vendors during the Labor Day weekend concert in the campground.

E.H. Fees – Mr. Campbell explained the budget deficit in Environmental Health as well as the budget projections for 2009 and 2010. Sewage revenues have been drastically reduced compared to previous years.

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He also provided a comparison of fees with other local health jurisdictions which shows Grant County being on the low end of the fee schedule.

A proposal was made to adjust the hourly Sanitarian rate to \$75/hr. which is what most Health Districts base their fees on. This would change the fees that had been provided to the Board.

Dr. Brzezny pointed out several programs such as food borne illness outbreaks, complaints, other investigations, etc. that produce no revenues. It is hoped that Environmental Health can be self-sustaining as it has been in the past.

The Health District provides efficient service which includes 10 days to issue a permit and 2 days to do a final inspection.

A motion was made to hold a public hearing next month to adopt the fee schedule (M/S Reim/Kelby – unanimous).

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

H1N1 – There have been lessons that have been learned from the Southern Hemisphere during their peak influenza season; one of which is that the virus has genetically stabilized. H1N1 activity had decreased but is now starting to pick up again.

Dr. Brzezny stressed that it is very important that we receive our seasonal flu shots which are being offered earlier this year than in past years.

Mrs. Grigg and Dr. Brzezny have been visiting the schools within Grant County and providing a power point presentation on H1N1. They are stressing the need to separate the sick children from the healthy and to encourage the sick to stay at home until 24 hours after no medications have been administered to reduce fever and are otherwise symptom free.

This year's seasonal flu vaccine has more protection from the influenza A virus which is usually more virulent than the influenza B. All pandemic strains in the past have been the A type.

West Nile Virus – There has been a report of a horse in Warden that is recovering from West Nile Virus. To date the virus has been found in horses, mosquitoes and humans. Klickitat County reported having a human case of WNV. However the state has not confirmed any human cases.

Tuberculosis – The Health District is still currently treating 3 individuals for active Tuberculosis. The Health District learned today that the patient in Mattawa has currently lost his housing. The District will be working to rectify this situation. Dr. Brzezny pointed out that by possibly taking care of some financial needs, if need be, this would be less expensive than treating more active cases of tuberculosis.

The Health District is currently investigating a possible 4th active case.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending August 31, 2009 totaling \$181,854.60 (#1-#4 totaling \$130,344.00) and (#5-#52 totaling \$51,510.60) were approved (M/S Lane/Swartz - unanimous).

OTHER BUSINESS – Mrs. Anderson mentioned that the November Board of Health meeting falls on Veterans Day which is a holiday for most of the members. It is difficult to re-schedule due to conflicting City Council meetings, so it is better to cancel the meeting. Vouchers can still be generated with bills being paid and will be approved at the December meeting.

Mr. Lane stated that Mrs. Grigg and Dr. Brzezny had done a presentation on H1N1 at his school and it was very helpful and informative.

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. (M/S Swartz/Kelby - unanimous).

The next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Works meeting room in Ephrata.

Keith Anstine, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Alexander Brzezny, M.D., Health Officer