

# 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 10, 2008 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 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  
Gerald Sands – Electric City  
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**

Cindy Carter – Commissioner

### **GUESTS**

Greg Thompson – Ephrata  
Amber McCoy – Grant Co. Health District

Birdie Hensley – Electric City

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of August 13, 2008 were approved as written - (M/S Anstine/Lane – passed with 3 abstaining (Sands/Wanke/Stevens - as they were not in attendance last month).

**PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS -**

Mr. Campbell advised the Board about a food inspection that had been done at an area restaurant on Monday, September 8, 2008. During the routine inspection, an ashtray with cigarette butts was observed in a back room of the establishment. This critical violation is worth 15 pts. which automatically triggers a re-inspection. Since the establishment already had one previous re-inspection, this one would involve a fee which is ½ of the annual license fee.

Greg Thompson, owner of the establishment informed the Board that he was doing maintenance work in the building on a Sunday when the business was closed. Rather than going in and out of the building, he stayed in the back room to smoke. He stated he did not smoke in the bar or restaurant area. He is requesting that the Board waive the penalty fee due to the circumstances. The current Ordinance does not address the issue of smoking after hours.

A similar incident has occurred in the past (at another establishment), but in that case, there were other people in the building when a meeting was being held and smoking had occurred.

Mr. Campbell read the portion of the Ordinance where it addresses smoking inside the establishment regarding employees and patrons. Mr. Whitaker pointed out that it does not address anything after hours when no employees or patrons are inside the building.

Discussion was held regarding the intent of the law.

Mr. Allison inquired as to what the financial impact would be for the re-inspection, which Mr. Campbell stated would be approximately \$200.00.

Mrs. Grigg mentioned that there were also two other violations that were discovered during the inspection, one of which had been corrected immediately.

After discussion, a motion was made to give relief and grant the establishment's request not to pay the fine (M/S Stevens/Lane – unanimous).

**West Nile Virus Presentation** – Amber McCoy

Ms. McCoy distributed paperwork regarding the West Nile Virus (WNV). It included a CDC WNV Fact Sheet, 2008 WNV Surveillance, WNV Statistics for the previous years and a map showing national cumulative human disease cases.

In Grant County, there have been no human cases of WNV, but there have been a total of four (4) horses that have contracted the disease. None of the horses in Grant County have died, whereas 1/3 to ½ of infected horses in Yakima County have died.

Mosquito trapping and testing has been done from four different locations with 1 sample positive and 1 possible/unconfirmed.

There have been a total of 5 recorded dead bird sightings, but none have been tested as they have not been suitable for testing.

The public hearing was opened for Ordinances 2008 -3 and 2008-4. No comments from the public so the hearing was closed.

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

**Prevention for Healthier America** - Mrs. Grigg had sent the Board a report on Prevention for a Healthier America. Studies do show that prevention does pay off after the first year; the most recent study cited showed a return on investment of \$5.50 for every \$1 spent. Funding continues to be of great concern to local health jurisdictions in which many are having to lay off staff. Grant County Health District should be alright for the 2009 year. Mrs. Grigg reminded the Board that when a nurse resigned last year she was never replaced and a managerial position for the Moses Lake office was never filled either.

**Standards Report** – Mrs. Grigg had sent a copy of the 2008 Performance Review Report regarding the Standards for Public Health in Washington State to the Board. This year there were 12 standards in various areas reviewed so a comparison to 2002 and 2005 (with 5 standards areas) was not possible because of the increased standards. So far, no funding is tied to the standards. All in all, Grant County Health District did very well.

**Revision of Fees** – Mrs. Grigg reviewed the fee revisions which were presented at last month's meeting, including the exclusion of non-high risk individuals from routine TB skin testing, the universal application of sliding fee for TB services in order to encourage compliance with evaluation and intervention, and the removal of general HIV education certification courses, as there are no grant funds and no staff time to provide these. No changes have occurred since last month. Approval for adoption will occur in the Environmental Health portion of the agenda.

**School Immunization Promotion Project** – One of the purposes of this project is to have immunization information more readily available in both private and public schools, and to reduce the number of exemptions from vaccines in local schools. Tracking the immunizations and getting the students immunized possibly via the school setting is one possibility to be explored. A \$12,000 grant has been applied for.

New studies have also shown that MMR vaccinations are not linked to autism.

**National Children's Study** – Grant County has been selected as a site for a study that will be done on children before birth through the age of 21 to determine environmental influences on children's health. Mr. Whitaker has looked at the contract which will entail approximately 10 days of Dr. Brzezny's time and 13 or more days of staff time. They are hoping to study approximately 1,000 subjects. Mrs. Grigg read the scope of work in the contract in which the Health District's role will be to assist with community entrée and identification of local stakeholders, to identify local public health issues related to the study and to provide assistance to local families when specific environmental health hazards become known as a result of the study. She is requesting that we can go forward and sign the contracts if need be, before the next Board of Health meeting. A motion was made to allow the signing of the contracts (M/S Lane/Sands – unanimous).

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT** – Jerry Campbell

**Adoption of Septic System Ordinance** – Mr. Campbell reviewed the proposed addition to the Septic System Ordinance and also had provided the Board with a copy of the WAC which pertains to the addition. A lengthy discussion was held regarding issues that could arise if a homeowner installs his own system, including increased trips to the site by the Sanitarians, the possibility of a failing system, restrictions on the addition to the Ordinance vs. adopting the WAC itself, etc. Some of the questions that arose were: how many times does this occur in a year, which is about 5-6; is the homeowner also going to build his own house, which is usually the case; do other counties have similar restrictions, which is usually the case also.

By adopting these guidelines, it gives Dr. Brzezny a set of standards to use in his decision making, as the WAC clearly indicates that it is the decision of the health officer as to who can be allowed to install their own septic system. Dr. Brzezny indicated that he will follow the direction that the Board chooses.

It was also pointed out, that if a homeowner has to re-do his installation because of errors he made during the process, he cannot come to the Board of Health for relief. They may address Dr. Brzezny and then proceed to the Department of Health in Spokane.

After a lengthy discussion a motion was made by Mr. Anstine to adopt Ordinance 2008-3 as presented. There was no second to the motion.

Mr. Allison made a suggestion to eliminate the middle paragraph of the proposed addition which refers to the resident homeowner needing to take a test or show documentation of recent installation experience.

A motion was made to adopt Ordinance 2008-3 as amended (omitting paragraph b) (M/S Allison/Stevens – unanimous).

**Revision of Fees** – Mr. Campbell presented his portion of the fee schedule which was to add an additional fee when a homeowner installs his own system.

After much discussion of how best to achieve the goal of being compensated for extra trips that need to be done, it was suggested that a fee of \$110 be imposed for additional trips beyond the normal amount (which is 1 for less than 1000 gal/day; 2 for > or = 1000 gal/day; and 3 for > or = 2000 gal/day). To be consistent with the \$110 fee, it was suggested that the fee for the 2,000 gal/day be increased by \$5 to \$490.00.

A motion was made to adopt Ordinance 2008-4 with the above amendments (M/S Massa/Allison – unanimous).

**Update on Fairgrounds Septic System** – Mr. Campbell distributed a summary of the five (5) new septic system designs at the Grant County Fairgrounds. The system for Building 17 is the only one that was operative during this year's fair and was visited several times during the fair with number of events, their run times and gal/min being recorded to arrive at the total usage per day.

Mr. Campbell had contacted Mr. Richard Benson, Department of Health in Spokane, who is in charge of the large on-site septic systems to have him review the engineering reports. Mr. Benson contacted Mr. Campbell today and stated he is concerned about the design information that was given to him and he would like more information and will contact Grant County himself for additional information.

Mr. Campbell also reported on two (2) failures of one of the septic systems at the fair that had occurred during the week of the Grant Co. Fair. This particular system was installed in 1998. During routine inspections on Wednesday evening, Health District staff discovered that the toilets would not flush on the west side of the rodeo arena area and the water was overflowing. It was later discovered that the wiring was corroded and the pump was not working. The restrooms were temporarily closed at that time.

The other occurrence happened on Saturday evening and was discovered after the rodeo in which the overflow was occurring out of a manhole cover located between the rodeo arena and the fair. This was later reported to the Health District by citizens. Mr. Campbell stated that in the future the Health District would ensure that everything is working properly before the fair begins.

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

**Measles in Whatcom County** – Dr. Brzezny advised the Board of a positive measles case that has been identified in Whatcom County.

**Hantavirus** – A death occurred in Kittitas County which has been diagnosed as being Hantavirus. There has also been a positive laboratory test for Hantavirus in Grant County but the individual has shown no symptoms of the illness.

#### **APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

The vouchers for the period ending August 31, 2008 totaling \$182,490.76 (#1-#4 totaling \$136,453.50) and (#5-#55 totaling \$46,037.26) were approved (M/S Stevens/Anstine - unanimous).

#### **OTHER BUSINESS** –

**City Contracts** – Mrs. Grigg stated that the cities/towns do not want to be invoiced for their contribution to the Health District until next year. However, a letter will be sent to them thanking them for their past contributions and asking them to consider continuing their financial support, as they begin their budget process. There have been only two cities who do not contribute.

Grant County has become a model for the rest of the state. Other local health jurisdictions are considering asking for support from their cities within their county as well. With funding the way it is, it has become essential that we continue to receive the cities/towns support.

**Public Health Partner Awards** – Awards were presented to the following:

**Alicia Roth** – For her passion and dedication in partnership with the Health District in reducing health disparities in the Hispanic Community

**Sally Goodwin** – In appreciation for all of her hard work, much success, and continued support in helping Moses Lake become a healthier community

**Moses Lake Trails Planning Team** – For their continued dedication in creating safe walking and biking trails throughout the Moses Lake area

**Grant County Housing Authority** – For the development and their continued support of the North Moses Lake Community Garden

**Wendy Hanover** – For her commitment in assisting the Grant County Health District with the Resources for Families project

**Georgie Youngers of “Georgie’s Gently Used”** for supplying household necessities when needed for HIV positive clients

**Joyce Spencer** – Moses Lake Clinic for her assistance during the measles outbreak

**Greg Fletcher** – Moses Lake Clinic lab for his assistance during the measles outbreak

**Pat Harrington** – Moses Lake Clinic lab for his assistance during the measles outbreak

**Moses Lake Clinic** – for implementing Smoke-Free campus policies

**Moses Lake Community Health Center** – for providing Russian translation for the Resources for Families Booklets

**Family Services of Grant County**  
**North Columbia Community Action Council**  
**Catholic Family and Child Service**  
**Aging and Adult Care of Central Washington**  
**Grant Mental Healthcare**  
**Samaritan Healthcare**

**Grant County Public Hospital District #7 (Royal City)** – for their contributions to the Resources for Families Booklets project.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:52 p.m. (M/S Anstine/Stevens – unanimous).

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The next meeting is scheduled for October 8, 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