



BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes of March 6, 2006

SUMMARY OF ITEMS

1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Macleod called the meeting to order.

Attendance: Chairman Macleod and Commissioner Oberquell, Department Director Sherri McDonald, Health Officer Dr. Diana Yu, Environmental Health Director Art Starry, and Clerk of the Board Lydia Hodgkinson. Commissioner Wolfe was not in attendance.

- a) **Approval of Agenda** – Chairman Macleod moved to approve the Agenda. Commissioner Oberquell seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- b) **Approval of Minutes** – February 6, 2006 minutes carried over to April 3, 2006 meeting due to Commissioner Wolfe absence at this meeting and Commissioner Oberquell's absence at the February 6, 2006 meeting.
- c) **Correspondence** – A thank you letter to Dr. Yu from Governor Gregoire was presented. The Governor expressed thanks for her involvement in Operation Evergreen. Dr. Yu stated 11 Medical Reserve Corp volunteers volunteered 91 hours to this operation. The Board acknowledged that other key staff also received thank you letters from the Governor. John Walsh of the Community Action Council was recognized for providing housing assistance to hurricane victims.

2) UPDATE ON CITIZEN ISSUES - None, items are current.

3) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD – None

4) CONSENT ITEMS

- a) **Steps Program – Gilmore Research Group Subcontract Amendment No. 1** - Move to approve Amendment No. 1 to the Gilmore Research Group Subcontract in the amount of \$24,606 with the revised total maximum consideration not to exceed \$33,325 and authorize Sherri McDonald the Director of Public Health and Social Services Department to execute the amendment.

Motion: Commissioner Oberquell moved to approve consent item “a”. Chairman Macleod seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) PUBLIC HEARING FOR ARTICLE II – RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE THURSTON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH GOVERNING FOOD SERVICE

Chairman Macleod opened the Public Hearing to take public comments for the final adoption of the revised regulation. Darrell Cochran, Sr. Environmental Health Specialist, provided an introduction explaining on September 8, 2004 the Washington State Board of Health passed a revision to Chapter 246-215, Washington Administrative Code (WAC) for Food Service. The regulations became effective on May 2, 2005. Article II, Thurston County Rules and Regulations Governing Food Service has now been revised to meet the new State requirements WAC, and to clarify language and requirements for the administration of the Thurston County Food Safety Program. Mr. Cochran summarized the major changes and additions included in the WAC, and answered questions raised by the Board. Julie Boxer a representative of Storman's Inc. and Clif Finch, Vice President of Washington Food Industry, were present to testify in support of the Thurston County Food Program and adoption of the revised Article II. **Commissioner Oberquell moved to close the public hearing and approve the revised Article II, Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Food Service effective March 6, 2006. Chairman Macleod seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

6) SET A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE TESTIMONY REGARDING REVISIONS TO THE THURSTON COUNTY SANITARY CODE

Mr. Starry explained that a public hearing is being requested to receive testimony regarding amending Article I, Appendix A of the Sanitary Code for Thurston County, the Environmental Health Division Fee Schedule, including Article III, Drinking Water Program and Environmental Health laboratory Fees, and Article IV, Liquid Waste and Land Use programs. **Commissioner Oberquell moved to set a Public hearing for April 4th, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. at the Thurston County Fairgrounds Expo Center to receive testimony regarding ordinances to amend Article I, Appendix A of the Sanitary Code for Thurston County, the Environmental Health Division Fee Schedule, including Article III, Drinking Water Program and Environmental Health Laboratory Fees, and Article IV, Liquid Waste and Land Use programs. Chairman Macleod seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

7) ARTICLE IV REVISIONS – PUBLIC INFORMATION PROCESS

The Washington State Board of Health recently revised WAC 246-272A, which governs on-site sewage systems in the state. As a result of this action, Thurston County is obligated to update and revise our local on-site sewage system regulations to be consistent with state law by July 1, 2007. Art Starry, Director of the Environmental Health, reviewed some of the most significant changes in the new state sewage system regulations, and described the process they propose to educate, inform, and engage the public in the revision process. Staff requested guidance from the Board regarding the public education and information process. Commissioner Oberquell questioned who would determine special risk based criteria. Mr. Starry stated it will be determined locally, but the State will provide guidelines. Commissioner

Oberquell questioned if the Henderson Operation and Maintenance Program research will be considered. Chairman Macleod also expressed the desire that scientific data from the Henderson Study would be considered and that public educational material and documents will need to be created in a language the public will understand. Mr. Starry assured the Board it is the Department's desire also and further noted all information would be put on the Website. Commissioner Oberquell noted since prior to 1992 she has been trying to have the issue of authority and restrictions for County staff to access private property addressed. Mr. Starry stated legal staff has given clear guidelines to the Department, but to date these guidelines have not been put in formal policy format. He assured the Board this policy would be addressed immediately.

8) GAINS WORKGROUP REPORT – Don Krupp - none

9) DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Sherri McDonald

Sherri McDonald presented a memo to the Board and requested direction regarding provision of influenza vaccine to County Employees. There was discussion around "essential workers", vaccine availability and cost. The Board expressed concern with not offering the vaccine to all employees and requested Ms. McDonald consider discussing this issue with the County's collective bargaining units.

Ms. McDonald discussed a Regional Support Network (RSN) follow-up meeting with City of Olympia Mayor Foutch regarding the joining of Thurston Mason RSN and Behavioral Health Resources (BHR) for an Acute Psychiatric Services facility. Ms. McDonald submitted a copy of the overview sheet. The Board requested Ms. McDonald obtain written comment from Mayor Foutch.

10) HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Diana Yu

Dr. Yu stated flu season is late this year. It has peaked within the last two weeks and is on the downhill slide. She further stated viral illnesses with coughs lasting over 3 weeks, such as whooping cough, are reaching epidemic levels Statewide. A vaccine for older teens will be available soon.

11) ADJOURNMENT

BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington

ATTEST:

ROBERT N. MACLEOD, Chairman

Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

CATHY WOLFE, Member

Date: _____

DIANE OBERQUELL, Member