



BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes of April 2, 2007

1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Oberquell called the meeting to order.

Attendance: Chairman Oberquell, Commissioners Macleod and Wolfe, Health Officer Dr. Diana Yu and Clerk of the Board Lydia Hodgkinson.

- a) **Approval of Agenda** - Commissioner Macleod moved to approve the Agenda as submitted. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- b) **Approval of Minutes** – Commissioner Macleod moved to approve the Minutes of March 5, 2007 as submitted. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2) UPDATE ON CITIZEN ISSUES

As per Mr. Tom Howdeshell's request at the March 5, 2007 Board of Health meeting, Mr. Howdeshell was mailed a written response addressing the concerns he expressed regarding HazoHouse not meeting current code. Commissioner Oberquell stated she had talked with Mr. Howdeshell directly addressing his concerns, indicating that HazoHouse is in compliance, and the only concern there may be is that there is not a covered area where a car can pull in to and have their hazardous material transferred.

As per Mr. Tom Howdeshell's request at the March 5, 2007 Board of Health meeting, Mr. Howdeshell was mailed Hepatitis C info and statistics.

3) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Mr. Tom Howdeshell expressed his appreciation to the Board, Sherri McDonald and her staff for the quick turn around time in response to his request for Hepatitis C information.

4) CONSENT ITEMS

- a) Family Planning Advisory Committee Member Appointment** - Move to appoint Susan Purchase as a member of the Family Planning Advisory Committee for a two (2) year term beginning May 2007 and ending April 2009.

Motion: Commissioner Macleod moved to approve consent item "a". Chairman Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) STEPS "WORKWELL HEALTHY WORKPLACE DESIGNATION PROGRAM" UPDATE

Linda Stewart stated the purpose of this informational briefing is to update the Board on the successful launch of the "WorkWell" program. Ms. Stewart introduced Jennifer Fleisch the project coordinator, an Education and Outreach Specialist with the STEPS Program. Ms. Fleisch distributed the WorkWell Healthy Workplace Designation Program pamphlet. Ms. Stewart welcomed Mayor Mark Fouch of the City of Olympia and David Schaffert, President of the Thurston County Chamber. Ms. Stewart explained the project collaborates with a diverse set of partners on strategies to support and develop health promotion in the workplace. The Board was briefed in August 2006 about plans for the "WorkWell Healthy Workplace Designation Program," a partnership with the Thurston County Chamber, which focused on private sector worksites. Ms. Stewart introduced Mike Williams, representative of the Chamber and Co-Owner of TAGS/The Williams Group. Mr. Williams introduced those representatives that were present at the meeting from the 11 businesses who recently received their "WorkWell Healthy Workplace Designation" and he also provided a brief description of the actions they took towards becoming a healthy worksite. Mr. Williams gave a special recognition to the Thurston County Chamber and Public Health and Social Services Department for support and assistance. The Board thanked staff and businesses for an outstanding job and invited them to present their accomplishments at a Monday morning Board of County Commissioners' meeting. Commissioner Oberquell stated she will have LaBonita Bowmar, Clerk of the County Commissioner's Board, arrange placement on an upcoming agenda.

Dr. Yu stated she is proud of our community and expressed her gratitude to everyone that has been involved in this project. Dr. Yu noted this is Public Health week and Wednesday, April 4th, there would be a Public Health Week Walk beginning at the Capitol Rotunda. Mayor Fouch addressed the Board commending the project and noting it fits right in with the City of Olympia's Wellness Program.

Commissioner Oberquell noted some businesses have been sent Thank you letters from the Board, others will receive them soon.

6) PARTNERS FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE

Cliff Moore from the WSU-Thurston County Extension Office and Chair of the 2006-2007 Partners Executive Board addressed the Board thanking them for their on going support of this Advisory Board. Mr. Moore introduced Dan Cathers, Vice Chair, Pat Sonnenstuhl, Member at Large, Kristen DiCicco, Training Committee Member and Emmie San Nicolas, staff person from Thurston County Public Health and Social Services Department. Mr. Moore explained the primary function as an Advisory Board is to provide information to the Board of Health about issues that are facing our most vulnerable population and about organizations that provide services to this population. He invited the Board members to attend any meeting on the 1st Thursday of every month, from 10:00 A.M. to noon with the Executive Board meeting at 9:00 A.M. Mr. Moore gave a brief overview of 2006 Annual Report, 2007 Work Plan and a 2006 Spring Training on “Conflict Resolution” offered by WSU – Thurston County Extension. In addition, he addressed the Board’s questions regarding the Advisory Board’s mission and purpose. Mr. Moore stated the group will look into new ways to reach the public and provide them with what the community has to offer them. Mr. Moore commended Emmie San Nicholas for her outstanding support and thanked the Board for allowing her assistance with Partners. Commissioner Macleod moved to accept the “2006 Annual Report” and approve distribution throughout the community. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

7) FORENSIC EPIDEMIOLOGY-A CASE STUDY IN THURSTON COUNTY

Jill Cooper, RN, MSN introduced herself and then gave a presentation describing the Case Study and its outcomes. Ms. Cooper explained that in 2006 they had the opportunity to have a student from the University of Washington Master's in Nursing Program work with them on analyzing 2004 data available through the Thurston County Coroner's office related to drug use. In evaluating this data, special focus was on identifying actions that can be taken to prevent deaths, adding a public health focus to death investigations. Ms. Cooper clarified to the Board that in the presentation “PCP” references “Primary Care Provider”. Ms. Cooper and Dr. Yu discussed and addressed the Board’s questions. Dr. Diana Yu noted the Department will continue to work with the Coroner’s Office, who is an integral part of our health system.

8) DIRECTOR’S REPORT

In Sherri McDonald’s absence, Dr. Yu announced this week is “Public Health Week”

9) HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

Dr. Yu informed the Board there appears to be a lot more Pandemic Influenza awareness. She stated she has received calls from doctors that encounter patients with influenza type symptoms that have traveled recently, which turn out to be "false alarms". Dr. Yu feels these "false alarms" are helping ensure that we are prepared.

Dr. Yu noted final planning is taking place for the appearance of West Nile Virus; in terms of testing in birds that does not usually begin until May, in terms of mosquitoes biting humans that usually begins in July and August and slows down around October.

Dr. Yu addressed the Board's questions regarding Rotavirus explaining it is a common childhood virus which causes severe diarrhea for a few days and is not normally tested. There is a new vaccine which is under scrutiny because a vaccine in the past was recalled.

Commissioner Oberquell stated they have received calls from concerned citizens regarding the contamination of Budd Inlet, dioxins and other chemicals, and requested staff provide a report to the Board keeping them apprised of what is going on in this situation. The Board is aware that information is being gathered by the Public Health & Social Services staff and a meeting with DOE, EPA, and the Army Corps of Engineers is taking place on April 17th. Dr. Yu informed the Board a meeting with interested citizens is taking place on April 19th to clarify Public Health's role in this situation. Commissioner Oberquell noted the Port of Olympia and the Chamber of Commerce should be included in discussions. The Board wants warning signs such as "possible contamination" to be posted for the public as soon as possible. Dr. Yu stated the public's comments are well taken and she agrees with the Board's desire to keep the public informed, but she also noted we need to work together to not cause panic.

10) ADJOURNMENT

BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington

ATTEST:

DIANE OBERQUELL, Chairman

Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

ROBERT N. MACLEOD, Member

Date: _____

CATHY WOLFE, Member