



# BOARD OF HEALTH

## Minutes of May 7, 2007

### 1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Oberquell called the meeting to order.

**Attendance:** Chairman Oberquell, Commissioners Macleod and Wolfe, Department Director Sherri McDonald, Environmental Health Director Art Starry, Health Officer Dr. Diana Yu and Clerk of the Board Lydia Hodgkinson.

a) **Approval of Agenda** - Commissioner Macleod requested to move Agenda Item 7 to the next order of business after 1c) correspondence. Commissioner Macleod moved to approve the agenda as amended. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

b) **Approval of Minutes** –

February 5, 2007 Cox appeal minutes were continued to the next Board of Health Meeting.

Commissioner Macleod moved to approve the Minutes of April 2, 2007 as submitted. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

c) **Correspondence** –

Sherri McDonald presented a letter dated April 4, 2007 from the Washington State Board of Health (WSBOH) which reiterated their desire to continue corresponding and communicating with local boards of health.

Ms. McDonald presented a Thank you note given to the WIC staff from a “Grateful Client” expressing appreciation for their assistance and the program in general.

### 2) WALT COX APPEAL - REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

**Commissioner Macleod moved to deny the request for clarification.** Commissioner Oberquell gave the following statement: On April 2, 2007 the Board of Health issued a decision in the matter of Walt Cox, Large Lot Subdivision Project #2004-104925, Parcel #90360003000. On April 6, 2007, Edward Holm, Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney, through Rick Peters submitted a written request to the Board to clarify their decision “to provide guidance to county staff on how to properly process this and subsequent similar applications.” The Board denies the request for clarification for the following reasons:

- (1) The Sanitary Code for Thurston County does not identify a process for reconsiderations or requests for clarification, thus there is no authority for the Board to consider this request;
- (2) The decision speaks for itself with respect to the Cox Project, and was based on the specific testimony presented during the hearings; and
- (3) Any guidance staff might need in the future on code language may be done through the administrative and legislative processes.

**Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

### **3) UPDATE ON CITIZEN ISSUES**

Sherry McDonald provided an update on a citizen's concerns regarding septic issues at a residence in South County.

### **4) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD - none**

### **5) CONSENT ITEMS**

- a) **Steps to a Healthier WA Thurston County Project, North Thurston Public Schools Subcontract** - Move to approve and authorize Sherry McDonald, Director of Public Health and Social Services Department, to execute the 2007 subcontract with North Thurston Public Schools in the amount of \$15,000, with a duration of February 1, 2007 through June 29, 2007.
- b) **Steps to a Healthier WA Thurston County Project, Thurston Regional Planning Council Subcontract** - Move to approve and authorize Sherry McDonald, Director of Public Health and Social Services Department, to execute the 2007 subcontract with the Thurston Regional Planning council in the amount of \$17,500, with a duration of January 1, 2007 through August 31, 2007.
- c) **Washington State Department of Health 2007–2011 Consolidated Contract #C14967 Amendment No. 2** - Move to approve and authorize Sherry McDonald, the Director of Public Health and Social Services to execute Amendment No.2 to the 2007-2011 Consolidated Contract No.C14967 with the State of Washington Department of Health in the amount of \$73,744.
- d) **Room Rate Extension for Mary Ann O'Garro** - Move to approve a room rate extension for Mary Ann O'Garro's travel to the 2007 Annual STEPS Cooperative Agreement Program and Action Institute from June 4 through June 5, 2007 in Seattle, WA at a hotel rate of \$196.52 per night for 1 night totaling \$196.52 including tax.
- e) **Room Rate Extension for Linda Stewart** - Move to approve a room rate extension for Linda Stewart's travel to the 2007 Annual STEPS Cooperative Agreement Program and Action Institute from June 4 through June 6, 2007 in Seattle, WA at a hotel rate of \$196.52 per night for 2 nights totaling \$393.04 including tax.

- f) **Room Rate Extension for Jennifer Fleisch** - Move to approve a room rate extension for Jennifer Fleisch's travel to the 2007 Annual STEPS Cooperative Agreement Program and Action Institute from June 4 through June 6, 2007 in Seattle, WA at a hotel rate of \$196.52 per night for 2 nights totaling \$393.04 including tax.
- g) **Room Rate Extension for Chris Hawkins** - Move to approve a room rate extension for Chris Hawkins' travel to the 2007 Annual STEPS Cooperative Agreement Program and Action Institute from June 4 through June 5, 2007 in Seattle, WA at a hotel rate of \$196.52 per night for 1 night totaling \$196.52 including tax.
- h) **Room Rate Extension for Zena Edwards** - Move to approve a room rate extension for Zena Edwards' travel to the 2007 Annual STEPS Cooperative Agreement Program and Action Institute from June 4 through June 6 in Seattle, WA at a hotel rate of \$196.52 per night for 2 nights totaling \$393.04 including tax.
- i) **Room Rate Extension for Mark Freedman** - Move to approve a room rate extension for Mark Freedman to cover hotel costs for the Annual National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare conference in Las Vegas, Nevada which occurred on March 26-28, 2007 at the hotel rate of \$549.97 for three nights not including tax.

**Motion: Commissioner Macleod moved to approve consent items "a" through "I". Chairman Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

## **6) MENTAL HEALTH ACCESS PROJECT UPDATE**

Sherri McDonald provided a written overview and a brief update of the Mental Health Access Project (MHAP); and then introduced Holly Detzler who provided the Board with a "Client Referral Plan" handout and additional information. Ms Detzler thanked the Board for allowing the use of the Lilly Road Building one day per week for the clinic. Ms. Detzler explained the MHAP is a community-based program developed to improve access to basic mental health services in Thurston County to uninsured and under-insured adults, 18 years and older. She stressed this will be a closed clinic and will not accept referrals from outside sources. MHAP will accept client referrals from five community points of entry only: the Neighborhood Free Medical Clinic, Project Access, The Thurston County Mental Health Court, the Diversion Re-entry Program, and the Providence St. Peter Hospital Crisis Services. MHAP will provide counseling (approximately 4 visits) targeting clients who are troubled by anxiety or depressed mood and who will be successful in this environment. MHAP staff will not be writing prescriptions or dispensing medication, but will be consulting with the client's primary care provider(s) to ensure access to medication, if appropriate. It is anticipated that services initially will be provided to 120 individual and 360 group clients annually and when working at full capacity 420

clients a year. Commissioner Oberquell expressed concerns regarding safety of other clients and staff during MHAP clinic operating hours and non-operating hours. Ms. Detzler addressed concerns by stating the clinic will not provide services to clinically ill clients and that a safety plan is being developed. Ms. McDonald assured the Board staff is already trained to deal with mentally ill persons. Commissioner Wolfe and Commissioner Macleod thanked the group for their hard work.

## **7) PROJECT ACCESS UPDATE**

Sherri McDonald explained the mission of Thurston County Project Access (TCPA) is to increase access to health care for low income uninsured residents of Thurston County who are at or below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and do not qualify for any other program. TCPA will coordinate these services through a network of volunteer physician/providers who receive no reimbursement for their services. In addition, patients have access to low-cost medications, durable medical equipment, hospital inpatient/outpatient care, and other related medical services. Ms. McDonald presented a draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Thurston County Public Health and Social Services (PHSS), Thurston Mason Medical Society, Volunteer Care Institute and CHOICE Regional Health Network, which will be reviewed by the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. In addition, Ms. McDonald explained PHSS and these lead agencies have been meeting since February 2007 and are close to entering into a contract with the Volunteer Care Institute which will provide PHSS with a funding of \$73,000. She explained the dedicated \$30,000 from the Board has been and will continue to be used for pharmaceuticals and medical equipment. Susan Peterson, the Executive Director of the Thurston Mason Medical Society explained and discussed their involvement in this project. The Board expressed concern about this program morphing into another "government" program. Ms. Peterson addressed the Board's concern stating this is a physician driven project for which they are committed to not letting this happen. Ms. McDonald used the ABCD Dental program as an example of a program that did not become bureaucratic. Commissioner Macleod and Wolfe expressed their trust and confidence in staff and the program.

## **8) DIRECTOR'S REPORT - none**

## **9) HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT**

Dr. Yu provided the Board with an update of the contamination of Budd Inlet. She stated there was a meeting on April 19<sup>th</sup> which was attended by 10 community members who had a variety of different concerns. She feels the attendees were appreciative of the Department calling the meeting and giving them the opportunity to express their concerns. The Department is re-evaluating the signage on site and will revise as needed; the Department has asked Department of Health to do a health assessment of the area; and the Department is communicating with agencies including Department of Ecology, Port of Olympia and Corp of Engineers. The Board gave direction for staff to expedite posting of signage in English and other languages containing warnings such as "do not eat the fish from" and "do not

swim in” Budd Inlet. The Board complimented staff for taking action and communicating with the public.

**10) ADJOURNMENT**

**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Thurston County, Washington**

**ATTEST:**

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DIANE OBERQUELL, Chairman

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Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

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ROBERT N. MACLEOD, Member

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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CATHY WOLFE, Member