



THURSTON COUNTY
WASHINGTON
SINCE 1852

BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes of November 5, 2007

1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Oberquell called the meeting to order.

Attendance: Chairman Oberquell, Commissioners Macleod and Wolfe, Department Director Sherri McDonald, 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 October 1, 2007 as submitted. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2) UPDATE ON CITIZEN ISSUES - none

3) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD - none

4) CONSENT ITEMS

- a) **Nurse Family Partnership Home Visiting Contract #K-360813** - Move to approve and authorize Sherri McDonald, the Director of Public Health and Social Services to execute the Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect, Nurse Family Partnership Home Visiting Program, Contract #K-360813 with a begin date of beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008 for the maximum contract amount of \$21,120.
- b) **Room Rate Extension for Mary Ann O’Garro** - Move to approve a room rate extension for Mary Ann O’Garro’s travel to attend SPSS Complex Sample training beginning December 6, 2007 for two nights in New York City at hotel rates of \$290 for the first night and \$330 for the second night for a total of \$715.93 including tax.

Motion: Commissioner Macleod moved to approve consent item “a” and “b” Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) SET PUBLIC HEARING ON ARTICLE I, INCLUDING APPENDIX A (FEE SCHEDULE) OF THE THURSTON COUNTY SANITARY CODES

Art Starry requested the Board set a Public hearing on December 3, 2007 at 2:00 p.m. to receive testimony regarding a proposed ordinance to amend Article I of the Sanitary Code for Thurston County, Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health, General Provisions. Mr.

Starry explained the proposed ordinance revises procedures and rules for Sanitary Code hearings and appeals, including revised timelines, new processes for conducting hearings, and modification of who may appeal or request a hearing. In addition, the ordinance modifies administrative processes for maintaining the Sanitary Code, requirements for notices of violation, provisions for issuance and consideration of penalties, and processes and requirements for issuing waivers and variances of code provisions. Technical corrections and clarifications are also included. Commissioner Oberquell expressed concern regarding holding a public hearing during normal business hours and limiting attendance by the public. The Board decided to set the public hearing for December 4, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. Commissioner Wolfe moved to set a public hearing for December 4, 2007 at 5:30 p.m. in Room 280 of the Thurston County Courthouse to receive testimony and consider revisions to Article I of the Sanitary Code. Commissioner Macleod seconded the motion. The motion carried.

6) NEW FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES: COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL AND CHRONIC DISEASE PREVENTION

Sherri McDonald provided a summary of new funding opportunities related to the 2007 Legislature passing of ESSB 5730, which supports increased state funding for local public health. The bill calls for specific performance measures associated with this investment, and prioritized services of local public health departments and specifically prohibits sup plantation of local contributions using this new state money. Ms. McDonald explained the Secretary of Health will be making final decisions on the performance measures and services in January 2008 and that the main priority for this new funding is control of communicable diseases. Thurston County staff are involved in helping to formulate both performance measures and services. She stated the Department will receive the first check in January 2008 in the amount of \$330,000. In order to meet the performance measures and carry out work associated the Department will need additional staff. In addition, Ms. McDonald explained that in anticipation of the final year of our STEPS grant, a federal grant from the Office of Women's Health of the Department of Health & Human Services was successfully applied for. She noted this grant will provide an additional \$224,475 for the first year of a three year funding cycle to address chronic disease prevention for which additional staff positions will be needed to carry out this important work. Ms. McDonald discussed with the Board existing Steps Program staffing and the additional positions needed. She will provide the Board with additional information regarding current Steps Program staffing.

7) ACCESS IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THURSTON COUNTY

Sherri McDonald provided a summary of several initiatives in Thurston County that are aimed at improving access to care, including Thurston County Project Access, Mental Health Access Project, and Thurston County Dental Access Network. She explained all of these programs are available to individuals living in Thurston County that have incomes below 200% of the Federal Poverty Level and that each of these efforts contribute positively to improving access to care.

Ms. McDonald provided an update and discussed Thurston County Project Access which is aimed at increasing the number of people who receive primary and specialty medical care to individuals age 18 to 64 and have an urgent medical need. Project Access coordinates referrals for urgent medical

services, referral and assistance to public medical insurances including Medicaid and Basic Health Plan. Ms. McDonald commended Colin Williams, an Education and Outreach Program Specialist who oversees the program and staff, who has been instrumental in the program success. She addressed the Board's questions regarding funding of Project Access.

Ms. McDonald provided an update and description of the Thurston County Dental Access Network (TCDAN) which is a defined and inclusive network of dental providers and low-income clinics that share in treating case-managed referrals. This volunteer network is administered through a sustainable partnership with local dentists, The Olympia Union Gospel Mission, TCPHSS, and other stakeholders. Emergent Dental and Basic Dental Care Services are offered to qualified patients as justified by a screening examination performed at the Olympia Union Gospel Mission. Carolyn Richardson, Administrator for the Thurston Mason County Dental Society, provided additional information and answered the Board's questions regarding the program. The Board expressed a desire to thank each of the volunteers in this program. Patti Swanson addressed Commissioner Macleod's question regarding the Human Service's funding and how it relates to TCDAN.

Patti Swanson provided a brief description and update of the Mental Health Access Project (MHAP) which provides short term mental health counseling to adults in need of short-term mental health consultation for anxiety or depressed mood, which are either uninsured or underinsured. The counseling is provided by volunteer mental health professionals, with referral for medication or other necessary support services. Ms. Swanson expressed staff's and client appreciation of the use of the TCPHSS Lilly Road Building for services. In addition, she invited the Board to visit the clinic on any Wednesday night. Dr. Yu noted MHAP has increased the number of volunteers to the Medical Society.

8) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Art Starry informed and discussed with the Board the Department's request of retailers to include in their stock pesticides that have been reviewed and approved through the County's Integrated Pest Management (IPM) review process. Mr. Starry stated he will email additional information to the Board. Commissioner Macleod suggested providing the information on the TCTV program in the spring.

9) HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

Dr. Yu provided general information, an update and answered the Board's questions about Methicillin Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) Staph infection. She noted she will be having a brown bag lunch informational meeting for staff on November 6, 2007.

10) ADJOURNMENT

BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington

DIANE OBERQUELL, Chairman

ROBERT N. MACLEOD, Member

CATHY WOLFE, Member

ATTEST:

Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: _____