



BOARD OF HEALTH

Minutes of January 5, 2009

1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Commissioner Wolfe called the meeting to order.

Attendance: Commissioner Wolfe, Commissioner Romero, Chief Administrative Officer Don Krupp, Department Director Sherri McDonald, Health Officer Diana Yu, Environmental Health Division Director Art Starry and Clerk of the Board Lydia Hodgkinson.

- a) **Election of Board of Health Chairman and Vice Chairman for 2009** – Commissioner Wolfe moved to appoint Commissioner Sandra Romero as Chairman of the Board of Health for 2009. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. The motion carried. Commissioner Romero moved to appoint Commissioner Cathy Wolfe as Vice-Chairman of the Board of Health for 2009. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- b) **Approval of Agenda** – Commissioner Wolfe moved to approve the agenda as submitted. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- c) **Approval of Minutes** – Commissioner Wolfe accepted the minutes of December 1, 2008 and December 16, 2008.

2) UPDATE ON CITIZEN ISSUES - none

3) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD

Sherri McDonald introduced Christy Gustafson a Community Health Nurse with the Investigation and Control of Disease (ICD) Team. The Board welcomed Ms. Gustafson.

4) CONSENT ITEMS

- a) Coordinated Prevention Grant Offer No. G0900107 - Move to authorize the Director of Public Health and Social Services to sign the Coordinated Prevention Grant Offer No. G0900107 with the Department of Ecology and amendments, limited to minor changes in the scope of work and budgetary changes totaling up to ten percent of the total grant amount, providing adequate funds are available to cover the project costs.

Commissioner Wolfe moved to approve consent agenda item “a”. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5) IMPROVING PUBLIC HEALTH'S ABILITY TO LIMIT INCIDENCE AND SPREAD OF DISEASE

Ms. McDonald gave a brief description of the Investigation and Control of Disease (ICD) Program and explained the program's funding. The Washington State Legislature has invested \$20 million over two years to improve public health, of which Thurston County received \$300,000 to address "Protecting Our Children from Disease", "Limiting the Spread of Disease", and "Decrease Obesity and Chronic Disease". Due to the limited funding the ICD program was not able to address Decreasing Obesity and Chronic Diseases in 2008. Ms. McDonald noted an error in the "Public Health Performance – An overview 2008" handout. Under the "Decrease Obesity and Chronic Disease" bullet, sentence two should read "In 2006 25 percent of Washington's 10th graders....." Ms. McDonald introduced Jeanie Knight a Senior Epidemiologist and Supervisor of the ICD Team. Ms. Knight gave an overview of the ICD program referencing "Public Health Performance – An overview 2008" and the "ICD Team Update" report – December 2008. She explained the Team works to improve childhood immunization rates and limit spread of infectious disease in Thurston County. Dr. Yu acknowledged Ms. Knight and the Team's hard work. She discussed briefly the impact of the State budget regarding purchasing immunizations. Commissioner Romero expressed her appreciate for the information provided in the "Public Health Performance – An overview 2008" report.

6) SCHEDULE PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE I APPENDIX A OF THE THURSTON COUNTY SANITARY CODE (THE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH FEE SCHEDULE)

Art Starry requested the Board set a public hearing on February 3, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. to receive testimony and consider action on Article I, Appendix A of the Sanitary Code the Environmental Health Fee Schedule. Mr. Starry explained that from 2004 – 2006 the Environmental Health Division (EH) evaluated the fee structures and the costs associated with land use, building and water system permit activities. This resulted in a new fee schedule that was implemented May 2, 2006 and revised May 1, 2008. Since that time permit volume and labor data have been analyzed to determine if the new fee structure meets the cost recovery goals established when the new fee schedule was adopted. This evaluation indicated the hourly rate charged by EH for on-site sewage system, land use and water system activities should be adjusted to recover the full cost for providing these services. The analysis indicated that new fees should be created to help recover costs for reviewing poorly prepared applications, fees associated with administrative hearings should be increased, and fees should be considered to replace funding that will be lost as a result of state budget reductions. EH will brief the Board on the fee analysis and recommendations on January 21, 2009.

Commissioner Wolfe moved to set a public hearing on February 3, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 152 of the Thurston County Courthouse to receive testimony and consider action on Article I, Appendix A of the Sanitary Code for Thurston County the Environmental Health Fee Schedule. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. The motion carried.

7) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sherri McDonald informed the Board that Art Starry and all of the Environmental Health Division Staff were nominated by the Thurston Conservation District (TCD) Staff, and selected by the Thurston Conservation District Board of Supervisors to be the recipients of the Thurston Conservation District Partner of the Year for 2008. EH Staff that were commended in a TCD letter were Sue Davis, Linda Hofstad, Cathy Hansen, Jennifer Johnson, and Rachel Laderman. Ms. McDonald will provide the Board with a copy of the letter.

Ms. McDonald requested approval to change the "open to the public" hours from "8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m." to "8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m." at the Lilly Road Building. The Board will provide an answer to the request by the end of the January 12, 2009 week.

Ms. McDonald explained that due to budget cuts and cost efficiency the WIC Program would like to provide services to Rainier clients at the Yelm Site. Ms. McDonald introduced Deborah Ahern, the Personal Health Division Director, who provided additional information and answered the Board's questions. The Board stated they will be meeting with the Mayor of Rainier later in the week and would like to discuss this change with him. Ms. McDonald will provide the Board with outlined information prior to their meeting with the Mayor.

Ms. McDonald and Dr. Yu noted that the tentatively scheduled joint BOH meeting with the Washington State Board of Health has been canceled due to the decrease in number of meetings the WSBOH will be holding each year.

Ms. McDonald noted a conflict between the Thurston County Sanitary Code and the Board of Health Policy regarding time frames for Public Hearing Notices. The Sanitary Code requires Public Notice be given ten days prior to a Hearing date and the BOH Policy states 20 days. She asked if the Board is interested in making the time frames consistent. Don Krupp noted the County BOH policy of 20 days notice supersedes the State Policy of 10 days. The Board requested and Ms. McDonald agreed to provide a written recommendation to be reviewed and discussed at a later date.

8) HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

Dr. Diana Yu gave an update, and answered the Board's questions, on recently reported cases of infectious disease in the County. She stated she will present "Emerging Infectious Disease" information at the February 2009 BOH meeting.

The Board expressed their desire to have another joint BOH meeting with Mason County. Ms. McDonald will work with Mason County to schedule at least one, if not two, joint meetings in 2009.

9) ADJOURNMENT

BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington

ATTEST:

SANDRA ROMERO, Chair

Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

CATHY WOLFE, Vice-Chair

Date: _____

VACANT, Commissioner