

BOARD OF HEALTH**February 10, 2016****7:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mr. Massa with the following members and staff present.

MEMBERS

Carolann Swartz – Commissioner
Carol Nordine – Electric City
John Glassco – Soap Lake

Tony Massa – Warden
Dr. David Curnel – Moses Lake

STAFF

Katherine Kenison - HD Attorney
Todd Phillips - E.H. Mgr.
Theresa Adkinson – Administrator

Pattie Anderson – Admin. Services Mgr.
Darcy Moss – Admin. Services Mgr.
Dr. Alex Brzezny – Health Officer

ABSENT

Cindy Carter – Commissioner
Richard Stevens – Commissioner

Mark Wanke – Ephrata
Tom Harris - Quincy

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – An Executive Session will be added to the agenda. A motion was made to adopt the amended agenda (M/S Curnel/Glassco - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - The minutes of January 13, 2016 were approved as written (M/S Swartz/Curnel - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS - The vouchers for the period ending January 31, 2016 totaling \$192,280.90 (#1 – #18 totaling \$138,435.68 and #19 - #43 totaling \$53,845.22) were approved (M/S Swartz/Curnel – unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS – None

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Mr. Phillips

Ordinance 16-1 (Seasonal Temporary Food) - The increase in the point threshold on inspections is the first step to increase resources for the permanent food program. The public hearing was opened and with no comments the public hearing was closed. A motion was made to approve Ordinance 16-1 (Seasonal Temporary Food Ordinance) (M/S – Swartz/Glassco – unanimous).

Gorge 2016 Concert Season Planning - The Gorge will be working with the State to construct a lagoon for the septic waste. This will consolidate multiple septic systems and should alleviate pressure on other septic systems. This is one phase of a larger plan and is expected to be in place by the 2016 concert season.

The Gorge was contacted in January in order to have plans for water recreation facilities in place before the upcoming season. The State is working on The Gorge's plans to get a waterslide permitted.

Last season staff at the Gorge had expressed interest in having a contract for temporary food vending at The Gorge Campground. The contract could be similar to the contract that we have with the amphitheater, including having a liaison to work with GCHD staff. Mr. Phillips plans to pursue their interest in a contract.

Dr. Curnel asked why the State would be involved with the lagoon septic system. Mr. Phillips explained that because of the size, it is beyond our jurisdiction. The GCHD is involved up to 3,500 gallons/day sewage flow, but not including 3,500 gallons/day sewage flow.

Other Updates - Mr. Massa acknowledged and thanked Mrs. Anderson for her more than 26 years of service. She will be retiring with her last day of work being February 26. She was given a plaque in appreciation for her years of service and dedication to the Health District.

COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT – Mrs. Adkinson

WA Prep Planning - Mrs. Adkinson shared an article that was in Columbia Basin Herald regarding the Quincy and Moses Lake School District's each receiving a \$10,000 sexual health grant. The funding will provide sexual health education curriculum and staff training. A community group in Quincy, which includes school district staff, has already been formed to help youth in finding access to necessary services. Moses Lake School District has determined they are not quite ready for the grant. But will plan to reapply next year.

Sheri Tyler, GCHD nurse, will continue to assist the Moses Lake School District on future planning on this grant. . Dayana Ruiz, CTC Coordinator and Sheri will be participating in the Quincy community group to explore access to health services for Quincy Youth.

Active Living Success Story - Washington State DOH featured the City of Soap Lake in an article for their adoption of the Complete Streets Ordinance and Parks Plan. This ordinance promotes safer streets and walking paths along with promoting active transportation by foot or bike.

SNAP Ed Program Changes - The Statewide SNAP Ed grant will be changing from a local structure to a regional structure with Washington State University becoming the new lead agency. GCHD will be working with the Grant-Adams WSU Extension program on their proposal. The Health District's program will continue to be funded by the WA Dept of Health. Mrs. Adkinson stated that she would like to see our current post-partum and pre-natal healthy weight classes and community work with the Breastfeeding Coalition and Farmer's Market be used as a model for WSU to use as they redefine their work .

Other Updates – None

ASSESSMENT REPORT – Mrs. Adkinson

Needle Exchange Assessment - Mrs. Sackett shared a story about an HIV outbreak that occurred in Indiana in a small rural town with a population of 4,200. Approximately 10% of the town was impacted because of high risk activity by IV drug users which spanned through multi-generations. Mrs. Sackett explained that this area is similar to areas in Grant County and shared concerns of Grant County being at risk. High use of opioides and heroin leads to an increase in the use of needles and improper disposal, which could cause an increase in diseases. One step would be to have a needle exchange program. Healthcare providers have inquired in the past about having this program and requested guidelines for needle disposal. The following are four suggested solutions that have been identified to explore: Proper needle disposal guidelines to prevent needles from going into the garbage and putting others at risk; increasing addiction services; a needle exchange program which includes access to additional services, education on drug addiction, which minimizes disease risk by providing clean needles to drug users and access to services and lastly, an education and prevention campaign.

Mrs. Sackett asked the Board what direction we would like to take and what they would like to see happen in Grant County. After discussion amongst the Board, it was requested that Mrs. Sackett look into what a comprehensive needle exchange programs look like in other counties.

Suicide and Firearm Data Follow Up – Mrs. Adkinson explained that firearms is the main use for suicide method in Grant County from 2005-2014. Grant County rates by other suicide methods are lower. A handout was distributed showing the numbers by city and the number for other types of firearm deaths.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mrs. Adkinson

Legislative Education Day - Mrs. Sackett, Mr. Phillips and Mrs. Adkinson went to Olympia and met with elected officials. Some of the topics of conversations were stable public health funding, tobacco and e-vaping prevention funding and immunization systems funding. An info-graphic handout that was taken to Legislative Day was distributed to the Board. Mrs. Adkinson added that she shared with legislators how the Health District is dependent on state flexible dollars, county and city contributions to meet the needs of the Grant County community and increase our ability to respond to public health threats.

Web Site Re-Design Launch - The new website should be up at the end of this month. Staff will be responsible for their own programs, which will involve staff training in the near future.

North Central Washington ACH Update – The North Central Washington Accountable Communities of Health (ACH) chair requested the Board hire an executive director. The Health District has been asked to participate in the regional childhood obesity project. Other agencies are looking at the Moses Lake Healthy Beginnings project as a model example.

Other Updates – None

HEALTH OFFICERS REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Follow Up - Health Officer Letter to Healthcare on Sexual Transmitted Infections – A letter was recently sent out to the healthcare community regarding “partner packs”. There are two types packs available for partner therapy, one treats chlamydia and the other treats gonorrhea without a prescription. There have been requests for these packs from the healthcare community. We continue to see cases being reported.

Influenza Season - Flu cases continue to be reported in Grant County. We have had over 50 cases this season, which is considerably lower than this time last year. National tests show that the strain of the vaccine given this year is a good match.

Mosquito-Borne Diseases - Zika Virus was discovered in the 1920,s and named after a forest in Uganda. There are no cases in Washington at this time although there has been over 40 cases reported nationally. A draft advisory has come from the state encouraging providers to obtain travel history and symptoms from patients. We will be hearing more about mosquito borne diseases in the next decade in Grant County.

Salmonella – It appears that the case that was reported in Grant County back in December could possibly be genetically related to salmonella found in pork. The State is working to find a link between the two.

Changes to Reporting Guidelines – Previously Hepatitis C cases were reported to the Health District. Now probable cases will also be reported creating additional work for staff.

Pertussis Vaccine Performance – Getting the vaccine will reduce the risk of transmission by 18 times. However, there was a recent outbreak in a daycare in Indiana where the children in the center were nearly fully vaccinated. Fifty percent of the children still got the pertussis disease. This shows that The Center for Disease Control needs to fund a better vaccine.

Public Health Connections – PH & Schools and PH & Primary Care – The Health District has been invited to attend a state-wide meeting with school nurses. Discussions will be held to create connections between public health and schools and public health and primary care providers.

Other Updates – Recently there were 5-6 cases of Legionella in Wenatchee. There have been no cases in Grant County. Legionellosis is a bacteria not routinely tested for and persons with weakened immune systems are more susceptible.

OTHER BUSINESS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – The meeting was adjourned at 8:30p.m. to executive session according to RCW 42.30.110 to last 18 minutes regarding potential litigation and evaluation review of a public employee with no action being taken. The public meeting was reopened at 8:48p.m.

ADJOURNMENT - A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:48p.m. (M/S Curnel/Glassco – unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Darcy Moss, Administrative Services Manager
Clerk of the Board