

BOARD OF HEALTH

October 12, 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

Tony Massa – Warden

Dr. David Curnel – Moses Lake

Cindy Carter – Commissioner

Carolann Swartz – Commissioner

John Glassco – Soap Lake

Mark Wanke – Ephrata

Tom Harris - Quincy

STAFF

Anna Franz - HD Attorney

Theresa Adkinson – Administrator

Todd Phillips - Environmental Health Mgr.

Stephanie Lafferty, Public Health Nurse

Laina Mitchell – Assessment Coordinator

Darcy Moss – Admin. Services Mgr.

Dr. Alex Brzezny – Health Officer

Kathleen Nelson – Community Public Health Mgr

Tiffany Quilter – Health Educator

ABSENT

Carol Nordine – Electric City

Richard Stevens – Commissioner

GUESTS

None

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – A motion was made to adopt the agenda as presented (M/S Curnel/Swartz - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - The minutes of the September 14, 2016 meeting were approved as written (M/S Curnel/Wanke - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS - The vouchers for the period ending October 12, 2016 totaling \$184,520.49 (#1 – #35 totaling \$147,051.86 and #36 - #55 totaling \$37,468.63) were approved (M/S Swartz/Curnel-unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS –

None

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Mr. Phillips

Royal Organic Update – Stephanie Shopbell made another site visit last week. Although clean-up has continued, it may not be completed by the October 31 deadline. ROP plans to pick the plastic out of the windrows. The neighboring field, where garbage had blown on to, has had peas in it. The plan was to pick up the garbage as soon as the peas were harvested. The peas are now off and the litter needs to be picked up. The facility hoped to get more feedstock in order to produce more compost and generate revenue for clean up. Mr. Phillips estimates that the clean-up is 75% complete which does not include the clean-up in the neighboring field.

Mr. Phillips clarified through discussion with the board that 100% cleanup of the litter is expected or the permit to operate will be re-suspended.

Dr. Brzezny clarified that if ROP's permit is suspended at the end of the month, they will need to reapply for a permit along with permit fees and a new plan for operation with approval from the Health District and Department of Ecology.

Fee Ordinance 16-3 – Mr. Phillips distributed a proposed fee schedule with fee changes in the Environmental Health program. The schedule included increases based on the combined 2015 and 2016 percentages of 1.0% from the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U). This was brought to the Board in accordance with Resolution 15-1 that was passed at the beginning of 2015. The increase was only .02% in 2015, so the Board chose not to increase the fees at that time.

Mr. Phillips also presented fee increases for the solid waste program which includes permits and other solid waste services provided by the Health District. The largest fee increase is for a compost facility permit. After looking at data, we now have a better idea of what the actual cost is for permitting and staff time spent inspecting these facilities. The fees need to be restructured to match the actual time spent in the S.W. program. Mr. Phillips reminded the Board that the money for the year in the solid waste grant had already ran out in September.

Discussion was held.

Mr. Glassco stated that it might be easier for fees to be round to the nearest 5 dollar.

A motion was made to hold a public hearing to adopt Ordinance 16-3 – Fee Schedule (M/S Wanke/Curnel – 5 approved, 1 opposed).

Other updates – The Department of Fish and Wildlife plan to treat several lakes with Rotenone, two of which include Park Lake and Blue Lake. The residents that live near the lake are concerned about their well water. The residents took their concerns to the Governor's office. A hydro geologist from the State Department of Health has been advising Department of Fish and Wildlife and assessing the risk of wells near the lake based on well logs. Fish and Wildlife is coming up with a sampling plan to assess the wells. Alternative water will be offered to potentially affected well owners and Fish and Wildlife will be communicating with well owners.

COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT – Mrs. Adkinson

Welcome Kathleen Nelson & Stephanie Lafferty – Kathleen Nelson was introduced as the new Community Public Health Manager. Kathleen has over 30 years experience in the healthcare field. She will also be attending the monthly Board meetings.

Mrs. Nelson added that she is a registered nurse with a bachelor's degree in Health Sciences and masters in Business Leadership. She is excited for the challenge and to learn something new every day. She also encouraged the Board to get their flu shots.

Mrs. Adkinson introduced Stephanie Lafferty, RN. Stephanie has been training with Lois Swenson and will continue to train with her until Lois's retirement in February. She stated that she finds Stephanie's enthusiasm for Public Health refreshing.

WA DOH Healthy Communities Site Visit – A site visit was held last month at the Health District. These visits occur four times a year where five community leads meet and talk about the grant and any changes. This grant focuses on chronic disease prevention. Mrs. Adkinson thanked Mr. Glassco, who took the group from this meeting on a hike in the Soap Lake area to see the pedestrian and park improvements happening in the community.

Active Living Project Update – Tiffany Quilter

Mrs. Quilter has shared her expertise in Community Health with Ephrata, Electric City, Ephrata, the Grand Coulee area and Moses Lake towns and cities. She has assisted them in putting together plans for walking trails and improved access to sidewalks in rural communities. A Prevention & Public Health Fund in Action flyer from the Department of Health was distributed. Mrs. Quilter explained that the handout had a picture of the City of Soap Lake's street improvement project on the front. She stated they were getting recognized statewide and nationally for their successful work.

She also explained how smaller communities, that do not have Parks & Recreation Departments, depend on steering committees with volunteers to complete the process of implementing safe sidewalks and trails. The Health District's assistance forming the advisory committees has been an appropriate role for the Public Health. Developing these sidewalks and trails connect residents to parks, businesses and other services and schools. The town of Electric City is currently working on their walking trail project and has partnered with local volunteers, WSU Rural Communities Design Initiative and the National Park Services to complete the planning process. A power point was also presented by Mrs. Quilter.

Other Updates – None

ASSESSMENT REPORT - Mrs. Adkinson

Welcome Laina Mitchell – Mrs. Adkinson introduced Laina Mitchell as the Health District's new Assessment Coordinator. Laina will be working on gathering and presenting data for the Community Health Improvement Plan. She will also be working on the Health District's Strategic Plan along with assisting staff and community partners with data needs for work in grant programs.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – Mrs. Adkinson

City Visits – Mrs Adkinson has started her annual visits to Grant County cities and towns giving a report on public health work in their communities. A letter and an agreement requesting a \$2 contribution per resident has been sent out. She explained there are costs when the Health District responds to Public Health in their communities. The flexible funds that we receive help to cover some of those costs but as the cost of doing public health increases the Health District's flexible funding has not increased.

Foundational Public Health Services – A power point titled “Public Health is Essential” was presented which portrayed the core public health services. These services include Communicable Disease control, Vital Records, Chronic Disease & Injury Prevention, Maternal Child Family Health, Access to Clinical Care and Environmental Public Health. In addition to the core services, there are other services that need to be accessible to meet community needs. Mrs. Adkinson explained one of the issues with funding is that the population has increased, but the funding has not increased making it difficult to provide the core foundational services. More funding and more cost effective ways to deliver the services are needed. The funds that are currently used are mostly from grants, and local funds rather than State funds. The Washington State Department of Health has begun their Public Health is Essential campaign in hopes to gain funding for local health jurisdictions with the 2017-2019 budget request. The state has produced a promotional video.

Board Member, Dr. Curnel asked what our Board can do to support the funding request. Mrs. Adkinson explained that additional materials will be coming in the next few months and the Grant County Board of Health can determine how to best approach this effort.

Other Updates – Microsoft office will be upgraded on the office computers soon. We are changing to an annual subscription which will have an annual fee. The licenses will be per user not per computer. Along with the upgrade, there will be a Cloud based system for storage which will increase security.

HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Vector-Borne Disease – There are no cases of West Nile Virus in Grant County at this time. Five counties have reported human cases. Grant County has tested more positive mosquitoes for WNV than any other County in Washington.

Zika Virus continues to mostly be found in the Southeast part of the country. There are about 900 potential cases in pregnant women, who have been exposed, in the United States. Puerto Rico has lost 20% of their physicians and their healthcare system is disintegrating. People have been encouraged to move to the United States to receive care. Puerto Rico continues to have Zika virus which is now coming into the U.S. with people moving. There has been Zika virus testing in Grant County, but there are no cases at this time.

There has been no rabies testing in the last month. However, we have received several phone calls from individuals concerned about bats around their homes.

TB Update – Washington counties have been losing their capacity to provide Tuberculosis services. In the future, these counties may need to partner with other counties for services. Our County continues to maintain our services with approximately 100 cases a year of latent TB infection and 0-4 cases of active TB a year.

Varicella/Chickenpox – The Health District was prepared to respond to a possible cluster of Chickenpox that was forecasted, but the healthcare provider ruled out the individual having Chickenpox without doing a blood test.

Other Updates – Washington is ranked 48th in the nation for Public Health funding support.

Whitworth had three cases of mumps. Spokane Regional Health District worked with them on treatment. Some students from Grant County attend there and were treated. The MMR vaccine has shown to give 70% coverage for Mumps, nearly 100% for Rubella and 95% coverage for Measles. The recommendation for treatment is a 3rd dose of MMR. Measles has been eradicated in the United States. If we see cases here, it is because it was imported from another country. We likely won't see Measles outbreaks, only cases.

School waiver rates for immunizations have reduced in Spokane County. In Grant County, Ephrata School District has taken the initiative to also reduce their waivers.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - The meeting adjourned at 8:41 p.m. to executive session according to RCW 42.30.110 to last approximately 10 minutes regarding performance of a public employee. The public meeting was re-opened at 8:51 p.m.

A motion was made to move Theresa Adkinson from probation to permanent Administrator of the Grant County Health District with a 4% wage increase (M/S Curnel/Wanke – unanimous).

OTHER BUSINESS - None

ADJOURNMENT - With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:53.m. (M/S Carter/Curnel – unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Darcy Moss, Administrative Services Manager
Clerk of the Board