

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

February 13, 2017

7:00 PM

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

**MEMBERS**

Tony Massa – Warden

Cindy Carter – Commissioner

Mark Wanke – Ephrata

Carol Nordine – Electric City

John Glassco – Soap Lake

Tom Taylor – Commissioner

Tom Harris – Quincy

Richard Stevens – Commissioner

**STAFF**

Anna Franz – HD Attorney

Dr. Alex Brzezny – Health Officer

Kathleen Nelson – Comm. Health Manager

Vicky Rutherford – IT Coordinator

Theresa Adkinson – Administrator

Todd Phillips – E.H. Manager

Cory Franks – Accountant

**ABSENT**

Dr. David Curnel – Moses Lake

Darcy Moss – Admin. Services Manager

**GUESTS**

Sandi Duffy – Grant County Emergency Management

Lauren McLaughlin – Grant County Journal

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was amended to include an executive session for possible litigation not expected to last more than five (5) minutes. A motion was made to approve the agenda as amended (M/S Taylor/Wanke – unanimous).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - The minutes of the January 11, 2017 meeting were approved as written (M/S Carter/Wanke - unanimous).

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

The vouchers for the period ending February 7, 2017 totaling \$218,331.80 (#1 - #3 totaling \$138,180.14 and #4 - #54 totaling \$80,151.66) were approved (M/S Carter/Wanke – unanimous).

**PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS** - None

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT** – Todd Phillips

**Royal Organics:** Mr. Phillips reported to the board that Royal Organics have paid all fees all fees billed including their permit renewal fee. The Health District will continue to monitor to assure that issues are kept in compliance.

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**Marijuana Odors:** The Health District received 3 or 4 letters over the course of a few months complaining about the odor of the marijuana growing operations. Residents in the area of the grow operations have complained to various agencies and are not getting any satisfactory answers to their complaints. Mr. Phillips explained the only way our agency can deal with this issue is if it becomes a health hazard which at this point it not considered to be. Discussions have been held with Department of Ecology (The Air Authority in Grant County) they decided not to require an air permit for these grow operations, therefore they will not address any odor issues arising from them.

**Legislative update:** Mr. Phillips shared the current bills in front of the legislature during the 2017 regular session. He called the board's attention to **Senate Bill 5431** (An act relating to protection of composting from nuisance lawsuits): amending RCW 7.48.310 and also creating a new section with the intent to define composting activities as agricultural activities and as such are protected from nuisance lawsuits.

**House Bill 1449**, an act relating to water recreation facilities and amending RCW 70.90.120 and 70.90.250. Mr. Phillips stated he will see where the bill goes before continuing with a GCHD fix for the inflatable water slide situation as the intent of the bill is to exempt temporary inflatable water features. Mr. Phillips called the board's attention to **House Bill 1076**: an act relating to the donation of home-prepared foods to charitable organizations; and amending RCW 69.80.060. This would allow for food prepared in private homes to be donated to charitable organizations. The board expressed concern about the lack of oversight in a private residence.

**Other Updates** – None

### **COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT** – Kathleen Nelson

**Lois Swenson RN, Retirement:** Mrs. Nelson relayed to the board that Lois Swenson retired on February 8, 2017. She will be greatly missed as she was a vital component to the health district. Her work and knowledge in communicable diseases and other aspects of nursing were exemplary. Jackie Dawson region 7 Epidemiologist and current nursing staff are continuing her good work.

**Other Updates** – None

### **ASSESSMENT REPORT** – None

### **ADMINISTRATORS REPORT** – Theresa Adkinson

**Public Health Legislative Updates:** Mrs. Adkinson testified before the legislature on February 7, 2017 in Olympia and spoke about the recent mumps outbreak and the impact it has had on our county. She also reported on **House Bill 1553**, **Senate bill 1432** and **Senate bill 1525**. Mrs. Adkinson informed the board she, Mr. Phillips and Mrs. Nelson will be attending Education Day in Olympia on March 1, and will report back.

**Accountant position:** Mrs. Adkinson introduced Cory Franks, the health district's new accountant. She is replacing Ryan Brimacombe who took a job in another county. Mr. Brimacombe is contracted temporarily to help Mrs. Franks as needed.

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**Complete Streets award:** Region 1422 has been awarded a total of \$1,875,000 for the Complete Streets project. This is a project the health district and other agencies have worked on for years on and has finally paid off. Moses Lake and Soap Lake were both awarded \$250,000. The Transportation Improvement Board is charged with its implementation. TIB staff and board have been working to create a program that achieves the goals of incentivizing the adoption of complete streets ordinances and ethic by cities and counties throughout the state.

**Other Updates:** The current mumps outbreak in Grant County has cost the health district \$31,000 to date. There has been almost 700 hours dedicated to the outbreak. The incident command was initiated and the board received a copy of duties assigned and the agenda. Emergency Management and State DOH were also notified.

**Inclement weather:** Mrs. Adkinson discussed the recent inclement weather with the board and what their direction would be as far as staff not reporting to work. Discussion was held and the recommendation to Mrs. Adkinson is to continue with the current policy which is for staff to use their own personal judgement as to their safety to drive into the office and if they are unable to come in they may use their annual leave and if schedule allows make up missed time.

**HEALTH OFFICER REPORT** – Dr. Brzezny

**Mumps outbreak in Grant County:** Dr. Brzezny updated the board on the current mumps outbreak and the work being done by the health district. To date there are 9 confirmed cases, 18 suspect cases and 5 cases ruled out in our county. The first case presented at the Job Corp. Four (4) letters to date have gone out to schools and parents with information about the outbreak and what needs to be done as far as immunity or exclusion is concerned. Mrs. Adkinson presented a video by the Spokane Regional Health District explaining the transmission of the disease. Several the mumps cases did have at least one MMR vaccine documentation.

**Influenza update:** There has been a significant increase in Influenza A. There have also been more cases of Influenza B being reported.

**Meningitis Death:** The death of a five (5) month old infant was reported to the health district. This is a highly contagious disease with catastrophic consequences. The child unfortunately was too young to be vaccinated against the virus. All contacts have been immunized at this time.

**School nurse meeting with Health Officer:** Dr. Brzezny met with Grant county school nurses and the attendance was very good by phone or in person. The meeting happened right after the first confirmed mumps case so the meeting turned out to be very timely. The school nurses have been very pro-active with the outbreak and checking the immunization status of the children in school.

**Other Updates:** Dr. Brzezny took a moment to recognize staff for their dedication and the work that they have accomplished during these stressful times.

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**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 pm to executive session according to RCW 42.30.110 to last approximately 5 minutes to discuss possible litigation. The meeting was reopened at 8:19 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 pm. (M/S Wanke/Carter - unanimous).

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Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

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Vicky Rutherford – IT Coordinator  
Clerk of the Board