

BOARD OF HEALTH

May 10, 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

Dr. David Curnel – Moses Lake

Mark Wanke – Ephrata

Tom Harris – Quincy

Cindy Carter – Commissioner

Carol Nordine – Electric City

Tom Taylor – Commissioner

John Glassco – Soap Lake

STAFF

Katherine Kenison – HD Attorney

Dr. Alex Brzezny – Health Officer

Kathleen Nelson – Community Public Health Manager

Theresa Adkinson – Administrator

Todd Phillips – E.H. Manager

Darcy Moss – Admin. Services Manager

ABSENT

Richard Stevens – Commissioner

GUESTS

Kevin Newland – Town of Wilson Creek Mayor

Sandi Duffey - Grant County Emergency Management

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The agenda was amended to include an Executive Session for possible litigation to be added as Item 4, expected to last fifteen (15) minutes. A motion was made to approve the agenda as amended (M/S Wanke/Curnel – unanimous).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - The minutes of the April 12, 2017 meeting were approved as written (M/S Carter/Curnel - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending May 9, 2017 totaling \$219,754.62 (#1 - #3 totaling \$131,338.44 and #4 - #17 totaling \$14,525.03 and #18 - #34 totaling \$22,817.82 and #35 - #53 totaling \$45,204.37 and #54 - #67 totaling \$5,868.96) were approved (M/S Wanke/Curnel – unanimous).

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The meeting adjourned at 7:02pm to executive session per RCW 42.30.110 to last approximately 15 minutes to discuss possible litigation. The meeting was reopened at 7:17pm and the executive session was extended and expected to last 5 more minutes. The meeting was reopened at 7:22pm. No action was taken.



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PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN'S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS -

Mr. Newland voiced his concerns about the mosquitoes in the Wilson Creek area due to stagnant water ponds from Crab Creek. He is aware of the mosquito trapping that was previously done. He would like to work with the Health District to come up with a solution and is open to suggestions and any assistance from experts in this field.

Mrs. Carter asked if Wilson Creek is in a Mosquito Control District. Mr. Phillips replied no.

Discussion was held. Suggestions were made to Mr. Newland about Wilson Creek possibly starting their own Mosquito District.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Todd Phillips

Public Hearing and Adoption of Ordinance 17-1 - The new fee is intended for temporary commercial food vendors who operate out of permanent structures on a regular basis. It would allow those vendors to obtain a permit for the permanent structure location, rather than applying for a temporary permit for each event. An example of these structures are the buildings at the fairgrounds where food vendors operate.

The public hearing was opened and with no comments the public hearing was closed. A motion was made to adopt Ordinance 17-1 (Fee Schedule) (M/S Taylor/Curnel – unanimous).

Proposed Ordinance 17-2 (Fee Ordinance) - Mr. Phillips presented the Board with a proposal for site review fee changes. The current fee schedule has a fee of \$393.00 per lot for site review. The suggested fee change is to charge half the fee to review for 5 or more lots. One to four lots would keep the \$393.00 fee for each lot. Reviewing several lots in one location saves costs, Sanitarian review time and travel time. Mr. Phillips stated that this agenda item was set before he attended a meeting with other County officials to discuss coming up with ways to be more efficient in the building and planning process. Developers who attended the meeting predict that there will be a substantial increase in building in the near future in Grant County. If this is to occur, the current staff would not be able to keep up with the work load and it would be best for the fees to remain the same in order to perhaps help fund an employee to assist with the increase in workload when development does occur.

Mr. Taylor asked what the purpose would be in decreasing the fees and stated that he was not in favor of decreasing the fees. If there are more lots, it will cost more money. He suggested doing a cost comparison with other counties.

Mr. Phillips explained that it would be difficult to do that because each health jurisdiction does different levels of work. For example, Grant County residents hire a designer to get a septic design where some health jurisdictions complete the designs for the residents.

Discussion was held. It was the consensus of the Board that site review fees remain the same.

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HB 1449 - The bill was passed by the Governor's office. Mr. Phillips informed the Royal City Summer Fest representatives, the pastor at Larson and the Gorge (Live Nation) of this information. Mr. Phillips reminded the Board that this bill came about after Live Nation asked about obtaining a permit for an inflatable water slide at their venue.

Representative Manwheller sponsored the bill to exempt inflatable equipment including waterslides, with less than six inches of standing water, from permit.

Wilson Creek Mosquitoes - Mosquito trapping was completed in the Town of Wilson Creek in 2015 with the help of the Mosquito Control District, who agreed to count mosquitoes for surveillance. The purpose was to come together to reduce the number of mosquitoes in the area to prevent diseases. The MCD plans to assist again this year along with someone from the State Department of Health who specifically does work in vector issues. There will be a meeting soon to make plans for trapping mosquitoes.

Mr. Newland added that residents of Wilson Creek have done a great job of reducing habitats and breeding grounds for mosquito's. For example, getting rid of tires and turning over wheel barrows with standing water. He again expressed that he would like to come together to come up with a solution.

Other Updates – None

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT – Kathleen Nelson

Sexual Health Awareness Month - Staff are working on presentations and some advanced planning related to STI's.

National Infant Immunization Week – Two medical facilities in Grant County received the 2017 Immunize WA Provider Recognition Program Award for their work in childhood immunizations. Quincy Community Health Center received gold level recognition for an 80% immunization completion rate and Moses Lake Community Health Center received a silver for a 72% completion rate.

Other Updates - This week we are celebrating National Nurses Week and all the work GCHD Public Health Nurses do in our communities.

ASSESSMENT REPORT – None

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT – Theresa Adkinson

2016 Annual Report – The 2016 annual report video was presented to the Board, giving a snapshot of the work done by the Health District in 2016. Mrs. Adkinson will be sharing this video along with infographics from each division when she makes her annual visits to Grant County towns and cities.

Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WSALPHO) Leadership Opportunity – Mrs. Adkinson shared that she has been nominated to the WSALPHO executive board. She is excited for this opportunity and to be a voice for Eastern Washington public health. She will find out in a couple of weeks if she has been elected to the board. The association serves as a support and advocates for local public health jurisdictions in obtaining funding.

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GCHD Wellness Challenge – Staff members have formed a committee and for the next six weeks staff are competing in a wellness challenge, practicing what we are encouraging in our communities. The challenge includes activities and point accumulation for eating fruits and vegetables and physical activity. Each week focuses on a wellness topic and staff receive information to help them achieve the topic of the week.

Foundational Public Health Funding – The budget has stalled at the state level. Mrs. Adkinson reminded the board of the resolution that was previously adopted by the BOH in support of the funding.

Budget Update – The current active TB case has cost roughly \$17,000 so far. The state may assist with costs for testing, but most likely not staff time. Per Washington State law, the county is required to respond to TB control.

Funding from vape sales taxes will be cut by \$10,000 for each contract, which includes GCHD's contract.

The immunization program continues to go over budget every year. The state is putting together a project to see if a shared service model among health districts may be more cost effective. There should be an update in early June.

Newspaper Bid – Two bids were submitted for public notifications. One from the Quincy Valley Post Register for \$10.42 per column inch and one from the Columbia Basin Herald for \$11.00 per column inch.

A motion was made to accept both bids (M/S Taylor/Curnel – unanimous).

Other Updates – Mrs. Adkinson acknowledged GCHD's public health nurses for their work. Along with their normal work duties, they have been working on the active TB case and the mumps outbreak.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Mumps Outbreak and Investigation – The outbreak began in January and continued with several cases in February and March. As of last month's meeting, there was 41 cases and since that meeting there has only been 4 more cases which shows the outbreak is decreasing and the risk to the public is diminishing. The cases have mainly occurred because of close contact. Examples of this close contact are kissing, sharing drinks, cigarettes and other items. People are required to be fully immunized before they arrive at the Job Corp campus and GCHD will continue to follow recommendations from the CDC and WA DOH with regular contact with the state epidemiologist.

Measles – A draft press release was distributed. The release includes information on the recent measles outbreak in Minnesota amongst the Somali community, mainly in unvaccinated children, and the connection with cases being seen in Seattle. There have been 50 cases in Minnesota as of May 9. A study conducted by the University of Washington and WA DOH was done regarding low MMR immunization rates in the Somali community and because of frequent travel by the community between Seattle and Minneapolis. The study determined that babies born in 2008 had a 99% immunization rate of at least one MMR and it had dwindled down to 65 % of babies receiving at least one dose of MMR vaccine. With a lack of the immunization, there will be an increase in the diseases. The request locally for MMR vaccinations to be given with the recent mumps outbreak, also gives immunity to the measles, which kills people.

End of the 2016/2017 Influenza Season – The end of the flu season was announced a couple of weeks ago. There have only been sporadic cases.

TB Active and Latent – Investigations continue related to the recent active TB case. Blood tests continue to be taken and skin tests given. The resident who has active TB is no longer in Grant County, but GCHD will continue to track contacts which included approximately 200 people with approximately 120 of those being healthcare workers. An active TB case can take up to 24 months of treatment and surveillance and cost a considerable amount of money and resources.

Vector-Borne Diseases – A dog with strange behavior was tested for rabies and was ruled out.

Mosquito borne diseases are a significant risk and the probability of new diseases coming to Grant County are very high. Ways to reduce mosquitos in areas like Wilson Creek and funding to perform the work needed are a high concern.

Other Updates – Dr. Brzezny expressed his appreciation for the public health nurses at GCHD and their efforts.

Dr. Brzezny asked Sandi Duffey from Grant County Emergency Management to share information about the collapsed tunnel at the Hanford location. She stated that tests were conducted around the site and there was no indication of contamination. They are working to seal the area and will continue to monitor the site. Dr. Brzezny added that you can go to www.hanford.gov for more information. Mrs. Adkinson added that the state DOH activated their Emergency Response in conjunction with the Hanford incident.

An article regarding rising deaths from fentanyl was distributed. Dr. Brzezny will be presenting to the Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WSALPHO) on overdose and misuse of opioids. Public health will continue to be part of the education process.

Dr. Curnel added that Narcan can be purchased at Laketown Pharmacy.

OTHER BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:51 pm. (M/S Wanke/Curnel - unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Darcy Moss
Clerk of the Board