

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

June 14, 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

Tom Harris – Quincy

Cindy Carter – Commissioner

Mark Wanke – Ephrata

Richard Stevens – Commissioner

**STAFF**

Katherine Kenison – HD Attorney

Dr. Alex Brzezny – Health Officer

Darcy Moss – Admin. Services Manager

Theresa Adkinson – Administrator

Todd Phillips – E.H. Manager

**ABSENT**

John Glassco – Soap Lake

Carol Nordine – Electric City

Tom Taylor – Commissioner

Kathleen Nelson – Community Public Health Manager

**GUESTS**

None

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

The agenda was amended to include an Executive Session for possible litigation to be added after item 9 and expected to last six (6) minutes. A motion was made to approve the agenda as amended (M/S Curnel/Stevens – unanimous).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - The minutes of the May 10, 2017 meeting were approved as written (M/S Curnel/Wanke - unanimous).

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS**

The vouchers for the period ending June 13, 2017 totaling \$285,890.34 (#1 - #3 totaling \$194,452.99 and #4 - #28 totaling \$20,592.24 and #29 - #53 totaling \$59,159.99 and #54 - #70 totaling \$11,685.12 were approved (M/S Wanke/Curnel – unanimous).

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

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT** – Todd Phillips

**Solid Waste Program Updates** - The CPG Grant is monitored by the WA State Department of Ecology and funds are used towards time spent in solid waste issues, for example garbage complaints. The proposed amount for the next state-wide grant is \$10,000,000, which is one third of what was requested in the past. If the amount distributed continues decreases, many enforcement programs in rural areas will be foregone. A group of Environmental Health Directors and solid waste managers have been meeting to come up with a plan that will be helpful for all.

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A complaint was received regarding litter blowing off the Royal Organics site. The complainant later called and explained that they had contacted Royal Organics and that they were being responsive in their efforts of cleaning up the litter. Mr. Phillips and another GCHD employee made a site visit and found that there were wheat trucks driving through the site which caused the litter to be stirred up. Royal Organics has ordered a cleanup crew to stay on top of the cleanup.

**Mosquito Control and Public Health** - Mr. Phillips and Mrs. Adkinson attended the Town of Wilson Creek council meeting last week to discuss mosquito control in their area. Residents have been trapping mosquitoes for counts and identification. Vector mosquitoes have been found in the traps. Mr. Phillips explained that other small communities struggle with the same mosquito control concerns. He also reminded the board of the presentation that was given to them last year by the Mosquito Control District #1. A handout was distributed explaining the process in forming a mosquito control district in an area.

Dr. Brzezny voiced his concerns that it may take an increase in diseases before there is a desire to start a district. He also stated that our population is at risk with multiple bodies of water in our area and that we need to be prepared for more disease cases like West Nile Virus from mosquitoes.

Discussion was held.

**Other Updates** - The new software is getting close to being implemented. Currently, food inspections are brought back to the office, entered into a database and then uploaded to the website. The new software has the capability for the food inspections to be uploaded and posted to the website immediately, which will be more efficient and will be implemented after a trial period.

### **COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT** – Theresa Adkinson

**North Central Washington Community Health Worker Summit** - The summit was held on May 11 & 12. Grant, Chelan-Douglas and other public health and healthcare systems were in attendance. The summit was held for collaboration on providing community health services outside of medical facilities where community health workers can assist in their communities. Some areas needing assistance include healthy eating, public housing and chronic diseases. Training needs for the Community Health Workers to assist in this work was also a topic at the summit. This work is included in the ACH which has previously been discussed at GCHD board meetings.

**Immunization Program – Diamond Project** - Vaccines For Children is a federal program that is run by the state which provides vaccines for children at no cost. The WA State DOH contracts with Local Health Jurisdictions to do the local work, some of which include compliance, counts, approval of clinic orders and education on missed opportunities of administering vaccines. It costs GCHD \$75,000 per year, but only \$20,000 is received to complete the work. The loss of revenue is happening throughout the state. The state has hired a contractor to evaluate the program and improve it by streamlining and efficiencies. Many counties have dropped the program causing the state to take it over. The Department of Health may assume some of the responsibilities and the program will likely go to a regional service in North Central Washington. Diamond Project, the name of the pilot project, should begin in July of 2018.

**Other Updates** – None

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### **ASSESSMENT REPORT** – None

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

**Organization Update and Staff Changes** - Carol Schimke, an RN who has been with the Health District for over 18 years has given her notice of resignation, along with a Program Specialist and a part time Public Health Associate. Options of supervisory roles are being explored to better match the programs staff are working in.

**DOH Fiscal Monitor Visit** - A Department of Health representative made a fiscal monitoring site visit in April. There were no issues noted from the review.

**Federal Audit** - The Health Districts 2015-2016 financial audit recently began and auditors will be on site for approximately three weeks. The estimated costs for the audit was included in the budget. This audit includes 2015-2016 financials and 2016 federal programs compliance.

**Budget and State Contract Suspension** - Healthy Communities funding has slightly improved. A financial statement was distributed. Mrs. Adkinson explained that employees who leave employment are paid out for vacation and 25% of sick leave if they have been employed by GCHD for over 10 years. These payouts are paid through our reserves. .

There is potential for the State to shut down and grant billing will not be allowed. If this is to occur, a few staff that are funded by federal grants will not be able to work in their programs. The cost would be just under \$2,000 per day. Staff who work in the solid waste program could be diverted to the food program work until the budget is resolved. The Foundational Public Health Funding that was presented could also be at risk.

**Continuance of Operations Plan (COOP)** - A draft plan was distributed. The plan is to have something in writing for GCHD in preparation for emergency response and the ability to keep a work flow during the response.

**Other Updates** – None

### **HEALTH OFFICER REPORT** – Dr. Brzezny

**Recent Active TB Contacts Investigation and Update** - The recent TB case that moved out of state was confirmed of having drug resistant TB. This is the first case of drug resistant TB that we know of. Two out of the four mainstream antibiotics will not be sufficient treatment in a drug resistant case. Individuals who may become infected by this case would not be able to be treated by the typical antibiotics for TB. There were approximately 200 contacts who were categorized by the most and least likely to contract the disease. One individual converted to a positive test and will need to be treated to avoid contracting active TB.

**Mumps in Grant Co and WA** - There has been 864 cases in Washington State and 45 in Grant County so far this year. Most cases in Washington have been in Spokane, with 68. It takes approximately 25 days for a

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person to start exhibiting symptoms after they are exposed. If individuals do not exhibit symptoms within two weeks of being exposed, they are unlikely to acquire the disease. It has been twenty-five days since the last mumps case in Grant County. Cooperation from Columbia Basin Job Corp and interventions from the Health District encouraging no close contact or shared items, has disrupted the transmission. If there are no more cases by the end of June, the outbreak will be over.

**Vector-Borne Diseases Update** – Typically ten rabid bats are discovered at the WA State lab each year. There has been 5 identified as of June. Dr. Brzezny cautioned not to play with bats. Prophylaxis treatment is recommended if someone is exposed or possibly exposed, even if there is not a wound.

**Other Updates** - Birth defects have been found in 5% of babies of pregnant women who were exposed to the Zika Virus. There have been eight recent outbreaks of Salmonella with 60 cases in Washington, many of which were from exposure from handling of chicks.

As of today, there is a case of pertussis in a Grant County school. School is out, but tracking of students who may have been exposed will continue. Prophylaxis may be recommended to close contacts. The focus will be high risk individuals like pregnant women and close contacts.

A mumps outbreak did not occur in Seattle from the Minnesota and Somali community connection that was previously a concern.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:57pm to executive session per RCW 42.30.110 to last approximately 6 minutes to discuss possible litigation. The meeting was reopened at 8:03pm. No action was taken.

**OTHER BUSINESS:** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:04pm. (M/S Carter/Stevens - unanimous).

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Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

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Darcy Moss  
Clerk of the Board