

BOARD OF HEALTH

October 11, 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

Carol Nordine – EC, CC, GC, HtIn

John Glassco – SL, Krupp, WC

Cindy Carter – Commissioner

Richard Stevens – Commissioner

Mark Wanke – Ephrata

STAFF

Theresa Adkinson – Administrator

Virginia Valdez – Admin. Services Manager

Kathleen Nelson – Community Public Health Manager

Cory Franks – Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Alex Brzezny – Health Officer

ABSENT

Tom Harris – Quincy

Anna Franz – H.D. Attorney

Katherine Kenison – H.D. Attorney

Dr. David Curnel - Moses Lake

Tom Taylor – Commissioner

Jon Ness – E.H. Manager

GUESTS

None

ADOPTION OF AGENDA– A motion was made to amend the agenda (remove executive session) as presented (M/S Stevens/Wanke - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - The minutes of the September 13, 2017 meeting were approved as written (M/S Wanke/Glassco - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending October 10, 2017 totaling \$183,538.04 (#1 - #3 totaling \$112,056.16 and #4 - #15 totaling \$7,964.68 and #16 - #28 totaling \$24,740.10 and #29-#44 totaling \$38,777.10) were approved (M/S Stevens/Wanke – unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS - None

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Theresa Adkinson on behalf of Jon Ness

Fee Ordinance 17-2 – The Grant County Health District is proposing a fee increase schedule to include even rounded fees. There will be a public hearing in November. Board in favor- (M/S/Wanke/Glassco – unanimous).

Food Permit Suspension –Dr. Brzezny on behalf of Jon Ness

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GCHD is still having trouble with a mobile food vendor who will not follow the rules. This vendor is a repeat offender and GCHD has continued to be in contact with this vendor about the ongoing issues and GCHD can show that the due process has been followed. Final letter has been issued to vendor.

Royal Organic Update– Theresa Adkinson on behalf of Jon Ness

The required clean-up has been completed and Royal Organic continues to operate due to their cooperation in the matter. Stephanie Shopbell (Environmental Health Specialist) has continued to go out and check the status on a weekly basis. Normal maintenance is required from here.

Other Updates – Theresa Adkinson on behalf of Jon Ness

Lars Richins has left the GCHD to move his family to Benton/Franklin County. GCHD has hired a new Environmental Health Specialist, Stefan Ball, who started late September. GCHD will be hiring one more EH staff member.

Dr. Brzezny on behalf of Jon Ness – The West Nile Virus has made an appearance here in Grant County (refer to map outlining cases in Washington State). 14 mosquito pools were tested and shown to be positive. Over the years, it has been apparent that there has been a correlation between wetlands and mosquitos. Wilson Creek experiences their first case of the West Nile Virus and the GCHD was able to help support them with resources. We are not able to support Wilson Creek with resources in the long-term. Mid-August was shown to have the largest numbers of the virus.

Dr. Brzezny on behalf of Jon Ness - The number of rabid bats has increased in Washington State this year, 5-6% of all rabid transmissions are from rabid bats.

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT – Kathleen Nelson

Influenza & Norovirus Preparedness – The flu vaccine has been administered to GCHD staff and their family members. Community Public Health staff are continuing to collaborate and go out and meet with LTC/Assisted Living staff to educate them on the flu and virus.

Snap Ed Transition – Maria Vargas (Health Educator) has transitioned out of the Snap Ed program and has handed that grant responsibility to Cassandra Herdrick (Health Educator).

Latino Collaborative Project – Maria Vargas has begun working on a grant project that promotes dental healthcare to the Latino population.

Other Updates – GCHD would like to thank Theresa and Dr. Brzezny for their commitment to the job and all their leadership support to the organization.

GCHD has recently hired Alexandra “Alex” Sanchez to fill our vacant Public Health Nurse position. She comes to the district with 10 years’ experience as a RN and has her Bachelor’s Degree in Nursing. She will be starting work next week. GCHD will also be hosting an intern at the district who is completing her degree in Nursing from Heritage University.

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Community Public Health Division is continuing work on the 1422 grant which includes work focused on diabetes and prediabetes awareness and management.

Sportsman's Warehouse is holding a gun safety event in collaboration with the GCHD on Saturday from 10 AM-1 PM. Free trigger lock and lock box to public (see referenced handout).

GCHD is also helping with the Mobility Summit on November 1st.

ASSESSMENT REPORT – None

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT – Theresa Adkinson

Organizational Update and Staff Changes – The Community Public Health Division is fully staffed and continuing to work on grant objectives. GCHD is currently conducting interviews for a Health Educator position. Laura Camacho (Program Specialist) is leaving GCHD to focus on starting a business with her family full-time. Cyndi Cantu has been internally promoted into the vacant Program Specialist position. GCHD will be conducting interviews to fill the vacant Public Health Associate position.

Federal Audit – The GCHD was subjected to a three-level audit due to the \$750,000 threshold of federal funding. The GCHD received findings; however, Cory Franks (Chief Financial Officer) has already taken steps to make sure the same finding is not found next year. (See referenced audit report).

Foundational Public Health Funding – Grant County Health District has submitted a workplan to the State. There has been discussion of shared workplans and the effectiveness/sustainability of these plans.

Syringe Care Planning – Shawta Sackett (WSU student) has been working with the State Health Department to obtain funding for wound care and syringe disposal as part of her thesis for her school project. In order to receive such funding, the Board would need to agree that there is a need and the Health Officer would need to make a declaration of need for syringe disposal and wound care here in Grant County.

Financial Update – GCHD spent \$101, 338 in salaries on mumps, \$16,000 on pertussis, and \$4,000 on smoke response. GCHD is over budget due to these unforeseen outbreaks. We will be looking at proposing a budget amendment for 2017. We also had long-term staff leave GCHD and were paid out vacation/sick pay. GCHD has ran high on travel expenditures do to Quincy CTC grant opportunities. Travel requests will be minimized for the remainder of the year. The GCHD is currently working on the 2018 budget proposal to present in November.

Other Updates - None

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Air Quality & Public Health – The Grant County Health District is continuing to educate the public about short-term and long-term effects of smoke exposure. There haven't been many more "smoke" days.

Nitrates in Water – Dr. Brzezny spoke to the Board about the options for moving forward and possibly recording nitrates in the water on property titles. Chelan/Douglas currently leaves a note on title of property for future owners. The Board felt that there was not enough information to make a decision or policy on this

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matter. The Board asked the GCHD to consider how Chelan/Douglas County addresses these matters. GCHD will research and discuss at a future date.

Pertussis Outbreak – There are currently 80 cases of pertussis in Grant County which is the highest in Washington State right now.

Norovirus in Long-Term Care – Every year, we see norovirus outbreak in long-term care facilities due to the vulnerable population. GCHD continues to provide education and outreach resources to the communities with vulnerable population.

Upcoming Influenza Season – There have been sporadic reports of influenza, there is currently no heightened reports of influenza in the County. CDC reports 12,000-56,000 people die from influenza every year.

Other Updates – None

OTHER BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:40pm. (M/S Wanke/Carter - unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Virginia Valdez
Clerk of the Board