BOARD OF HEALTH  
November 14, 2018  
7:00 PM  

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

MEMBERS  
Dr. David Curnel - Moses Lake  
Mark Wanke – Ephrata  
Tom Harris – Quincy  

John Glassco – SL, Krupp, WC  
Tony Massa - Warden  

STAFF  
Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer  
Jon Ness – E.H. Manager  
Katherine Kenison – H.D. Attorney  

Theresa Adkinson – Administrator  
Vicky Rutherford – Board Clerk  
Rita Morfin – Administrative Services Facilitator  

ABSENT  
Richard Stevens – Commissioner  
Cindy Carter - Commissioner  

Tom Taylor - Commissioner  

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – The agenda was amended to change Administrator’s report (b) from 2018 to 2019. A motion was made to approve the November 14, 2018 amended agenda (M/S Wanke/Curnel – unanimous).  

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – The minutes of the October 10, 2018 meeting were approved as written (M/S Curnel/Wanke – unanimous).  

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS  
The vouchers for the Period ending November 9, 2018, totaling $302,867.68 (#1 – 3 totaling $133,255.68, #4 – 17 totaling $36,096.30 #18-32 totaling $10,638.18 #33-54 totaling $11,829.34 and #55-71 totaling $19,612.87) were approved (M/S Harris/Glassco – unanimous).  

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS – NONE  

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jon Ness  

Food Establishment Inspection Report - Jon presented the Board with the food inspection report for October 2018.  

Septic and Building Permit Report – Jon gave the Board a copy of the septic and building permits report for September 2018.
Blue Green Algae Update - The Board was given information and a recent media release on the present blue green algae in Moses Lake. The blue green algae toxins are now below the Washington State Department of Health action levels. The warning signs will be pulled by staff. Jon shared with the Board that GCHD policy calls for GCHD to post educational signs at lakes were toxins have been found. Therefore, GCHD staff will be working on posting educational signs about Blue Green Algae at public access points around Moses Lake and Potholes Reservoir.

Public Hearing Ordinance 18-3 – Proposed Fee Schedule for 2019 – The public hearing was opened for comment for Ordinance 18-3. Having no comments, the hearing was closed. A motion was made to accept Ordinance 18-3 Fee schedule for 2019 (M/S Wanke/Harris – unanimous).

Environmental Health Staff Placement at Grant County Development Services – Jon and Theresa met with the Commissioners and the supervisor of the Building Department about the process of moving the septic program to Ephrata to allow “one stop shopping”. Discussion was held concerning the need and the logistics of a move. It was decided Theresa and Jon would share with the board members at the next meeting the results of a meeting being held next week with the Commissioners on this issue. Theresa was instructed by the Board to ask the County for data on septic application complaints.

Other Updates - Jon introduced the newest environmental health staff member to the board and shared that a former environmental health employee (1957-1982) passed away.

Several Grant County Health District staff where present at the BOH meeting. Tom Harris thanked the staff for their dedication and hard work.

COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT – Theresa Adkinson

Quincy Partnership for Youth Update – An application was submitted by Grant Integrated Services and accepted to continue the program. This will result in the layoff of a clerical staff person. The present Health Educator in this program will be applying for the opening with the new agency.

NC – ACH Funding Update – The Health District will be the lead agency for the Coalition for Health Improvement and GCHD will likely receive a funding increase to provide oversight to the program. There is also a request for opioid funding to continue the SSP program and to expand it to other communities. Health District staff did a harm reduction class last week for the program volunteers and it was very well attended.

Other Updates - None

ASSESSMENT REPORT – Theresa Adkinson

North County Project with University of Washington – University of Washington Graduate students will be conducting a health assessment in North Grant County that will be used to assist GCHD assessment staff with the next community health assessment report.
University of Alaska MPH Student Project – Public Perception of Opioid Mis-Use & Syringe Services Programs – A present employee is obtaining her MPH from the University of Alaska. Her project will focus on the public perception of opioid mis-use and the syringe services program. Board members will be contacted to be interviewed.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – Theresa Adkinson

Staffing Update – Theresa stated a PHA position has been filled due to an internal promotion.

2019 Draft Budget Presentation – Theresa gave the board a power point presentation regarding the proposed 2019 budget. A motion was made to hold a public hearing at next month’s board meeting to adopt the 2019 budget (M/S Curnel/Wanke – unanimous).

CLA Accounting Update - Theresa shared with the Board that she met with an accountant contract manager with the firm. They will be coming to the board to negotiate an increase in their setup and monthly fees.

Other Updates – None

HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Varicella Outbreak – 30 cases of varicella as of October 23rd have been reported.

Pertussis (Whooping Cough) Clusters - There are 2 clusters of pertussis presently and no secondary cases as of now. There was a suspected case of Mumps but that has not been confirmed.

Suspect TB Evaluations - One individual with multi antibiotic resistant TB has completed their treatment. The person moved to Florida and has successfully completed treatment there. There were two suspected cases of TB last month in Grant County but they have not been confirmed.

Antibiotic Awareness Week November 12 -18 – Dr. Brzezny shared with the board information about the global antibiotic awareness week; antibiotic resistance is one of the most challenging public health issues now and in the future; numbers of annual antibiotic resistant illnesses and deaths in the country were shared; the cost to the national health care budget is $85 billion. The problem is becoming more common and the answer is correct prescribing of antibiotics.

Syringe Services Program Update – The Board was presented with the latest figures for the syringe services program. At this time there are ten reported saves with the Narcan; 56 Narcan have been distributed to individuals since the program started in our community. Others have been linked with treatment.

Other Updates – Dr. Brzezny gave the board a current copy of the notifiable conditions report. Influenza season last year caused 72,000 deaths and was one of the most severe seasons of the last decade. This year’s flu season has not yet started; there have been influenza deaths reported this fall already.

OTHER BUSINESS – None
ADJOURNMENT  - With no other business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm (M/S Wanke/Curnel – unanimous).

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Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

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Vicky J Rutherford, Board Clerk