

BOARD OF HEALTH**December 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

John Glassco – SL, Krupp, WC

Tom Harris – Quincy

Richard Stevens – Commissioner

Cindy Carter – Commissioner

Mark Wanke – Ephrata

Dr. David Curnel - Moses Lake

STAFF

Theresa Adkinson – Administrator

Virginia Valdez – Admin. Services Manager

Kathleen Nelson – Community Public Health Manager

Katherine Kenison – H.D. Attorney

Cory Franks – Chief Financial Officer

Dr. Alex Brzezny – Health Officer

Jon Ness – E.H. Manager

ABSENT

Anna Franz – H.D. Attorney

Tom Taylor – Commissioner

Carol Nordine – EC, CC, GC, HtIn

GUESTS

None

ADOPTION OF AGENDA– A motion was made to approve the agenda with an amendment to the Community Public Health Agenda -Mumps Response (M/S Taylor/Curnel - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - The minutes of the November 8, 2017 meeting were approved as written (M/S Curnel/Stevens - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending December 12, 2017 totaling \$219,055.46 (#1 - #3 totaling \$170,041.23 and #4 - #6 totaling \$8,138.31 and #7 - #24 totaling \$5,560.67 and #25-#54 totaling \$35,315.25) were approved (M/S Wanke/Curnel– unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS – None

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jon Ness

Retail Food – Jon spoke about how his staff is busy working on inspections before the end of the year. Amber McCoy, Environmental Health Specialist, RS applied for 2 grants and received a grant for FDA standards. She will be attending a processing class on canning in Vancouver, WA.

Royal Organics – Jon notified the Board that Royal Organics has not closed but they are stepping back to work on revising their business plan.

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Other Updates – GCHD has hired an Environmental Health Specialist and welcomes Kelsey Jacobs to the team.

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT – Kathleen Nelson

Mumps Response – Kathleen spoke about a confirmed case of mumps in Grant County. Press release went out. The case involves a vaccinated health care worker who recently was traveling abroad. The division is using a 3-prong approach and are working with all facilities involved that may include further exposure. GCHD is helping to write letters to patients that may have been exposed. GCHD went through Department of Health guidelines and are preparing for calls from the public.

Dr. Brzezny – GCHD was notified about a probable case which was later identified as a suspect on Friday, Saturday. Numbers of exposure are still being investigated. Suspect #2 was identified through visit and blood tests are now pending. There has been a third suspect identified. Incident command was activated on Monday. Majority of people are vaccinated; some immunities do not respond to vaccinations. Dr. Brzezny recommended 2 doses of MMR if you are traveling or born before 1957. There is also a blood test to check your immunity if you are unsure.

ASSESSMENT REPORT – None

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT – Theresa Adkinson

2018 Public Health Legislative Priorities – Theresa spoke about 2018 local public health priorities that WSALPHO (Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials) has adopted for the upcoming legislative session. This includes tobacco 21 which promotes raising the legal smoking age to 21 instead of 18. Food code and safety, on-site septic systems, fiscal sustainability for all county level activities, foundational public health services, capital budget, and an opioid epidemic.

2018 Budget Update – Theresa gave a presentation to the Board on the proposed 2018 budget with modifications. It was proposed that the Board approve a 1.5% COLA increase for non-exempt staff and a 2% COLA increase for exempt staff. It was also proposed that the Board approve longevity pay at \$5 per year of service per employee paycheck after 5 years of employment. This would cap at 20 years of service and will be pro-rated for part time employees.

Public Hearing and Adoption of Ordinance 17-3 (2018 Budget) – Open public hearing for citizen's comments at 7:38 pm. No comments. Close public hearing 7:39 pm. Motion to approve ordinance 17-3 (M/S Wanke/Curnel – unanimous).

Employee Handbook - Updates to the employee handbook were also suggested including changing annual vacation dump hours to a monthly vacation accrual system. A motion was made and carried, employee handbook changes were adopted (M/S Harris/Wanke – unanimous).

Other Updates – None.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Annual Review: Top 5 Public Health Issues in 2017 – Dr. Brzezny spoke about mumps cases, our county has experienced the greatest exposure in the state. It has cost us over \$100,00 and it is not over yet. He also spoke about pertussis and our county being the #1 county of whooping cough in the state. Also, we are seeing an increase in opioid misuse. 2016 STD numbers were at their peak. Finally, obesity continues to rise.

Influenza Update– It is important that staff that are not vaccinated wear a mask. There have been 7 influenza outbreaks in the state. We are on the cusp of an influenza epidemic. It is important to continue vaccinations.

Hepatitis A Outbreak (multistate) – This virus has killed 20-30 people; however, numbers are decreasing.

Meningitis Outbreak (OSU) – There has been an outbreak at Oregon State University. There are currently 5 students attending from Grant County. It is important that they get the strain B vaccine as to not bring it back to Grant County during holiday break.

Other Updates – We are preparing for the norovirus outbreak which happens every winter.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: The executive session took place from 8:00 pm to 8:35 pm.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A motion was made to sign settlement and release agreement (M/S Carter/Stevens – unanimous).

A motion was made to authorize the Board Chair to send a letter to the Administrator (M/S Stevens/Curnel – unanimous).

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:45pm. (M/S Carter/Harris - unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Virginia Valdez
Clerk of the Board