

BOARD OF HEALTH**May 9, 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 Taylor – Commissioner

Richard Stevens – Commissioner

Tony Massa- Board Chair, Warden

Carol Nordine – EC, CC, GC, HtIn

Tom Harris- Quincy

John Glassco- SL, Marlin, WC

STAFF

Theresa Adkinson – Administrator

Vicky Rutherford – IT Coordinator

Jon Ness – E.H. Manager

Katherine Kenison – H.D. Attorney

Kathleen Nelson - Community Public Health Manager

Dr. Alex Brzezny – Health Officer

Laina Mitchell – Assessment Coordinator

ABSENT

Cindy Carter – Commissioner

GUESTS

Lauren McLaughlin– Grant County Journal

Charles Featherstone – Columbia Basin Herald

ADOPTION OF AGENDA– A motion was made to approve the agenda as written (M/S Wanke/Curnel - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - The minutes of the April 11, 2018 meeting will be approved at the next board of health meeting with an addition of executive session meeting times (M/S Curnel/Stevens - unanimous).

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The vouchers for the period ending May 8, 2018, totaling \$123,400.86 (#1 - #3 totaling \$63,685.32 and #4 - #39 totaling 48,023.98) were approved. (M/S Stevens/Wanke– unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS– NONE

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ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Jon Ness

Food Establishment Inspection Report – Jon shared April’s inspection report. The report is now in a new format.

Septic and Building Permit Report – A summary of septic and building permits applied for in February, March and April were given and discussed with the board. Septic permits have increased 82% this year in the first four months from last year’s numbers. Jon requested and the board agreed to let him bring the previous month’s numbers for septic and building permits to the board of health meetings. Bringing the present numbers puts a hardship on staff. There was consensus among the Board.

Water Availability Discussion with Grant County Development Services – Jon and Theresa attended a meeting with Development services concerning water reviews. No formal proposal of a revised review was decided at the meeting. It was agreed to do more research and meet again in the future.

Other Updates- Jon Ness

Septic Regulations - The state is updating the septic regulations and Jon agreed to serve as an alternate for eastern Washington representation.

Education Conference – Three environmental health staff attended the annual environmental health education conference. The conference will better prepare staff for assisting our public with environmental issues.

Friends of Public Health - Jon shared a certificate of “Friends of Public Health” that he will present to Cobie Hansen for the immense help she provided with the soils class.

PHEPR – Our office is hosting a healthcare coalition meeting on June 4th to bring various agencies together to discuss response during an emergency. Given that the Governor has issued an executive order on the opioid crisis, it was decided to use this as the focus of the meeting.

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT –Kathleen Nelson

Climate Change and Health – Kathleen presented the board with data regarding climate change (available).

Spring Safety – With the warm months approaching, Kathleen discussed safety awareness with the board with regards to life jackets as well as other measures. She reminded everyone to remember to use sunblock.

Other Updates – Kathleen

New Staff - Kathleen shared the addition of a new public health nurse joining the health district. She comes to us with extensive experience and is very happy to be here.

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ASSESSMENT REPORT – Laina Mitchell

Suicide in Grant County – Laina showed a powerpoint presentation on 2007 – 2016 suicide data (available).

ADMINISTRATORS REPORT – Theresa Adkinson

Staffing Update – The health district has hired a new nurse, an environmental health technician (seasonal) and administrative support for the Quincy Partnership for Health office.

Legal Services Contract – Theresa presented the board with a contract for continued legal services with Lemargie, Kennison, Franz and Whitaker. A motion was made to approve the contract effective May 1, 2018 (M/S Wanke/Taylor) – unanimous.

Healthy Community Funding Update – The Washington State Dept. of Health (DOH) informed it grantees that they are shifting the focus of the Preventive Health Block Grant. GCHD receives funding for the Childhood Obesity project as well as the Regional Tobacco Prevention programs. The funding loss is estimated to be over \$80,000 per year to GCHD. However new funding streams are being explored at DOH.

SNAP Market Match Update – The Moses Lake Farmer’s Market is opening as is our SNAP Match program. With financial support from Confluence Health, Moses Lake Community Health, and Samaritan Hospital we are able to match \$10 for every \$10 in EBT (Food Assistance) at the local market.

Administrators’ Meeting with Secretary of Health & DOH Leadership – Theresa and other local public health leadership will be meeting with the Secretary of Health to work with the new changes and challenges facing public’s foundational funding.

2017 Annual Report Video – Theresa shared the 2017 Health District annual report with the board members.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Epi Review – Dr. Brzezny shared the monthly EPI report with the board. He stated STI’s are on the rise in Grant county.

Influenza Season Concluded – The flu season officially ended in April, however, there are still sporadic cases throughout the year.

Opioid Misuse Epidemic – Dr. Brzezny shared information related to the rates of deaths caused by overdoses. Those numbers are increasing in grant county.

Other Updates – Shawta Sackett presented a slide show about the new syringe needle exchange program starting in Grant county. The needle exchange will be one for one and not just giving out unlimited syringes.

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The hope to decrease the number of needles being discarded in the community and to make sure people are using new needles and not sharing thus cutting down on the spread of diseases.

Hantavirus case – Dr. Brzezny reported a confirmed case of Hantavirus by the State lab. The individual survived and is out of the hospital now.

OTHER BUSINESS: The Board went into executive session at 8:25pm expected to last 10 minutes to discuss public employee performance and possible litigation with no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting reconvened at 8:35 and with no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:37pm. (M/S Stevens/Wanke- unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Vicky Rutherford, Chief Deputy Registrar