

BOARD OF HEALTH

October 9, 2019

6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mr. Massa with the following members and staff present:

MEMBERS

Mark Wanke -- Ephrata

Richard Stevens -- Commissioner

Tom Taylor -- Commissioner

Cindy Carter -- Commissioner

Dr. David Curnel -- Moses Lake

Tom Harris -- Quincy

Brad Parrish -- Electric City

Tony Massa -- Warden

STAFF

Dr. Brzezny -- Health Officer

Jon Ness -- E.H. Manager

Theresa Adkinson -- Administrator

Rita Morfin -- Board Clerk

ABSENT

Katherine Kenison -- HD Attorney

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA -- The motion was made to approve the agenda with agenda with an amendment to change Ordinance 19-3 to Ordinance 19-4 and add an Executive Session. (M/S Carter/Stevens -- unanimous).

APPROVAL OF MINTUES -- The minutes of the September 11, 2019 meeting were approved as written (M/S Curnel/Harris -- unanimous).

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The September vouchers for the period ending October 8, 2019, totaling \$122,496.69 (#1 -- 3 totaling \$61,939.50 #4 -- 27 totaling \$14,274.33 #28 -- 45 totaling \$46,282.86) were approved (M/S Stevens/Harris -- unanimous).

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

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT -- Jon Ness

Ordinance 19-4 -- Proposed Fee Schedule for 2020 -- Jon presented the current timeline and process, discussion was held. Proposed fees for the food program were adjusted to allow for the addition of an additional FTE so that GCHD can meet its regulatory obligation for completing food inspections. Motion made for public hearing on Ordinance 19-4. (M/S Taylor/Harris -- unanimous).

Moses Lake Harmful Algae Bloom -- Discussion held regarding the Regional Septic Loan Program, and the work GCHD is proposing as part of a grant application to the Department of Ecology. Motion made to sign letter of support for the for the Ecology Grant Application (M/S Curnel/Taylor -- unanimous).

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Mobile Food Emphasis Patrol Report – During the emphasis several unpermitted vendors were found. The board had concerns that there's not a penalty for unpermitted vendors. Would like to explore different penalty options for unpermitted vendors.

Other – Basin Septic installed a lagoon for waste storage when the ground is frozen, and land application of waste is not allowed. This is a significant investment and is important for our county so that there is a legal means for septic pumpers to dispose of their waste when the ground is frozen. Jon was able to visit the site prior to coming to tonight's meeting.

COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT – Theresa Adkinson

Vaping Prevention Training Requests – With the recent lung injury crisis, staff from GCHD are being asked to do more community presentations regarding vaping.

Program Updates – Provided in binder, no questions.

Other – GCHD is fully staffed in the Healthy Communities and Community Public Health Divisions. We added two Health Educators, whom both have master's degrees and different levels of experience and backgrounds. They have both had very busy schedules and could not be here for introduction but plan to have them at November's BOH meeting.

Commissioner Taylor asked if GCHD has reached out to any PIO out in the community, Theresa explained that additional staff have been trained and Theresa will continue to be the one sending out our media/provider releases.

ASSESSMENT REPORT

Syringe Service Program Annual Report – Report in binder, no questions.

Regional Assessment Epi Position – Our new Regional Emergency Response Epidemiologist started this week. She is serving the NCW communities and it is a grant funded position, that is housed out of Chelan Douglas Health District. She will play a key role at GCHD during outbreak, disease response and planning. The Regional Assessment Epi job description has been created but location for the position has not yet been determined, Theresa will keep the board updated.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT -Theresa Adkinson

Financial Report – Report in binder, no questions.

“Establishing Procedures for Conducting the Business of the Grant County Health District” Resolution 19-3
– **Commissioner participation follow up** –Commissioners will be considering a resolution to reduce the number of Board members. Discussion held.

State Audit – Theresa gave an update on the current audit, no questions.

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Environmental health Program Manager-Interim Manager Request – Theresa presented the option of an Interim EH Manager as Jon makes his transition to leave GCHD. GCHD’s current employee, Stephanie Shopbell, has shown interest in the position. She does have the experience and knowledge to be in the position and is supported by the EH staff. Motion made to approve Stephanie as the Interim EH Manager (M/S Taylor/Wanke – unanimous).

Other – None

HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Vaping-Related Respiratory Illness – Handout provided in binder regarding the vape related lung injury that as of October 1 has affected 1,080 people with an additional 2,000 being investigated. There are none currently in Grant County. The injuries are affecting people who vape with nicotine and THC. The Washington State BOH has issues a 120-day ban on flavored vape.

The injury must be reported within three days, there is no good treatment at this time. The damage that is done is like a chemical burn and is destructive and irreversible. The main concern at this point are those that are hospitalized due to the severity.

Hep A Outbreak in Washington State – As of October 1 there were 72 cases; in 2018 Washington State had a total of 35. The GCHD is working hard to reduce those numbers.

SSP Update – Flier provided, no questions.

Influenza Season – There have been some reported flu cases in Washington State and some deaths reported in the country. Dr. Brzezny reminded the board that while the vaccine is not 100% effective it is key to helping reduce the severity of symptoms and sickness.

Communicable Disease – Handout in binder, no questions.

Other -- None

OTHER BUSINESS – Mark Wanke mentioned that there had been some vandalism to the story walk and the city has moved it to another location.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – The meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm to executive session according to RCW 42.30.11 to last 5 minutes regarding performance of a public employee, no action to be taken. The public meeting was re-opened at 7:03 pm

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ADJOURNMENT – With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:05 p.m. (M/S Taylor/Wanke – unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Rita Morfin, Clerk of the Board