

BOARD OF HEALTH**December 11, 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

Dr. David Curnel – Moses Lake
Richard Stevens – Commissioner
Brad Parrish – Electric City

Tony Massa – Warden
Mark Wanke – Ephrata
Kevin Newland – Wilson Creek

STAFF

Dr. Brzezny – Health Officer
Maria Vargas – Healthy Communities Supervisor
Rita Morfin – Board Clerk

Theresa Adkinson – Administrator
Stephanie Shopbell – Interim E.H. Manager
Katherine Kenison – H.D. Attorney

ABSENT

Tom Harris – Quincy

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA – A motion was made to approve the agenda with an amendment to add an Executive Session. (M/S Stevens/Curnel – unanimous).

APPROVAL OF MINTUES – The minutes of the November 13, 2019 meeting were approved as written (M/S Curnel/Stevens – unanimous).

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

The November vouchers for the period ending December 10, 2019, totaling \$192,239.50 (#1 – 3 totaling \$126,673.08, #4 – 19 totaling \$21,566.58 #20 – 40 totaling \$43,999.84) were approved (M/S Wanke/Stevens – unanimous).

PUBLIC FORUM FOR CITIZEN’S COMMENTS AND APPLICATIONS – None

Mr. Massa introduced Kevin Newland, Mayor of Wilson Creek, as the new board representative.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT – Stephanie Shopbell

Permit Renewals – Provided in email. Stephanie explained that some establishments have questioned the new fee and most expressed their unhappiness but understand the reasoning. A letter from a local establishment was presented to the board, discussion held, and Theresa will respond to establishment owner.

Environmental Health WA State Rule Revision Updates – Workshops have been held and information on the rule making were provided in packets. No questions

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Other – Monthly reports were provided in the packet.

Dr. Curnel asked Stephanie why an establishment had an inspection and then a re-inspection the very next day. Stephanie explained that the establishment had been closed due to an imminent health hazard, hence the second inspection. No further questions.

COMMUNITY PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT – Maria Vargas

Community Public Health Update – Provided in binder, Maria reminded the board that GCHD is currently down to one Public Health Nurse. No questions.

Healthy Communities Update – Maria asked the board for guidance on possibly drafting an ordinance for the removal of drug paraphernalia that is in local convenience stores. These items are not behind the register or in a locked cabinet. They are packaged to catch the attention of all that enter the store which includes minors. The board supports the ordinance and will be happy to provide guidance.

Written Off Documentary Summary – The screening had approximately 60 people in attendance which included, Chief Fuhr, Mayor Liebrecht, Columbia Basin Job Corps, families and providers. GCHD has the rights to the screening for the next three years and offered a screening to the board.

Other – None.

ASSESSMENT REPORT - None

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT -Theresa Adkinson

19-4 Procedures for Conducting Board of Health Business – Motion made to approve Resolution 19-4 (M/S Stevens/Curnel – unanimous)

19-5 Additional Credit Card Number – Motion made to approve Resolution 19-5 (M/S Wanke/Curnel – unanimous)

2019 Summary and 2020 Budget – Power Point presented; discussion held.

Ordinance 19-5 – 2020 Budget Request to Set the Public Hearing - Motion made to request a public hearing on 12/30/2019 at 6:00 pm. (M/S Stevens/Wanke – unanimous)

Adoption of the 2020 GCHD Employee Handbook – Emailed in packet, motion made to approve the 2020 GCHD Employee Handbook (M/S Wanke/Curnel – unanimous)

Other – None

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HEALTH OFFICER’S REPORT – Dr. Brzezny

Influenza Season Arrives in Grant County – An advisory was sent out 11/15 to the media then two weeks later a provider advisory was released due to the increase in influenza cases above baseline, suggestive of the 2019 influenza epidemic beginning. Currently Influenza B is high, and Grant County has their first confirmed Influenza B related death. There is about a 30-40% absenteeism rate in the several local school districts and Job Corps.

Dr. Brzezny gave the board a brief summary on the benefits of the flu shot.

Hepatitis A Virus – WA State Outbreak – Hepatitis A outbreak in the US and in our state is going strong, and it is expected to continue possibly for years to come. There are approximately 35,000 cases nationwide since 2016, with several different strains of the HAV virus occurring. Washington state has 133 cases, 71 hospitalizations (roughly 60% of all diagnosed have been hospitalized) and two deaths. We continue to see the virus more in our unsheltered, homeless, incarcerated, MSM drug user populations.

Syringe Services Program Update – Flier updated presented. GCHD is looking at options to increase Hepatitis A vaccine distribution and uptake in our county through SSP and other avenues.

Years-End Communicable Disease Update – Numbers current through November.

Other – Dr. Brzezny advised the board that Tobacco 21 will be in effect January 1, 2020. There are currently 20 cases of EVALI in Washington State, which includes 1 in Yakima. Since April there are 2,300 cases nationwide. The State Board of Health is requiring an ingredients list for all vaping products. Short discussion held regarding HIV and children immunizations at school. Dr. Brzezny let the board know that HIV is present, and the rates are not decreasing as hoped; nowadays patients can live many years with HIV using the right medications.

OTHER BUSINESS – None

EXECUTIVE SESSION – The meeting adjourned at 7:05 pm to executive session according to RCW 42.30.110 to last 10 minutes regarding the performance of a public employee, action to be taken. Motion made to approve the 2019 Salary Matrix with revisions effective December 16, 2019. (M/S Curnel/Stevens – unanimous) The public meeting was reopened at 7:15 pm.

ADJOURNMENT – With no other business, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:17p.m. (M/S Stevens/Curnel – unanimous).

Tony Massa, Chairman Board of Health

ATTEST:

Rita Morfin, Clerk of the Board
