

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, September 22, 2011 was called to order by Councilmember Dave Crump, Chair, at 12:32 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Councilmember Steve Corker
Mayor Mary Verner, Vice Chair (arrived 12:57 p.m.)
Councilmember Amber Waldref
Mayor Tom Towey
Councilmember David Crump, Chair
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH
Board Member Susan Norwood, EdD, RN

ABSENT

Commissioner Al French
Commissioner Todd Mielke
Commissioner Mark Richard
Councilmember Bill Gothmann
Board Member Michael Fisk, DC

CITIZEN INPUT

- Rose Marie Waldrem, Green Acres, WA – spoke on fluorescent lighting and the promotion of CFL bulbs and the hazards of its uses.
- Caroline Pickett, Spokane County, WA – spoke on CFL bulb hazards, hazardous medicines, genetically altered food, dental mercury and the cost of PHAB accreditation.

CHAIR REPORT – Councilmember Crump

Susan Norwood was welcomed back from her trip to Africa and Mayor Towey was congratulated in his recent triathlon completion.

The Board will have an Executive Session after reports and Board Members are encouraged to complete the meeting evaluation forms included in the packet.

Former Board Member, Dick Behm, who passed away recently, was acknowledged for his years of service on the Board of Health.

Board Members who haven't signed-up to visit an agency meeting or committee were asked to choose a meeting from the sign-up sheet, take the contact name and number, and call about attending a meeting. The sign-up list will also be given to the agency divisions for notification of those members who signed up. Mayor Towey commented on his attendance to the Senior Falls Prevention meeting stating it was a fun and informational meeting.

PhotoVoice Project letters of appreciation, for the students who presented at the May 26th Board meeting, the Sheridan Elementary School principal, and Mayor Verner for follow-up work on issues presented, were circulated for BOH member signatures.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Joel McCullough, MD, MPH, MS

Drug Take-Back Program

Per the direction of the Board, the possibility of a Drug Take-Back program in Spokane County was researched. The initial recommendation was to adopt the DEA National Prescription Drug Take-Back program. Under this program, the DEA would supply containers, assume responsibility for proper disposal, provide marketing, and would require that law enforcement be present at all times. Conversations with law enforcement were generally supportive of the program. Law enforcement noted a need for officer overtime because of staffing shortages and the program taking place on Saturdays.

Funding is being investigated by requesting grant opportunities through the Spokane Regional Solid Waste System. Two options being considered are: 1) locating funding for officer overtime as part of the DEA program that would occur twice a year, and 2) locating funding for non-DEA drug take-back days during the week to include funding for containers, transport and disposal.

There will be a DEA sponsored Drug Take-Back event in Spokane on October 29th at the Riverfront Campus. This event is a cooperative effort between the DEA and the WSU School of Pharmacy. Staff has contacted WSU to see how SRHD may be able to assist in the future.

Board discussion:

- Board Member Lutz questioned the Snohomish County program that uses canisters in various locations in the county and their need for law enforcement involvement. A) Law enforcement is required to register for the event. Health District staff would not be allowed to register. Snohomish County has 27 sites all located within law enforcement facilities.
- Board Member Lutz questioned whether there are possibilities to have permanently stationed disposal sites at law enforcement agencies in Spokane. A) That option is being considered with funding issues surrounding the containers, transport and disposal. The twice a year DEA program was considered the best option because of funding. For the program, it is best to have a permanent mechanism for controlled substance disposal. Non-controlled substances are accepted by the Spokane Solid Waste Disposal System.
- Councilmember Corker offered to work with the agency exploring use of the “cop shop” program. Agency staff will contact Councilmember Corker after the meeting.
- Mayor Towey noted the S.C.O.P.E program in the county is comparable to the program Councilmember Corker mentioned and may provide further options for the program.

CDC Investigation

The lead investigator for the ongoing CDC investigation on Necrotizing Enterocolitis (NEC) at the Sacred Heart Children’s Hospital and Deaconess Medical Center stated that his experience in Spokane was the best he had ever had in terms of investigating hospitals. Specifically, he mentioned the responsiveness and cooperation of the hospitals.

Washington State Auditors Exit Conference

The exit conference was held on August 18th. There were no findings, management letters nor exit items resulting from the audit. Finance and all programs reviewed were congratulated for a job well done. Councilmember Crump thanked Dr. McCullough as well.

Helmet Ordinance

On September 13th, the Spokane County Board of Commissioners adopted a helmet ordinance for the unincorporated areas of Spokane County. The ordinance only applies to citizens who are 5 to 16 years of age and is not enforceable. Through this ordinance, deputies can make contact with individuals in violation to provide education. The agency had hoped for an ordinance covering citizens of all ages, similar to the resolution passed by the Board. More than 2 dozen partners attended the meeting and urged an “all ages” version of the ordinance.

Food Safety Program/Temporary Food Event Permits

Per Councilmember Waldref’s comments about community concerns related to the TFE permits, the health district has been working to educate businesses and food vendors of the food code requirements and compliance options. Over the last month, the Food Safety Program met with the Spokane County Winery Association and GSI representatives to discuss compliance options with the food code.

Board discussion:

- Councilmember Waldref apologized for missing the meeting and stated the agency is the best means to educate area businesses. Not all businesses are content with the fees, but with education, businesses are able to make more informed decisions about the events to be held.

Stickman Knows Campaign

As follow up to an Executive Committee of the Board of Health question about the effectiveness of the Stickman Knows Campaign, focus groups are being conducted and the results will be reported to the Board.

PHAB Accreditation

A statement of intent was filed September 19th for the agency to apply for accreditation. Staff completed the application early in the morning to increase the chances of being the first accredited. The agency decided upon the 5-year payment plan for accreditation. A recent Institute of Medicine report has recommended that states require public health agencies to become accredited.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consists of items considered routine which are approved as a group. Any member of the Board may request to remove an item from the Consent Agenda to be considered separately.

Meeting Minutes July 28, 2011

Vouchers paid July 1-31, 2011 and August 1-31, 2011

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the July 28, 2011 Board of Health meeting minutes.

Motion/Second: Corker/Waldref

Approved: 6 yes/1 abstained-Verner

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, payroll warrants, and those other claims as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Board. Time frame of claims: July 1-31, 2011 and August 1-31, 2011. The Board, in a vote as moved by Councilmember Corker and seconded by Councilmember Waldref, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the following list and further described in the total amount of \$1,723,239.28 and \$2,063,413.49.

Voucher Numbers:	#210538	- #B&OJune11	\$ 418,710.44
Payroll Warrants:	#719693	- #719727	665,255.44
Advice Numbers	#DD12309	- #DD12516	
Payroll Warrants:	#721684	- #721723	639,273.40
Advice Numbers:	#DD12517	- #DD12723	
		TOTAL	\$1,723,239.28

Voucher Numbers:	#211900	- #B&OJuly11	\$ 761,688.86
Payroll Warrants:	#723387	- #723492	660,813.57
Advice Numbers	#DD12724	- #DD12929	
Payroll Warrants:	#725663	- #725702	640,911.06
Advice Numbers:	#DD12930	- #DD13133	
		TOTAL	\$2,063,413.49

Motion: To approve for payment those vouchers included in the above list and further described in the total amount of \$1,723,239.28 and \$2,063,413.49.

Motion/Second: Corker/Waldref

Approved: Unanimously

REPORTS

Guidelines & Recommendations – Board Member Lutz

Board Member Lutz reviewed the information previously presented to the Board regarding Guidelines and Recommendations (G&R). After review by the agency attorney, Michelle Wolkey, and Dr. McCullough, a resolution to amend the bylaws was drafted. Michelle Wolkey explained the steps necessary to adopt the Guidelines and Recommendations.

Board discussion:

- Councilmember Waldref asked for an example of a topic that would be addressed by the G&R. A) King County has passed a G&R to address the public health implications of land use planning such as the need for bike facilities and pedestrian crosswalks. The

second G&R addressed the nutritional implications of vending machines focusing on providing guidelines for school policies. The G&R is non-binding and informational only.

- To pass a G&R, the Board needs a quorum as it does with any resolution. To amend the bylaws on the first reading, waiving the second reading, a quorum needs to be present and 2/3 of the vote must approve. To amend the bylaws on a second reading, a quorum needs to be present and the majority vote will pass.

Workforce Development – Lyndia Tye

Lyndia Tye, Disease Prevention and Response Division Director, presented an overview of workforce development related to the agency's Strategic Plan Goal #3. The Training Team that coordinates this goal developed a plan with the goal of having a competent workforce. A PowerPoint attachment of the full report is included with the minutes.

The workforce development plan is reviewed and updated yearly to make it responsive to identified needs. Outcomes of the Training Team focus include:

- A staff competency assessment survey implemented to determine training for this year.
- A centralized documentation system to track trainings being established.
- Personnel evaluation forms revised to include a personal training plan.
- An electronic directory database created to assist employees in referring clients within the agency.
- A succession plan written, leadership training provided, and a mentoring program established.
- Ongoing management classes being provided.

Board discussion:

- Mayor Verner asked if there is significant cost to the centralized documentation system. A) The system is already in use with a few modifications in programming to assure it captures the data needed.
- Councilmember Crump asked if trainings provided would count for nursing CEUs and the date of the upcoming all-staff meeting. A) Online classes for immunizations often credit for CEU hours and the all-staff meeting will be held October 25th from 8:30 am until Noon.

NALBOH Conference Update – Torney Smith/Board Member Lutz

Torney Smith, Administrator for the Health District, and Board Member Lutz provided a NALBOH Conference update to the Board. Board Member Lutz presented at the conference several times. Representatives from Washington State discussed the State Association of Local Boards of Health (SALBOH), which Board Member Lutz has been participating on. There was strong support for sharing information on how SALBOH may be organized. Ways to organize efforts around common issues to bring forward to the state legislature was discussed among participants. Brad Banks, Managing Director for WSALPHO, will research specifics about SALBOH affiliation to WSALPHO. Board Member Lutz is working with NALBOH to research models in other states.

Torney Smith reported on 4 sessions he attended which addressed topics such as community health assessment, preparation for national accreditation, collaboration with community partners using P.A.R.T.N.E.R. (Program to Analyze, Record and Track Networks to Enhance Relationships), and cross-jurisdictional efforts with impacts of the recession and how to assure public health protection especially for small health jurisdictions.

Board Member Lutz commented the conference was well attended with 200+ representatives from across the nation. Funding issues was the common concern among the representatives. The Surgeon General spoke about healthcare reform and monies within the reform that address prevention in public health.

Board Member Lutz also shared an unsolicited appreciation he received from a NALBOH participant about Torney Smith being the best health district administrator in the country.

Board Member discussion:

- Councilmember Waldref remarked on the excellence of the session regarding accreditation and roles of staff and boards of health.
- Councilmember Corker appreciated the opportunity to talk to staff from health organizations and elected officials outside of Washington State.
- Mayor Towe shared this was the first national health conference he has attended. It was beneficial for him to gain perspectives of challenges of health officials throughout the nation.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK-IN

Benin, West Africa Trip – Board Member Norwood

Board Member Norwood just returned from Benin, West Africa traveling for the 5th time with Gonzaga University. The trip made her aware of the United States' reliance on public health services to provide quality of life and level of wellness. Statistics for disease causes and death in Benin are comparable to death rates in the U.S. in the early 1900's. In Benin, there is no municipal trash pick-up, water system, safe roads, nor reliable electricity.

College classes have begun and a group of her students will be involved in a clinical services internship at the Health District. Staff was thanked for sharing their knowledge.

Spokane River Issues – Board Member Lutz

Board Member Lutz met with Representative Andy Billig. He is a strong public health advocate who focuses on river issues. Related to the river, Board Member Lutz attended a Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) meeting. When the topic of pipelines and the river were brought up, he found that most of the location and maintenance information is not available for discussion. The pipeline topic is being pursued with Representative Billig.

Pipeline Issues/Visit to Spokane's Sister City – Mayor Verner

Mayor Verner apologized for missing the meeting in July. She empathized with Board Member Lutz in his difficulties with the pipeline companies. The franchise agreement that the City of Spokane is negotiating with the pipeline companies provides a small amount of leverage and protection regarding the river. It will allow the city to require pipeline companies to provide third party validation of compliance with federal safety regulations.

Mayor Verner just returned from visiting Spokane's sister in Japan. Her observations were the opposite of Board Member Norwood's in Africa. The city government operates the hospital and many citizens are very conscientious of wearing masks and hand washing. Public places are very clean and there are not many trash receptacles; even though, there was very little litter. Smokers are segregated as it is in America. Alcohol is available in vending machines. Beer is sold right along with water and soda, but it appears there are no issues with children in possession of alcohol. The city has a tremendous amount of bike/pedestrian infrastructure and infrastructure for the blind.

Pipeline Issues/Legislative Elections/Healthcare Challenges – Councilmember Corker

Councilmember Corker mentioned that Chevron notified property owners of violations regarding pipelines (trees, sheds, etc.) meeting with neighborhoods throughout the area about homeowner responsibilities. Most homeowners were not aware of the pipelines on their properties. Disclosure is part of the law and citizens need to be advised.

Partisan elections for the legislature will take place next fall. Campaigning has begun already. It is an excellent opportunity for citizens and boards to express their concerns. Councilmember Corker has already discussed public health issues with 2 candidates.

Two organizations, which Councilmember Corker serves, have had 65% increases in healthcare costs to its employees. It has challenged the ability of both non-profits to provide a healthcare benefit. Councilmember Corker believes the most significant national defense issue is public health and the nation is far behind the rest of the world in recognizing public responsibility for health.

Spokefest – Councilmember Waldref

Councilmember Waldref thanked the agency for the opportunity to attend the NALBOH conference and shared her experience attending Spokefest. All staff and citizens who volunteered with the event were thanked for providing that type of healthy activity to the community.

9-11 Remembrance Ceremonies – Councilmember Crump

Councilmember Crump shared his appreciation for the remembrance ceremonies related to 9-11. He participated in carrying an I-beam from the World Trade Center into a commemorative building in the Spokane Valley.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember Crump announced the Board would adjourn to Executive Session in Room 350 for 15 minutes. Action from the Executive Session is possible, but not anticipated. The Board adjourned at 2:23pm.

MEETING RECONVENED

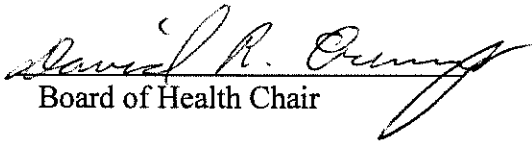
The meeting reconvened at 2:38pm with no resulting action taken.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on October 27, 2011.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

APPROVED: 
Board of Health Chair

Date: 10-27-11


Recording Secretary