



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH Minutes

Thursday, August 19, 2004
10:05 a.m.

Present: Chairman Perry Huston, Vice Chair Carolyn Booth, Board Member Dr. Don Solberg and Max Golladay, Administrator Nancy Goodloe, Health Promotion Manager Ann Riley, CHS Manager Bonnie Corns, and Secretary to the Board of Health Nora Ludlow.

Observers: BOHAC Member Melanie Jones, Eric Jensen and Harold Brockman.

Minutes: Max Golladay moved that the minutes of July, 2004 Board of Health meeting be approved as presented. Carolyn Booth second. Motion carried.

Introductions: Bonnie Corns was introduced as the new CHS Manager.

Contracts and Amendments: No contracts.

Updates/Reports:

BOHAC Annual Report: Board of Health Advisory Committee member Melanie Jones, KVCH Community Health Library, presented the First Annual Report of the Board of Health Advisory Committee. Two of the 2004 goals for the Advisory Committee this year are to send a representative to the monthly Board of Health meetings and to complete an annual report. The Advisory Committee represents our diverse community. Currently there are 12 members including three new members: Scott Botten representing youth, Leslie Berry representing the Chamber of Commerce, and Debra Dove from Comprehensive Mental Health. The annual report includes a newly revised mission and value statement. The goals of the committee are updated annually.

One of the top goals for this year is Childhood Obesity. In addressing this issue, members of BOHAC along with Jane Wright and Ann Riley from the Health Department organized a subcommittee to begin researching this issue in Kittitas County. Through the Spring 2004 membership on this committee grew as community interest was vast and widespread. This group has organized itself as the Shape Up Kittitas County coalition and has been instrumental in the KCPHD applying for funding to address issues of nutrition and physical activity in the population in 2005.

Members of the Advisory Committee participated in the State-sponsored Roundtable discussion on health care and our concerns were taken to the State Legislature.

The Advisory Committee works as a sounding board for different Health Department program like HIV, second hand smoke, etc.

Melanie encouraged the Board of Health to give BOHAC some ideas to work on. She also praised the work that public health does and the dedicated staff.

Second Quarterly Report: Nancy Goodloe presented the Second Quarter Report.

TB Case: The active TB case has taken a lot of time and resources. Max Golladay asked what the normal treatment period is. The answer was it depends on several factors--age and severity, but usually 6 to 9 months. This case may need an additional 6 months after release, but the client has already been in treatment for 6 months. The final report should be in on Monday. There needs to be 8 negative cultures and we now have 7 negative cultures. Currently we are working with the Veterans' Administration to move the client to Yakima and into transitional housing and help with finding a job. The move to Yakima is scheduled for September 30. The expenses are over \$20,000 through June. It is posing an interesting challenge to the 2005 budget. Another TB expense could be a recommendation by the American Academy of Pediatrics suggesting x-rays for children with positive TB skin tests. Nancy is currently in discussion with the hospital. Children are usually tested because of an exposure and most children are referred by their physician. There has also been some talk about being more proactive with high risk screening, but have not because of a variety of persons, such as migrant movers.

Tobacco Compliance Checks: Random sample checks are required from the state for all tobacco sellers in our County. We use 14-16 year olds that have been trained in compliance checks. It is not the intent to trap the retailer. The boys and girls do not look older than 14-16 and pictures are taken for verification. In 2002 46% of the retailers did sell but in 2004 only 12% sold. Sarah Bedsaul, Health Educator, is providing more education to the retailers. Every retailer is checked at least once a year and if there is a sale, they are rechecked within a month. The Liquor Control Board makes the final decision to ticket. We are responsible for compliance checks, not enforcement. We do education on the spot, but the clerk can still be fined \$50 and the store \$50-\$100, the maximum is \$1,200 and after 4 sells their license is suspended. We try different ways to get the message to the retailers and educate them on selling tobacco. Sarah has just recruited a few young boys to try to purchase smokeless tobacco. Perry Huston questioned security. We make sure that we can always see the person during the compliance check to maintain security. If the retailer takes the ID, the teen is instructed to walk out. If there is an angry retailer, we do not go back, but report to the Liquor Control Board to check. If there is a cigarette machine, the teen has to ask where the machine is before purchase.

Business Manager Search process: The Business Manager resigned. We had two applicants, one person withdrew her application. The remaining applicant is being interviewed today. Nora Ludlow is now working both positions. Perry suggested melding the two positions.

New Satellite Phone: CDC wants the phone in the Health Department. Perry suggested moving the phone to the County EOC. Reality is if it is in the Health Department, it will be less that useful in a real emergency. Nancy can discuss this further.

WIC Update: Over half of infants born in the county are on WIC. WIC refers their clients to other programs within the Health Department, such as CSHCN, First Steps, and Oral Health. WIC food dollar contributions play an important role in supporting the economy of the county.

Discussion:

Health Care Access – Hospital District 1 and Hospital District 2 Planning in Upper County -- Eric Jensen and Harold Brockman: Eric provided some background information on how the joint planning effort began and the Health Care Access grant awarded in 2002 to start the planning. He indicated the group is ready to begin the implementation phase of the project.

Eric reviewed the following data used in the planning phase:

- The impact of Mountain Star (Suncadia)
- Current and Future Demographics in the upper county, with and without Suncadia
- Current and Future Demographics in the lower county
- KVCH inpatient market share, regional and upper and lower county
- Health services available in “Comparable Communities”
- Current physician supply and future needs
- Joint Planning Goals
- Next steps

He discussed the possibility of KVCH converting to a Community Access Hospital (CAH) and the difficulty of having a hospital in a small community. The inpatient market share has declined in recent years with orthopedics going to Yakima, no specialized care in the Upper County. It is difficult to get outpatient data.

Nancy asked about the HIPSA designation for rural health and how Eric thought the county would fare since we have added more physicians after getting the designation. Dr. Solberg thought that we had another year before we need to reapply. Eric did not believe there would be a problem, however. There was no other discussion. Perry thanked Eric Jensen and Harold Brockman for their presentation.

The September Board of Health meeting will be presentation of the 2005 Health Department budget.

Max Golladay moved to adjourn and Carolyn Booth seconded. Motion passed.

Next Meeting: The next Board of Health meeting will be September 16 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Perry Huston, Chair of the Board of Health

Nancy Goodloe, Administrator

Nora Ludlow, Secretary to the Board