



# PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

[www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health/](http://www.co.kittitas.wa.us/health/)

## Administration

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## KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

### Minutes

**Thursday, January 12, 2006**  
**Commissioners' Auditorium**  
**11:03 a.m.**

**PRESENT:** Board Members: Carolyn Booth, Commissioner David Bowen, Chair, Commissioner Alan Crankovich, Commissioner Perry Huston, and Vice Chair Don Solberg, M.D.; and Public Health Department Staff: Environmental Health Manager Cathy Bambrick, Community Health Services Manager Bonnie Corns, Administrator Nancy Goodloe, Clerk of the Board Susan Merrill, Health Officer Rosalie Miller, M.D., Health Promotion Manager Ann Riley, and Assessment Coordinator Jane Wright.

### MINUTES:

**Motion 01-01: Carolyn Booth moved that the minutes of the December 15, 2005 Board of Health meeting be approved; Don Solberg seconded. All approved. Motion 01-01 carried.**

### INTRODUCTIONS:

Nancy Goodloe introduced staff newly employed at Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD):

- Cathy Bambrick, Environmental Health (EH) Manager, to Carolyn Booth and Don Solberg. (BOCC members had already met Ms. Bambrick.);
- Dacia Carver, EH Specialist in On-Site Septic Systems; and
- Melissa Schumaier, EH Specialist in the food program (who had been introduced last month too).

And Nancy introduced:

- Jane Creech, Department of Ecology, who is attending the meeting regarding the Wilson Creek matter on today's agenda.

Jane Wright introduced Marleyse Borchard, pursuing her Masters in Public Health (PH) at the University of Washington, who is providing leadership assistance for the department in quality improvement issues from September, 2005 through March, 2006. BOH members welcomed Marleyse.

### CONTRACTS:

Nancy Goodloe explained that amendment #6 to the Consolidated Contract does not change amounts but reflects differences in work plans to meet new Department of Health guidelines requiring more specificity in reporting. Nancy asked that the amendment be approved.

Questions were asked about the definition and nature of additional funds for "local capacity development funds" in the amendment, and if the addition had been reflected in this year's budget. **Commissioner Huston requested that specific additions in funding, and changes in reporting requirements (e.g., different funding cycles), be run by the Board of Health (BOH) so that the Board and the Auditor's Office are aware of what is happening.**

**Motion 01-02: Don Solberg moved to accept Amendment #6 in the Consolidated Contract #C13037; Perry Huston seconded. All approved. Motion 01-02 carried.**

**BUSINESS:**

**Recommendation on Wilson Creek Sub-Basin TMDL: Request for Public Health Support (Continued from December, 2005 Meeting) – Nancy Goodloe**

Nancy Goodloe stated that her recommendation as stated in her memorandum [see HANDOUT containing memorandum, and chart on bacterial source tracking data 2001 obtained by Commissioner Bowen] was prepared subsequent to her meeting with the Board of County Commissioner on December 27, 2005, and that she has already shared her recommendation with Jane Creech, Department of Ecology (DOE), Water Quality Program, in Yakima. Ms. Goodloe's recommendation is that KCPHD maintain its current scope of work regarding on-site septic systems and that public health policy regarding this program not be changed.

The discussion that ensued covered:

- **need for hard data to determine any dangerous levels of fecal coliform;**
- need for data to ensure that we do not have a hazard;
- the County doing its job in licensing and code enforcement, and with a good system, keeping the problem from getting worse;
- mention that with the County's comprehensive plan review, shoreline areas are a part of the review process.
- **being proactive and providing general education to the public, to new homeowners, and to owners around waterways in question;**
- **in spring/summer, providing general public health education that this bacteria is present in the water, and while the degree of potential risk is not known, we know there is a potential risk, and the County (i.e., Public Health) will provide education regarding specific public precautionary measures, such as:**
  - do not drink the water
  - do not swim in the creeks
  - how to care for one's septic system
  - include outreach to new homeowners (who have applied for septic permits)
  - if one has a septic system that is contiguous to the creek system, can contact EH if there is a problem
  - working with DOE and the Conservation District;
- **Nancy mentioned that Rosalie Miller, M.D. (Health Officer), Jane Creech, Cathy Bambrick, and Dacia Carver can draft a newspaper article for publication and post on our Public Health website in the spring and summer covering items mentioned above.**

In the midst of the discussion, Jane Creech from DOE circulated a handout as part of Kittitas County Conservation District's 2004 monitoring report [see HANDOUT]. Ms. Creech noted that the Conservation District's recommendations in this report state that "*Initial bacteria reduction efforts must be aimed toward sources of human fecal bacteria, as these pose the greatest health risk to the community. Leaky septic systems can be detected and remedied, thus reducing or eliminating the most harmful bacteria in the waterways.*" Jane Creech said that fecal coliform bacteria is bad in itself; and is also an indicator of other viruses that can be present (e.g., Salmonella). Additionally, Jane thanked Board members for their time and thoughtfulness in considering DOE's request and in considering the issue.

Dr. Solberg asked Ms. Creech if she would like a motion on the Board's response. **Commissioner Huston suggested that the Board create a resolution for the record containing a history of the discussion, what the County will do, and how the County is working with DOE and the Conservation District. Commissioner Bowen asked if Cathy Bambrick can help draft this resolution.**

## **DISCUSSION:**

### **2005 Public Health Standards Report – Jane Wright, Assessment Coordinator**

Jane Wright distributed the booklet entitled “*Standards for Public Health in Washington, Rev. January, 2005*” [see HANDOUT], said that it provides a report summary on Washington State as well as Kittitas County for 2005 and helps us to know “how we know we are doing a good job and if we are providing the same level of protection in food, water, etc. throughout the State.” Jane provided historical information on the development of the Standards in Washington State, and explained the five key areas/measures that are delineated by the Standards:

- understanding health issues (assessment)
- protecting people from disease (communicable disease)
- assuring a safe, healthy environment for people (environmental health)
- prevention is best: promoting healthy living (prevention and promotion)
- helping people get the services they need (access).

*[As Chair Commissioner Bowen had to leave at this point in the meeting, Dr. Solberg became Acting Chair for the remainder of the meeting.]*

Jane gave a PowerPoint Presentation which included: comparison between the baseline measurement created in 2002 and the 2005 site visit; overall findings for Public Health in Washington State (e.g., “strengths are tied to investment, thus ‘local capacity development funds’ matter”) and for local health jurisdictions; the 2005 report for Kittitas County; and mention that the next review will be in 2008.

Jane Wright was thanked for her presentation. Some discussion occurred over how the standards are integrated into KCPHD’s policies, procedures, and daily operations; and Commissioner Huston complimented Public Health (PH) for how its effort is generating return and is successful, and how he is impressed.

Chair Solberg thanked PH staff for all their hard work and benefits; Carolyn Booth commended staff for their excellent job.

### **UPDATE ON I-901 – Ann Riley**

Ann Riley stated that she has been working with Nancy Goodloe, Melissa Schumaier (as part of regular food inspections), and Cathy Bambrick on implementation: working on the development of procedures for inspection and enforcement; and that work with Doug Mitchell is occurring on the details.

Ann mentioned that education regarding complaints has been sufficient so far; enforcement has not been needed. She has continued to receive calls (e.g., regarding signs) yet fewer than in the past. Ann said people are understanding as to how the initiative is being implemented; and work is going smoothly.

Our department’s complaint line has been set-up (no complaints as yet); the State’s online complaint process is in place and the State is advertising it in commercials. Ann provided some statistics on the diminishing number of complaints over the weeks following passage of the initiative; and in response to a question about the nature of the complaints, said that complaints are from either side of the issue from businesses, and especially from private clubs complaining about a drop in business. Ann said that historically businesses experience an initial decrease in business, then it plateaus out as customers go back to their old habits.

When asked about litter from people smoking on the sidewalks, Ann and Nancy said that it is not the responsibility of PH to address this issue. When asked about if the 25-foot rule is being strictly interpreted, Ann said the details are being worked out with other counties in weekly calls.

Dr. Solberg thanked Ann Riley for her information.

Meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

**Next Meeting: The next Board of Health meeting will be on February 16 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioners' Auditorium.**

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David Bowen, Chair of the Board of Health

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Nancy Goodloe, Administrator  
Kittitas County Public Health Department

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Susan Merrill, Clerk to the Board of Health