



# PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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## KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

### Minutes

**Thursday, January 17, 2008**  
**Commissioners' Auditorium**  
**10:12 a.m.**

**PRESENT:** Board Members: Rich Elliott, Commissioner Mark McClain, and Dr. Don Solberg, Vice Chair.  
Kittitas County Public Health Department Staff (KCPHD): Public Health Administrator Cathy Bambrick, Community Health Services Director Bonnie Corns, Outreach Worker Julia Karns, Health Officer Dr. Mark Larson, Clerk of the Board Susan Merrill, and Accountant Amber Simon.

#### **OTHER ATTENDEES:**

Shannon Carlson, Central WA Occupational Medicine  
Joan Baird Glover, Board of Health Advisory Committee (BOHAC)  
Deidre Link, Central Washington University (CWU) student observing meeting

**ABSENT:** Commissioner David Bowen and Commissioner Alan Crankovich.

Vice Chair Dr. Solberg called meeting to order.

#### **MINUTES:**

**Motion 01-01: Rich Elliott moved to approve the minutes of the December 20, 2007 Board of Health meeting; Dr. Solberg seconded. All approved. Motion 01-01 carried.**

#### **INTRODUCTIONS:**

Joan Baird Glover, as BOHAC's representative, was introduced by Cathy Bambrick. Ms. Bambrick said that BOHAC had adopted a number of new practices, one of which is that BOHAC members will present items of formal action taken at BOHAC meetings to the BOH.

Joan Baird Glover outlined items addressed at BOHAC's January meeting: review of KCPHD's budget, results of BOHAC and KCPHD vote on priority health indicators to pursue and monitor, formal approval of the Solid Waste Policy incorporating a variety of BOHAC's recommendations into the policy, and ongoing updates on health care access from Ms. Glover in her capacity as Kittitas County Hospital District #1 Commissioner.

Commissioner McClain asked how a person chooses a physician in the county and a short discussion ensued over various access and referral mechanisms, open and closed medical practices, and medical access problems (recruitment and otherwise) amongst Cathy Bambrick, Joan Baird Glover, Dr. Larson, Dr. Solberg, and Commissioner McClain. **Joan Baird Glover suggested that a forum could be held at BOH to discuss medical access issues and problems including those related to status, recruitment, and what can be done as a community.**

**CONTRACTS:**

**Child Care Infant Nurse Consultant Contract with Lil' Explorer's Academy:** Cathy Bambrick said that funding allows for another child care contract. Ms. Bambrick said the infant nurse consultant services will be provided by KCPHD to the Lil' Explorer's Academy at a rate of \$50 per visit for a total of twelve (12) months for a contract maximum of \$600.

**Motion 01-02: Rich Elliott made a motion to authorize the Public Health Administrator's signature on the Child Care Infant Nurse Consultant Contract with Lil' Explorer's Academy; Dr. Solberg seconded. All approved. Motion 01-02 carried.**

**2007-2011 Consolidated Contract #C14952 Amendment #7 with Washington State Department of Health (DOH):** Cathy Bambrick stated that Amendment #7: (1) adds a Statement of Work for the Local Capacity Develop Funds program and an increase of \$45,574 and (2) amends the Statement of Work for the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEPR) program with an increase of \$17,966. Funding under the contract has been increased by **\$63,540** to a revised contract maximum of **\$760,474**.

Ms. Bambrick mentioned that some PHEPR local deliverables have been removed as funding has decreased in general and a regional approach is presently being adopted; thus, KCPHD will work toward a regional management structure for its own PHEPR work.

**Motion 01-03: Rich Elliott made a motion to approve the Public Health Administrator's signature on the 2007-2011 Consolidated Contract #C14952 Amendment #7 with Washington State Department of Health; Dr. Solberg seconded. All approved. Motion 01-03 carried.**

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES/ISSUES:**

**Health Officer Update:** Dr. Larson thanked KCPHD staff for their support to him and his family during their time of bereavement in the passing of Dr. Larson's mother.

Dr. Larson distributed a handout on and spoke about new state funding measures in current news which contain performance measures to meet requirements of the 2007 Washington Legislature's E2SSB 5930 (which appropriated \$10 million per year for public health improvement and required the development of performance measures). Dr. Larson described the three performance measures and new House bills that address these measures:

(1) *Performance measure #1: increased use of new child and adolescent vaccines.*

Dr. Larson described WA State Senate Bill 6300 (regarding mercury-containing vaccines) as a restrictive immunization bill that is currently under consideration; and provided medical statistics that counter the import of the bill and mentioned his concerns over the bill's implications for increased rates of communicable disease.

(2) *Performance measure #2: improved identification and investigation of notifiable conditions.*

Dr. Larson stated that a current House Bill addresses reporting of communicable disease conditions and he provided information specifically related to the push to monitor MRSA, and he stated that no funding is provided in the bill. **Dr. Larson will email BOH members with information on this bill.**

Discussion occurred over how to attribute comments opinions of the Health Officer on this bill and any others to Washington State's Legislature in a timely manner. **BOH members decided that if the Health Officer is providing testimony and offering his opinion as a Public Health expert but not taking a public position on behalf of the BOH or BOCC or the County then he can offer his opinion on legislative bills. BOH members asked Dr. Larson to email a**

**position statement or letter to them regarding opinions he would like to convey to the Legislature.**

- (3) *Performance measure #3: to develop and implement effective interventions to address obesity and its consequent burden of chronic disease.*

Dr. Larson reported on FDA recommendations that over-the-counter cough and cold products should not be used in children under two (2) years of age due to serious and potentially life-threatening side effects. Dr. Larson expressed concern over ramifications from the FDA recommendation regarding a possible push from the public for doctors to prescribe more antibiotics and a possible push from Public Health to only use antibiotics where they are indicated (i.e., not for viruses). Some discussion ensued over what the public reaction might be upon the withdrawal of the products from the market by next year.

**Food Safety Program Permitting Changes and Activities:** Cathy Bambrick spoke about progress being made in the department to improve permitting processes and referred to two areas currently being addressed.

- (1) Transient accommodations (i.e., hotels and facilities offering self-service breakfast): to create a category for transient accommodations whereby permitting can occur (as opposed to current situation in our county where these facilities are not permitted).
- (2) Fishing guides who do food preparation: to treat as caterers and thus to permit for their food preparation. Kittitas County will be the last county in the state to permit this category of food preparers.

Cathy Bambrick said that all food preparers in the county have been invited to a biannual meeting intended to produce sharing of information on change of ownership of food establishments, information on how to fix common violations, and gathering of support from restaurants for online food inspections. Some discussion occurred over how to address change of restaurant ownership and permitting issues and possible collaboration with the City of Ellensburg on some of these issues. Ms. Bambrick mentioned the potential for working with the City for the first time on creating new policies regarding mobile food units, as well as, water/sewer hookups.

**Financial Update:** Amber Simon provided information on the following:

- Contract revenue: contract billings for the third quarter, 2007 are complete and are 105% of what was budgeted; and fourth quarter, 2007 billings will be complete by the end of January, 2008.
- Expenses: 2007 invoices are still being posted and an accurate expense total will be available once the Auditor's Department completes voucher posting in February, 2008. Current review shows that expenses 98% of expenses are budgeted.
- Reporting: QuickBooks software has recently been purchased and will enable the department to track payables and receivables and thus provide internal financial reporting which is timely and accurate and which will enable the department to spend grant/contract funds effectively.

**HIV Migrant Outreach Program – 2007 Highlights by Julia Karns:** Cathy Bambrick said the HIV Migrant Outreach Program work in Mattawa done by Julia Karns has been cut this year due to reduced regional funding, and consequently, that this portion of the department's outreach program has been discontinued. [KCPHD's outreach work will now focus on case management for those individuals living with HIV.] Cathy Bambrick said Ms. Karns will present a summary of what she had accomplished in 2007.

Julia Karns gave her "Adventures in Mattawa" PowerPoint Presentation and reported on how the migrant outreach project evolved, the intention of the work (to reduce HIV/AIDS infection in the U.S. and also when workers returned home), and what the successful outcomes were amongst the Hispanic farmworkers. Julia Karns said she spoke at the WA Department of Health Care Event, a biannual conference on HIV/AIDS, which included strategies on how to better identify and reach people and how to better serve those already

infected. Ms. Karns' work in Region 2 encompassed an area from Chelan-Douglas County to Benton Franklin County where 80% of seasonal migrants work and live and where there is a huge influx of migrant workers in the summer.

Julia Karns described her two-day intervention program which consisted of a scientifically-based intervention developed by the Centers for Disease Control to teach and create a "safe environment" for migrant workers in order to receive the information and open up discussion on STD education and the HIV virus. Ms. Karns described how since the program's inception, the number of interventions had doubled.

Commissioner McClain thanked Julia Karns for the great job she has done. Cathy Bambrick said that Ms. Karns had been recognized statewide for her work and was going to New York City for the "Connecting to Care" conference focusing on getting the newly-diagnosed into care and keeping those living with HIV/AIDS in care.

**BUSINESS:**

**SW01-08 Solid Waste Inspection and Documentation Policy and Procedures:** Cathy Bambrick said this was the first set of policies on solid waste that has been developed; and she requested BOH's approval of the solid waste policy. Ms. Bambrick provided background information on the subject by saying that the Department of Ecology (DOE) regulates solid waste issues statewide and does not provide inspection forms and most counties do not have such forms either; thus, KCPHD created their own forms. The purpose of the policy is to identify the minimum number of inspections each year, create inspection forms for the different types of facilities under inspection, clearly specify how inspections are to be conducted, ensure that staff are prepared and inspections are accurate, and to systematically document any problems with facilities so that enforcement can later occur. Ms. Bambrick described each section of the policy and forms.

Cathy Bambrick said the policy was sent for review to owners and operators, the Health Officer, DOE, and BOHAC (which added several modifications and approved it).

Some discussion and questions covered:

- challenges associated with transfer facilities where it is not known what items will be brought into the facility) and woodwaste facilities;
- the need to have a policy covering solid waste facilities with an approved exemption from a solid waste facility permit (e.g., recycling facilities);
- and inspections associated with recycling facilities if such facilities are out of compliance (i.e., are taking materials that are not exempt) and the need to decide whether to charge a fee for such facilities as currently no money is involved as facilities are not permitted.

**Motion 01-04: Rich Elliott moved to approve the SW01-08 Solid Waste Inspection and Documentation Policy and Procedures and authorize the signatures of the Health Officer and Public Health Administrator on the policy; Dr. Solberg seconded. All approved. Motion 01-04 carried.**

**Appointment of Vice Chair:**

**Motion 01-05: Rich Elliott moved to appoint Dr. Solberg as the Vice Chair for the Board of Health for 2008; Commissioner McClain seconded. All approved. Motion 01-05 carried.**

**EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES:** None

**Motion 01-06: Rich Elliott moved to adjourn the meeting; Commissioner McClain seconded. All approved. Motion 01-06 carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:34 a.m.

**Next Meeting:** The next Board of Health meeting will be held on February 21, 2008 at 10 a.m. in the Commissioners' Auditorium.

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Mark McClain, Chair of the Board of Health

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Cathy Bambrick, Public Health Administrator  
Kittitas County Public Health Department

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Susan Merrill, Clerk of the Board of Health