



To Protect and Promote the Health and the Environment of the People of Kittitas County

## KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

### Special Meeting/Public Hearing Minutes

**February 26, 2009**  
**Commissioners' Auditorium**  
**10:00am**

**PRESENT:** Board Members: Mark McClain, Paul Jewell, Alan Crankovich and Rich Elliott.

**ABSENT:** Don Solberg MD

**Kittitas County Public Health Department Staff:** Cathy Bambrick, Candi Blackford, Amy Diaz, Robin Read-Ochoa, Mark Larson MD, Amber Simon

*Chairman Alan Crankovich called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.*

#### **Minutes:**

**Motion 01-01: Approval of January 5, 2009 minutes. Rich Elliott moved to approve the January 5, 2009 meeting minutes with editing amendments made. Mark McClain second. All approved. Motion carried to approve the January 5, 2009 meeting minutes with editing amendments made.**

**Motion 01-02: Approval of January 15, 2009 minutes. Paul Jewell moved to approve the January 15, 2009 meeting minutes with editing amendments made. Mark McClain second. All approved. Motion carried to approve the January 15, 2009 meeting minutes with editing amendments made.**

Cathy updated information she had received about election of Don Solberg MD as Vice Chair. The previous motion passed by board members is not effective. Public Health Department must legally post position, accept applications and interview. Cathy asked board members if they wanted BOHAC to interview for this position and then bring it back to Board of Health at next meeting to formally vote. All members agreed to this.

**Motion 01-03: Approval of application/interview process for selecting new BOH member for vacant position. Paul Jewell moved to approve the approval of application/interview process for selecting new BOH member for vacant position. Mark McClain second. All approved. Motion carried for the approval of application/interview process for selecting new BOH member for vacant position**

#### **Introductions and Announcements:**

BOHAC representative Hartwig Vatheuer introduced himself. He updated the Board of Health members that at the last BOHAC meeting they discussed the West Nile Virus Emergency Plans various levels. He also informed members that there was discussion about the role the local veterinarians play in regards to the WNV, the interest they had in the process of starting a mosquito control board, and reaffirmed the adequacy of the plan which was passed last summer.

**Contracts:**

Cathy informed the board members that she would be putting the Consolidated Contracts 13 and 14 on agenda session for approval before the BOH next month due to the time restraint. The State Department of Health is waiting to send us money, but is unable to do this as they have not received the contracts back from our county.

**Grant Agreement between the State of Washington and Kittitas County Public Health Department**

**GPS:** Cathy reviewed that this contract allowed the Public Health Department to purchase a GPS unit to track solid waste and hazardous waste dump sites and landfills. The department receives all complaints about possible dump sites, sends out an employee to take photos, and will then just GPS the area for data collection. The department will also use this for onsite sewage inspections to GPS the location of drain field's location. This will allow the department to keep track of and report illegal dumping to the Department of Ecology. There was discussion on the purpose of the data collected and whether or not tracking illegal dumping had a consequence.

**Motion 01-03: Commissioner Paul Jewell moved to approve the Public Health Administrators signature with the Board of Health Chair signature on the Budget Amendment form. Mark McClain moved to second. All approved. Motion 01-03 carried to approve the Public Health Administrators signature with the Board of Health Chair signature on the Budget Amendment form.**

**Community Health of Central Washington-Children with Special Health Care Needs Program:** This contract struck from agenda as it was not received back from authorization process.

**NACCHO Contract:** This contract struck from agenda as it was not received back from authorization process.

**Interagency Agreement between State of Washington Department of Ecology and KCPHD:** This contract struck from agenda as it was not received back from authorization process.

**Washington Consolidated Contract Amendment #13:** This contract struck from agenda as it was not received back from authorization process.

**Washington Consolidated Contract Amendment #14:** This contract struck from agenda as it was not received back from authorization process.

**Health Officer Update:** Cathy Bambrick updated that the health department is currently busy working on the pertussis outbreak. We have 3 positives in the county. The 2 most current cases are two 17 year olds that attend Kittitas secondary school. The communicable disease team is working on contacting and obtaining vaccination records of those that were exposed in classes and other outside activities as well as family members. The health department is also working on obtaining information from the school on absentee rates (reasons for being absent) and getting information on pertussis to school and staff.

**Administrator's Report:** Cathy updated the BOH members that January was a challenging month for the Public Health Department. The Women, Infant and Children program (WIC), First Steps, and portions of the Children with Special Health Care Needs programs moved to Community Health of Central Washington. Also, Environmental Health programs moved from the 5<sup>th</sup> and Ruby Street building (Berry's Building) to the Nanum Street building (Sorenson building). The management team did a great job organizing the move and Cathy's primary goal was to concentrate on staff morale and stability. Emergency response activities related to the flood kept staff very busy, especially in Upper County. Environmental Health provided much needed support with well water testing, well chlorination, and technical assistance with large water systems that were affected by the flood. Several Public Service Announcements were created by staff containing education about drinking water, maintaining septic systems during floods, and

cleaning after a flood. Staff continue to work on an After Action Report. This includes providing well test data to the county GIS database.

The department of Ecology Exempt Well Proposed Permanent Rule continues to be challenging for the county. Staff are experiencing most success in developing a scope of work for the Upper Kittitas County Ground Water Study. The committee working on the development of the scope of work will finish in February. This will include preparation of a Request for Proposals to enable the county to go out for bid for an organization to conduct the study. The metering project has moved slowly. We have chosen a specific meter for the county, but have not yet determined the best method for data collection. Our options include allowing residents to self report or have our staff collect the data using electronic methodology. Our contractual hydrogeologist has completed a template for hydrogeologic assessments to provide guidance for developers who are required to complete an assessment. Mark McClain asked to have a copy sent to him for review and Cathy acknowledged this.

Commissioner McClain updated that Tom Tebb called and wants to jointly move into the dispute resolution section of this and at the same time put in a temporary rule as opposed to the permanent rule. The temporary rule would be pretty much the same as the permanent rule except we would have 160 days instead of 180 days to try to hash out differences of MOA. There was discussion about where the county stood in this process. Mark stated that the conversation was good and will hopefully wind up on the same page and move forward. Cathy also stated that the department has the meter to install, but we are not helping with the installation. Mark McClain questioned how many people have been affected. Cathy let the members know that information is something the department has to keep track of. The commissioners would like to know how many people have been affected and at what cost.

The department is coming up on 120 days for processing the comment letters for Upper County. Cathy noted she wanted to send out the Lower County letter to Upper County since it is pretty generic so we can get something out.

Cathy updated the implementation of the NACCHO grant received in December of 2008 for work on a health information exchange network has been very exciting for staff. The department is in the initial stages of acquiring the electronic medical software and getting contracts reviewed and approved for developing the public health module. There was discussion on why some physicians may be opposed to the implementation of electronic medical records.

## **BUSINESS:**

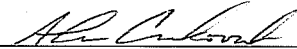
**West Nile Virus Emergency Response Plan:** Cathy updated about the Emergency Response Plan. The department has obtained a permit to get the larvacide. The department has not purchased any larvacide and have no plans to disperse it yet. Cathy also informed the commissioners that we were at a level 3 due to having a confirmed equine case and asked whether or not to wait or larvacide which would happen in April. Mark McClain would like the Health Department to get estimates on what the cost would be and Commissioner Crankovich would like the department to check with the Department of Health to see if there would be any available funding for this. Cathy will check on this information and will bring for update at the next study session as well as e-mail this to the commissioners. Dr Larson discussed the concerns surrounding West Nile Virus. Dr Larson will also check into the Environmental issues/hazards if any and let the Board of Health members know.

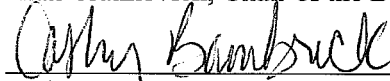
**Online Food Inspections:** Cathy just wanted to get a formal vote. There was some discussion again what this process was and how much time it would take to do this for the health department as well as other departments as well as the benefits to the public.


**Motion 01-04: Commissioner Paul Jewell moved to approve the online food inspections. Rich Elliott moved to second. Commissioner Alan Crankovich, Commissioner Paul Jewell and Rich Elliott moved to approve the on line food inspections and Commissioner Mark McClain abstained. Motion 01-04 carried 3-1.**

**Review of 2008 Preliminary Financial Results:** Amber Simon reviewed the 2008 preliminary financial results. There was a deficit for the year, but it was not as big as originally thought it would turn out to be. Instead of a \$254,590.00 loss we only ended up with a \$214,200.20 loss. So there was \$48,000.00 extra that stayed in fund reserve even with the dip in revenue from Environmental Health. Amber went over the highlights that were on the handout and discussed some of the different department budgets.

Next Board of Health meeting is March 19, 2009 at 10:00 am in the Commissioners' Auditorium

  
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Alan Crankovich, Chair of the Board of Health

  
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Cathy Bambrick, Administrator  
Kittitas County Public Health Department

  
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Candi Blackford, Clerk of the Board of Health