



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

KITTITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH) MEETING Minutes

Thursday, December 15, 2011
Commissioners' Auditorium
10:00 am

Present

Board of Health Members: John Asriel M.D., Rich Elliott, Obie O'Brien, Paul Jewel, Alan Crankovich

Kittitas County Public Health Department (KCPHD) Staff: Maria D. Canfield, Mark Larson M.D., Linda Navarre, Candi Blackford, Amanda Johnson, Karen Hamel, James Rivard

Other Attendees: Suzanne Becker (Prosecutor's Office)

The Board of Health portion of the meeting was called to order at 10:55am

Minutes

Approval of the November 9, 2011 minutes as presented:

Motion 12-01: Motion to approve the November 9, 2011 minutes as presented. Rich Elliott moved to approve the November 9, 2011 minutes as presented. Obie O'Brien second. All approved. Motion 12-01 carried to approve the November 9, 2011 minutes as presented.

Introductions

Introduction of BOHAC Members: There were no BOHAC members present.

Contracts and Amendments

Medicaid Administrative Match

Maria reported that this contract ensures that KCPHD will provide necessary staff, services, and materials to serve individuals who are potentially eligible for Medicaid benefits. This contract will bring in an estimated \$48,000 next year.

Motion 12-02: Motion to approve the Medicaid Administrative Match Contract. Rich Elliott moved to approve the Medicaid Administrative Match contract. Obie O'Brien second. All approved. Motion 12-02 carried to approve the Medicaid Administrative Match contract.

Washington State Department of Ecology Coordinated Prevention Grant

This agreement provides funding for the solid waste program from January 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013.

Obie O'Brien raised question of new regulations for closed landfills and whether they impact this grant. James Rivard replied that it did not. Paul Jewel asked for clarification of task 1 as well as the work plan portion of the contract. Ms. Becker replied that the junk vehicle clause (task 1) needed to be performed by the county, not Public Health specifically, and could be a collaboration with code enforcement. In response to the question about the proposed work plan purchase of a new thermometer and computer, James stated that the department currently has a low end thermometer they would like to replace, and many staff computers are outdated. Task 4 of the contract regarding unsecured loads was also discussed. Mr. Jewel believed that code was already in place for this. Ms. Becker clarified that RCW is in place, however, code still needs to be established to determine a fee along with processes and procedures. Group discussion occurred regarding different ways to handle enforcement of this issue including enforcement by the Sheriff's office, the transfer station, or public health.

Motion 12-03: Motion to approve the Washington State Department of Ecology Coordinated Prevention Grant. Rich Elliot moved to approve the Washington State Department of Ecology Coordinated Prevention Grant. Alan Crankovich second. All approved. Motion 12-03 carried to approve the Washington State Department of Ecology Coordinated Prevention Grant.

Consolidated Contract 2012-2014 (Striked)

Department Updates/Issues

Health Officer Update:

Dr. Larson reported that as money becomes harder to come by with services still having to be maintained for the public by unfunded mandates, these services are in danger of becoming pushed off to less qualified people. For example, latent TB treatment will likely be pushed to local clinics that don't treat TB frequently enough to do it expertly. The Health Department will try to hold onto functions they do well for the benefit of the public, however, a stable funding source is imperative for this to be maintained. A funding source should, ideally, distribute the cost of services across those that benefit from them. Dr. Larson also stressed the importance of educating the public so that the community can see the value in what we do.

In other updates, Dr. Larson informed the group that a proposed ban on any cell phone use in cars is in the works for next year. In answer to a previous question from a member of the public, there haven't been any deaths from contaminated water but there have been many illnesses. It is important to ensure that the public can safely drink water at someone else's house.

Doctor Asriel mentioned that he would like to see public services such as STD and HIV testing and TB treatment offered at no cost to the public, although he understands that current economic times don't easily allow this.

Administrator Updates: Maria D. Canfield presented the following:

- When successful, public health is unseen. It is hard to get the public to recognize the value and success of the Department, because nothing happens when public health is successful...and that is a good thing. It is not until things go wrong, such as with a Pertussis outbreak, that the community notices Public Health.
- December 1st was World AIDS Day. The event was a great success and attended by 70 people. Julia Karns participated in the event along with Dr. Larson who spoke on the importance of knowing your status.
- Ms. Canfield summarized a WASALPHO meeting she attended on December 17th.
 - It is unlikely that legislature will act on the budget until next year.
 - It is unlikely that Blue Ribbon Funds will stay intact which total \$60,000 of funding for the Department.
 - A rumor is circulating that a jobs bill will be submitted.

- A new prescription drug monitoring program is currently in place at the state.
- Attendees at the meeting were asked to brainstorm in groups and respond to three core questions for a white paper development.
- A quality improvement grant has been funded and will provide training for all staff February 29, 2011 in the LEAN methodology as well as basic principles of quality improvement. An additional training will be held March 14, 2011 for managers.
- Linda Navarre has formed a partnership with Dr. Elise Herman from Ellensburg Pediatrics to start a Shaken Baby Syndrome campaign aimed at increasing awareness and prevention. Shaken Baby Syndrome is the leading cause of child abuse and often goes hand in hand with hard economic times.
- Food and Pool permit season has concluded for Environmental Health and new fees for 2012 are now being dispersed at each inspection.

Business

Financial Update: Karen presented the following:

- Numbers updated through November 2011 are tracking close to budget for revenue
- Graph of funding sources through November
- 5 year revenue trends
- Environment Health revenues from license/permits
- Expenses to-date which are tracking close to budget
- Fund balance chart (\$592,692)
- Fund balance projection for end of year.

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Update

Robin Read announced that the CHIP steering committee met for the first time November 3, 2011 with a great turnout. Attendees included community members, clinics, schools, ADDS, Aspen, CWU, and local businesses. The group will work to create a community health assessment followed by a community health plan. The first meeting focused on creating a community health vision. A smaller group was pulled together to draft this vision and will present it to the steering committee for review at the next meeting on January, 15, 2011. The group is also partnering with a CWU professor who teaches a community health assessment course. Students in the class are helping to gather information for the project.

Immunization Outreach Efforts

Linda Navarre along with the Walgreens Pharmacy in Yakima and the Ellensburg Free Clinic Director have collaborated to provide free flu shot clinics. The first clinic will be held December 15, 2011 from 6-9pm at the Ellensburg Community Free Health Clinic. Additional shots will be offered December 17, 2011 in Ellensburg and Cle Elum as well as after Mass at St. Andrews Catholic Church.

Funding Stability Project

Ms. Canfield expressed concern in regards to finding a stable funding source for the Health Department and has proposed a project to identify and implement funding sources. Ms. Canfield proposed partnering with Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WASALPHO) and a research group from WSU to research funding sources and trends for public health since 2005. She will be trying to identify public health agencies that are doing the best job at maintaining funding stability. She will then develop proposals for the Board of Health with the help of a steering committee.

As a second part of her proposal Ms. Canfield will advocate for rural, Eastern Washington public health departments at WASALPHO meetings. As a first step towards this endeavor, Ms. Canfield has already joined a legislative committee. Rich Elliott volunteered to be on the steering committee and was voted chair of the committee by Paul Jewel. Mr. Jewel also suggested including BOHAC members.


Elk Heights Facility Proposal


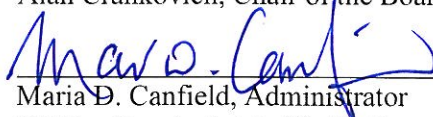
A proposal has been made to create a mega compost facility in the Elk Heights area. Food and biosolid waste will be trucked over from the west side of the state. This facility will provide \$4,000 to \$5,000 in permit fees per year as well as providing jobs for the community.

Rich Elliott informed the group that Hope Source has started a transport program to get people to and from doctor appointments in Yakima and will begin a cabulance program soon.

Meeting adjourned at 11:54 am

Next Board of Health Meeting January 19, 2011 at 10:00 am, Commissioners' Auditorium


Amanda Johnson, Clerk of the Board of Health


Alan Crankovich, Chair of the Board of Health

Maria D. Canfield, Administrator
Kittitas County Public Health Department