KITITAS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)  
Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 29, 2015
Commissioners’ Auditorium
10:00 a.m.

Present
Board of Health (BOH): John Asriel, M.D., Gary Berndt, Rich Elliott, Obie O’Brien

Absent: Paul Jewell

Board of Health Advisory Committee (BOHAC): Judy Hennessy, Nancy Jewett, Teague McKamey, Rebecca Pearson, Monty Sabin

Public Health: Candi Blackford, Julia Karsn, Kasey Knutson, Mark Larson, M.D., Erin Moore, Holly Myers, Robin Read, Kaitlyn Reddick, Liz Whitaker

Others: Carol Moser (Benton Franklin Community Health Alliance), Blake Rose (Prosser Memorial Hospital), and Deborah Gauck (Private Consultant/Grant Writer from Ellensburg)

Gary Berndt called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Minutes
Approval of the March 19, 2015 Board of Health meeting minutes as presented.

Motion 04-01: Motion to approve the March 19, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Obie O’Brien moved to approve the March 19, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Rich Elliott second. All approved. Motion 04-01 carried to approve the March 19, 2015 meeting minutes as presented.

Introductions and Announcements
Everyone introduced themselves.

BOHAC Member
Monty Sabin reported on the March Board of Health Advisory Committee meeting agenda items:
• BOHAC would like to add a Central Washington University Public Health student to the committee in the near future
• Discussed the competition for grants between Kittitas County Community Network Coalition and Kittitas County Public Health
• Dr. Larson updated on the public health legislation (Cigar Lounge Bill)
• The health department reviewed the Strategic Plan and hopes to have it finalized at the May Board of Health meeting
• Dr. Mark Larson reported that Kittitas Valley Hospital is recruiting providers

Rebecca Pearson presented the first Public Health Champion Award to Ellensburg Parks and Recreation, recognizing the organization’s positive impact on the community. Rich Elliott accepted the award and a $500.00 check on behalf of Ellensburg Parks and Recreation. Robin Read noted that Ellensburg Parks and Recreation is a huge community partner and acknowledged their partnerships in summer community lunches, as well as the expansion of the trail to Irene Rinehart Park. Commissioner Berndt and Commissioner O’Brien also acknowledged their efforts and time invested to get kids outside with their community sports programs.

**Department Updates/Issues**

**Administrator Update**

Robin Read reviewed a handout that discussed the following:

May is Hepatitis Awareness Month-

• Hepatitis A is primarily transmitted through food or water contaminated with feces from an infected person and is vaccine preventable
• Hepatitis B is transmitted via direct contact with blood, serum, or sexual fluids of an infected person and is vaccine preventable
• Hepatitis C is primarily spread through contact with infected blood and there is no vaccine available
• Hepatitis D is co-occurring with hepatitis B
• Hepatitis E is spread similar to hepatitis A and is very uncommon in the U.S.

**Contracts/Agreements Approved**

• NACCHO Medical Reserve Corps contract $15,000
• Grant County 1422 funds for chronic disease $18,500
• Consolidated Contract Amendment 1:
  o $24,078 for increasing capacity to monitor indoor air quality during fire season
  o $573 added to immunization program
• Yakima Neighborhood Health Services for in-person assister program $15,228.43
• MOU with Walter Strom Middle School for public health emergencies
• Professional Service Agreement with Kittitas Valley Hospital for TB x-rays
• Resolution recognizing National Public Health Week
• CWU Agreement for food inspections
Staffing
- Fiske Firebaugh has been hired as a new Environmental Health Specialist I to work on the on-site septic program
- Applications for summer interns will be reviewed at the end of next week

Program Updates
- Fifty-five leased water mitigation certificates have been issued since June 2014
- The department continues to work with partners on cleaning up the Millpond septic spill and preventing future septic issues
- Four hundred fifty-two air quality surveys have been received (the department goal is six hundred twenty-nine)
- Current budget proposals in the legislature are calling for a 50% cut in Coordinated Prevention Grant funds, which would reduce work in programs such as unsecured loads, syringe exchange, and other outreach programs
- Environmental Health staff are working with Commissioner Jewell, Community Development Services, and the Prosecutor’s office to develop the water mitigation program
- A focus group was held with ten stakeholder participants to gather feedback about developing the water metering program
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness funds will be receiving a small cut of approximately $7,000
- The department successfully donated all dental equipment to Yakima Valley Community College
- Over 3,000 syringes have been exchanged this year (more than all of 2014) and eight naloxone kits have been distributed in one month (department budgeted for twenty for the entire year)
- Erin Moore was selected to attend and present on our Quality Improvement Leadership Team at a national quality improvement conference in Texas in March

Admin Update
- Robin Read and Amy Fuller will be presenting our annual report to the Ellensburg City Council on May 4th - the department has received many compliments and requests for this presentation
- Ms. Read joined the Washington State Public Health Association Board to represent rural health departments
- The Communities of Health Collaborative successfully conducted a pilot mental health competency training to thirty-seven staff in the Kittitas School District; they are currently evaluating the training and preparing to implement the program community-wide
- Though selected as a finalist for a $60,000 Community Health Improvement Grant, KCPHD was not awarded the funds
- A bomb threat drill was conducted at the Morris Sorenson building to practice orderly evacuation
- All supervisors at the health department attended the recent county management training
- Final strategic plan updates/edits will be implemented with the hope of bringing the final version to the Board of Health in May

Health Officer Update
Dr. Mark Larson started off by adding a quick bit about the Heroin/Opioid Overdose Summit 2015 that Julia has worked hard to set up and promote in Kittitas County. The conference is scheduled for May 5th
at Central Washington University and all are encouraged to attend. Dr. Larson also informed Board of Health that the issue of opioids is here in Ellensburg and affects all demographics. Julia Karns thanked the commissioners for their support and again encouraged them to attend. There was discussion about the current Narcan program and whether or not it actually helps those who use the lifesaving drug to enter into rehab programs. Ms. Karns noted that there is currently no data that provides that information, but the syringe exchange does help stop the spread of communicable diseases. Dr. Larson noted that he will try to research data and bring it to the next meeting. Rich Elliott also clarified that there are benefits to the community from having the syringe exchange and the Narcan distribution.

Financial update
Kaitlyn Reddick briefly reviewed her financial handout that gave an overview of the March 2015 statement:
- All program revenues and expenses: budget to actual
- All program revenues and expenses: year-to-date comparison
- Environmental Health (license/permit and fees): revenues are hitting the five year marks even with no fee increases this year
- Community Health program revenue (clinic fees and grants): hitting budget targets or just about with the first quarter reporting
- Revenues: all programs
- All program revenues by source

Business
Accountable Communities of Health (ACH)/Regional Service Areas (RSA) presentation
Blake Rose, Prosser Memorial Hospital, started out discussing the Accountable Communities of Health and the purpose of the groups. Mr. Rose reviewed the following information in the presentation:

Change is Coming- Why?
Legislation:
Senate Bill 6312- Treating the Whole Person
- Integration of purchasing by 2020
- Created behavioral health organizations
- Medicaid purchasing regionalized (2016)
- Early adopter and outcome-based incentives
House Bill 2572- Better Health Care Purchasing
- Establishes first Accountable Communities of Health
- Establishes statewide performance measures committee
- Creates practice transformation hub
- All payer claims database
- Directs Health Care Authority to increase VBP contracting
Purpose of Accountable Communities of Health

Purpose:
- Regionally governed, public–private collaborative tailored by region to align actions and initiatives of a diverse coalition of players in order to achieve healthy communities and populations- State Health Care Innovation Plan

Community Empowerment and Accountability - Accountable Communities of Health will:
- Provide a multi-sector voice
- Serve as a forum for regional collaborative decision making
- Accelerate physical and behavior health care integration

A Forum for regional collaborative decision making because health is more than health care:
- Community
- System Supports
- Health and Recovery

Regionalization

The initial ten awards of up to $50,000 for Communities of Health Planning were given to the following regional groups:
- Pierce County Health Innovation Partnership
- North Sound Accountable Communities of Health
- King County
- Better Health Together
- CHOICE Regional Outlook
- Benton-Franklin Community Health Alliance
- Southwest Washington Regional Health Alliance
- South Puget Sound Intertribal Agency
- Yakima County Accountable Community of Health
- North Central Health Partnership

Regional Service Areas (RSA)
- The map reviewed the (DSHS?) SDHS/Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery regional support network

Accountable Communities of Health boundaries and pilot Accountable Communities of Health
- Aligning sectors, resources, and strategies around community and state priorities
- Two pilot communities: Cascade Pacific Action Alliance and North Sound Accountable Communities of Health

Accountable Communities of Health timeline
- 2014-Communities of Health planning grant
- 2015-Two ACH pilots named and the design of regions
- 2016-ACH are designated and continually evolving
- 2018-Fully functioning ACH

Carol Moser discussed the funding piece to support the Accountable Communities of Health:

Funding
State-SIM Grant Money
The state has requested $92 million from CMS to be spent between the CY 2015-2018 and it is estimated that the implementation of the plan will save $1.05 billion over the next four years.

Actual money received is $64.9 million.

Regional-ACH Planning Grants
- 2014- $36k was awarded to the Benton-Franklin Community Health Alliance for the 6 county ACH
- 2015- $135k Greater Columbia ACH
- $100k Health Care Authority, $10k Amerigroup (facilitator), and $25k GCBH RSN (in-kind)

Next Steps
Where the ACH is going (timeline)
- 2014- During the third and fourth quarters of 2014, the Communities of Health grants were awarded
- 2015- Two pilot ACH’s chosen and communities are designed (or designated?)
- 2016 through 2018-progression through the ACH continuum

Current Plans for Greater Columbia ACH
- Determine governance structure
- Determine funding/sustainability
- Determine needs
- Determine Projects

Greater Columbia ACH Timeline
- Discussed 2015 month to month milestones Needs Disparities

Deborah Gauck, a private consultant/grant writer from Ellensburg, presented Kittitas County data from a grant writer’s perspective. The first graph displayed data from the Robert Wood Johnson Health Rankings. This data does not rank Kittitas County favorably from a grant writer’s perspective, but the 2008-12 census data favors Kittitas County better. Kittitas County BRFSS data from 2011-13 favors Kittitas County when grouped with other counties in the region, but the numbers are not as positive when Kittitas County stands on its own as an individual county. This data dramatically depicts the benefits of being part of a region and emphasizes the importance of being involved with the Accountable Communities of Health. Dr. Mark Larson added that Kittitas County could be more engaged and could benefit from participating in the group. There was discussion about grants being short term and the purpose of the group was to find a program that would work for our region and create reports and data that makes the Accountable Communities of Health and Managed Care Organizations accountable.

Upper Kittitas County drug use interview
Julia Karns informed the Board of Health that the health department did a survey to collect quantitative data about the necessity of a syringe exchange program in Upper County. There were twenty-three people surveyed and the report revealed the following information:
- Twenty two out of twenty three people think there is a need for a syringe exchange in Upper County
- Twenty one out of twenty three people believe that there are people in Upper County who would use a syringe exchange if it were available
• The majority of people believe there are people in Upper County who would like to utilize exchange services but cannot get to the Ellensburg exchange during open hours
• Two thirds of responders think operating an exchange program out of a vehicle in a fixed location would be better than using the office at the Putnam Center in Cle Elum and some did not like either option
• Collected suggestions for days of the week that would work best to access syringe exchange
• Collected suggestions for different times of the day that would be most effective for a syringe exchange

The survey results showed that there is a need for a syringe exchange in Upper County, but at this point the future of the syringe exchange is unknown due to funding issues. There is no stable funding for this program and current funding may be cut within the next year. There was discussion about the fifteen syringe lockboxes the program has purchased to put up around the county with willing partners.

Other

Meeting adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Next Board of Health Meeting will be held on May 21, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

[Signature]
Gary Berndt, Chair of the Board of Health

[Signature]
Robin Read, Administrator,
Kittitas County Public Health

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Candi Blackford, Clerk of the Board of Health