

**CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
March 16, 2004**

I. ROLL CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m. by Stephen P. Tharinger, Chair.

Present: Stephen P. Tharinger, Chair
Michael C. Chapman, Vice Chair
Howard "Mike" V. Doherty, Jr.

II. AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Mr. Chapman moved to approve the Agenda as written. Mr. Doherty seconded and the motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Andy Brastad asked for changes to VII.A. – remove sentence "Partially, if we....."; change ".....obligations of the grant," to ".....obligations of their grant contracts,....."; and change the word in paragraph 6 in the same section from "Endrococci" to "Entrococci". Rene will change the original document. Mr. Chapman moved to approve the minutes from February 17, 2004 as amended. Mr. Doherty seconded and the motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Zora Davis, President of The Mannor and The Residents Association, asked what the smoking regulations for HUD buildings were in regards to tobacco smoking around the premises. Mr. Doherty suggested she try speaking to the Housing Authority and she said that she did and Pam is looking into it. Rachel Anderson, Health & Human Services Tobacco Prevention Coordinator, will have contact with Ms. Davis after the meeting.

V. PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

Dr. Locke reviewed the main discussions of the March 5th PHAC meeting with the Board. Harlan Knudson was reappointed as Chairman to the PHAC. The committee reviewed and supported in its current form, the Solid Waste Ordinance that comes before the Board today. They reviewed the recently adopted County Ordinance, reconstituting the Advisory Committee and discussed membership recruitment and the mission on the committee. They also reviewed the draft committee handbook that goes out to each member. The committee talked at some length about the BOH expansion. They reviewed and strongly supported the Prohibition of Smoking on County Property Ordinance which comes before the Board today. They commented that in addition to the occupational and second hand exposure issues, they discussed setting a health standard for the county. There was a presentation by Cyndi Newman, County Oral Health Specialist, about Xylitol. Next month's PHAC meeting will include more discussion about Xylitol.

VI. HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Draft Ordinance – Prohibition of Smoking on Clallam County Property JoAnne Dille presented the Ordinance to the Board. She said that it is an Ordinance that would be enacted by the Board of County Commissioners, we are bringing it to the Board of Health due to its significant health relationship. The Public Health Advisory Committee has reviewed and supports the Ordinance. Chris Melly, Deputy Prosecuting Attorney, has reviewed several drafts of the document. Now it is in front of the Board of Health for request of support. Next it would go to the BOCC for Worksession and then to the BOCC Agenda for a public hearing and proposed final signature. This is an attempt to reduce exposure to secondhand smoke to employees and the public.

Rachel Anderson, Health & Human Services Tobacco Prevention Coordinator, passed out and reviewed a Fact Sheet that explained the health concerns of secondhand smoke. She explained that 76% of Clallam County residents do not smoke and a very high percentage feels it is annoying and harmful. She explained that the ordinance is to

protect the health and safety of the employees and public to the exposure to secondhand smoke. We want to ban smoking on all County properties, including the Courthouse, Juvenile Services and the Fairgrounds.

Mr. Chapman said that while at the Clallam Bay prison last week he found out that the whole Clallam Bay Prison facility will be smoke free both in and outside the buildings. Rachel said that there are also several counties across Washington State that are looking at similar ordinances to this one.

Mr. Chapman asked about the ordinance in regards to the camp grounds. JoAnne said that there would be no smoking inside and around, enclosed County facilities. There were also enforcement discussions about County trails, and private vehicles on County property. Dr. Locke suggested putting exceptions in section B, to define property broadly and then exempt certain areas where the health risk is much lower.

Rachel said that in connection with the County Ordinance, the County will be requested to add smoking cessation classes to their employee (and their families) Wellness Program. In addition to the cessation classes, we will also request looking at including acupuncture and hypnotherapy.

Mr. Doherty asked if in lieu of the fine (\$50.00) for non-compliance, could the individual take the cessation program to have the fine dropped. Staff will research.

Mr. Chapman moved to support the proposed Ordinance of No Smoking on Clallam County Property and have staff take it to the Board of County Commissioners for Worksession. Mr. Doherty seconded and the motion carried.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Draft Solid Waste Regulations – Pre-Adoption Briefing and Call for Public Hearing. Andy Brastad presented the Board with the most recent draft of the Solid Waste Regulation for Clallam County Environmental Health Services. Our local regulations were written and adopted in 1989 and since then the state has come up with a set of Municipal Solid Waste Regulations which govern municipal solid waste landfills. Their latest document is the set of regulations that govern everything else. Clallam County's regulations are outdated and they don't cover most of the things in the new sets of regulations. So, the state is impressing on Counties, the importance of adopting a local Regulation that includes their current sets. Also, our regulations don't cover the realm of what we need them to do any longer.

The department hired Don Leaf Consultants to help develop the drafts under the criteria the department asked him to use. The draft has been sent out to about 37 identified stakeholders. Any appropriate comments have been incorporated.

This most recent draft went through the Solid Waste Advisory Committee on March 4, 2004. The Committee reviewed them and motioned the County to move forward with the Regulations, with the caveat that there are a few sections that are not all the way worked out yet.

This draft has been to the Public Health Advisory Committee. There was one comment about defining litter in a broader context. Their general consensus was that they are a good set of Regulations and the department should move forward with them.

Right now, we are waiting for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. They have already seen an earlier version, but we need them to check remaining changes in specific sections. Andy said that we need to "beef up" the Hearings and Appeals process. The current draft has just a general statement. Dr. Locke suggested we use the same language that was used in the Health Regulation we adopted in 2003 regarding Methamphetamine Cleanup.

Jennifer Garcelon handed out and reviewed a breakdown of the differences that have been proposed in the overall document. She also handed out the Methamphetamine Appeals section from that Regulation.

Mr. Tharinger asked how these Regulations compare to other jurisdictions. Andy said that the state Regulations don't quantify, but did not know what exemptions other counties had. Mr. Tharinger said he would like to see other jurisdictional data.

Andy said that the department is working toward a deadline of April 5, 2004 for a final draft. This will give us 15 days to send out a Public Notice for a Public Hearing at the next Board of Health meeting. Mr. Chapman moved to call for a Public Hearing of the Solid Waste Management Regulations, which shall include the alternate Appeals Process language (referenced in the Methamphetamine Cleanup Ordinance). Mr. Doherty seconded and the motion carried.

- B. Andy updated the Board on the O&M staff position. He spoke to Dan Engelbertson, County Administrator, and found that he had missed some Indirect costs on the first estimates that he produced. Andy went back and recalculated the figures and is almost ready to bring to the Board for review. He will also be sending out a draft with a cover memo to interested parties for review and comments.

VIII. HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

- A. 2004 Legislative Session – Wrap Up. Dr. Locke reported that the session was considered a “stalemate”. A lot of issues did not make it through the Legislature (i.e. indoor smoking, Tort Reform and Medical Malpractice). Locally we had a success with the Bill to extend civil immunity to healthcare providers working in volunteer free clinic settings. The Bill actually died in the Senate, but was resuscitated at the 11th hour of the Legislative Session. Another important Bill that extended a malpractice program for physicians was refunded.

The move to expand funding for OB practices in rural areas. Projections for Washington State say that up to 50% of Family Practices providing OB care in rural areas, will stop. The concern is that once OB clinics stop that service, they tend not to start up again.

The move to try to roll back some of the premiums for insurance for children of low income families appears to have been unsuccessful.

Dr. Locke suggested drafting letters to the Governor and State Delegation to thank them. The Board agreed. Dr. Locke will draft and send to Mr. Tharinger for signature.

- B. Clallam County Board of Health Expansion – Application, Interview, and Appointment Process. Dr. Locke said the At Large member position will be closing for applications closed on March 12th. The cities have come to a consensus with their nominee, but the hospitals have not. Dr. Locke said that the Forks Hospital Administrator sent a letter to the Board of Health stating that a Forks Hospital Commissioner would be difficult with our current hours and locations of our monthly meetings. Dr. Locke said that westend and public hospital district representation is very important and desirable.

Harlan Knudson, Olympic Medical Center Commissioner, said he supports the expansion of the Board of Health very much. He said Jim Leskinovitch of the OMC Board volunteered for the position and would be a great addition. He said there may be a challenge for the Forks Community Hospital Commissioners to attend regularly. Respecting that the Board wants accountable people to participate with them as Board of Health members, you may want to look at changing the wording of the “elected hospital commissioner” to “elected hospital commissioner or a nominated person by that elected board”. He said that he felt it was very important to include the westend and Camille Scott, Forks Hospital Administrator, would also be a great nominee.

Mr. Chapman suggested that Camille apply as an At Large Member. He said that westend representation is also guaranteed with Mr. Doherty (District 3 Commissioner) sitting on the Board. He said that since we haven't even started with the code the way it reads right now, that we may not want to look at changing it before we even start operating under it.

The Board indicated that they will get a list of the At Large applicants to the Public Health Advisory Board to recommend up to 6 applicants to the Board of Health for the two open

At Large positions. JoAnne said that she will contact Trish and make sure that the list gets to the PHAC for their next meeting.

- C. West Nile Virus – Preparation for 2004 Season. Dr. Locke reported that the map included in the Board's packet says that Washington and Oregon are either immune from WNV, or will be next. He said it seems all of the evidence shows that we are next. There is uncertainty due to weather conditions, but we are gearing up again for a more significant season. The peak time for transmission is August and September.

One view says that of 100 people that get infected, 20 will get West Nile Fever with temperature, aches and pains, but most will recover uneventfully. Every 1 out of 150 cases will have the severe West Nile Encephalitis Meningitis (brain infection). The brain infection can be long lasting. Now it is thought that even the West Nile Fever can be permanently neurological damaging as well.

Last year, we did bird surveillance, which we will repeat this year with more intensity. We will be focusing on personal protection, educating the public on how to eliminate or dramatically reducing the number of times they get by mosquitoes. Also, we will be educating on mosquito proofing home and properties, dealing with unnecessary standing water and making sure screen doors are fully repaired. There is also an emphasis on mosquito control programs. If Washington is hit hard, we will hear more about Mosquito Control Districts. We do not recommend Clallam County to form a District at this time. We do plan to assist property owners with control needs as necessary. Andy added that he will be trapping mosquitoes for testing again this year as well. Mr. Tharinger said that he felt we should try to proceed with other effective strategies before looking into forming a District.

- D. Cruise Ship Waste Water Discharge – Follow up. Due to Jefferson County's unfortunate occurrence last May when a cruise ship accidentally discharged their waste in the nearby waters, the issue had lead to a Legislative Bill that was introduced regarding Cruise Ship Discharges. It didn't get very far this year, but was an object of concern (mostly to counties with shoreline) and probably find its way back next session.

Cruise ships are a welcomed growth industry in Puget Sound. But they go through some sensitive waters between here and Alaska. These floating cities produce large volumes of waste. The jurisdictions are complex because they move through state waters and move into federal maritime jurisdictions. This is challenging while looking at infectious waste and proper disposal. The Coast Guard is the lead agency for vessel design, standards for waste treatment and standards for discharge. Last week in Seattle, the Coast Guard visited the State Board of Health and reviewed some regulatory standards that primarily were about design.

The State Dept. of Ecology has taken a lead on the issue and have been pushing their authority that this is a state issue and are pursuing a Memorandum of Understanding that is linked to the Alaskan Standards (in the Board's packet) to encourage the cruise ship industry to voluntarily follow the necessary standards to mitigate the health risks involved.

IX. OTHER

JoAnne will touch base with Rachel Anderson to get the No Smoking on County Property document to the Commissioner's Worksession for review.

Transforming Health Care Retreat for the Steering Committee (open to interested parties) 8:00-1:00 Saturday March 20th at the John Wayne Marina. Contact Liz Stewart at OMC for more information.

X. ACTIVITIES CALENDAR UPDATE

XI. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

Public Hearing for Solid Waste Regulations

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Chapman moved to adjourn the meeting of March 16, 2004 at 3:19 pm. Mr. Doherty seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED THIS _____ DAY
OF _____, 2004.

CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Stephen P. Tharinger, Chair

Michael C. Chapman, Vice Chair

ATTEST:

Rene A. Leonard, Clerk of the Board

Howard V. Doherty, Jr.