

**CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S MEETING ROOM
NOVEMBER 15, 2005**

I. ROLL CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 p.m. by Mike Chapman, Chair.

Present: Michael C. Chapman, Chair
Jeanette K. Stehr-Green, M.D., Vice Chair
Howard "Mike" V. Doherty, Jr.
John E. Beitzel
Camille Scott
Stephen P. Tharinger

Excused: Jim Leskinovitch

II. AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Mr. Chapman reported there would be an additional Proclamation presentation. Dr. Stehr-Green moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Doherty seconded and the motion carried.

III. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Mr. Chapman read a proclamation presented to Dr. Locke from the Board of Health, noting Dr. Locke's achievements and expressing their appreciation in having him as Clallam County's Health Officer. Dr. Stehr-Green moved to adopt the Proclamation as written. Mr. Beitzel seconded and the motion carried.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Tharinger moved to approve the minutes of October 18, 2005. Dr. Stehr-Green seconded and the motion carried.

V. OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Region 2 Public Quarterly Health Newsletter. Dr. Locke talked about the Regional Duty Officer coverage that was highlighted in the newsletter. The system is available 24 hours a day and mostly utilized in the evenings and weekends.

VI. PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PHAC) REPORT

Dr. P. Stehr-Green reported that the W⁴ program is up and running. The competition will start after the first of the year and the Board will be updated as things happen.

The Mental Health Summit is scheduled for December 9, 2005 (from 10:00-2:30 with lunch provided) at the Olympic Medical Center. Shaping the final agenda is still in process. The hope is to bring in a representative of the legislative committee that drafted SB 5763 and DSHS personnel to explain what the legislation is intended to do. We have invited a wide variety of agencies within Clallam County. The meeting is primarily for information exchange and future planning. Dr. P. Stehr-Green extended invitations to all of the Board of Health members.

Mr. Tharinger said he met with our judges earlier this week and hopes for more discussion with them on the court component of this issue before the meeting on the 9th.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

VIII. HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Update Health & Human Services Director Interviews 11/10/2005. Dr. Locke reported that four applicants were interviewed on November 10th. There were two interview panels. Dr. Stehr-Green and Mr. Tharinger both participated. Dr. Locke said the pool has been narrowed to two candidates and references are being checked. The Commissioners have the final decision on hiring for the position. January of 2006 would be the earliest potential start date for a new HHS director.

IX. HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

- A. 2005 Clallam County Public Health Standards Report. Dr. Locke presented Clallam County's "Report Card" with respect to statewide public health standards. The most recent evaluation was performed in May of 2005. The purpose of the report card is to help public health agencies measure their performance and the Legislature to see accountability for investments they make in public health.

The report includes a background and narrative of what the review team found. It is divided into 5 topic areas: Assessment, Communicable Diseases, Environmental Health, Health Promotion & Prevention, and Access to Critical Health Services. The report shows the 2002 baseline and the 2005 results for Clallam County (compared to our Peer Group [i.e., mixed rural counties] and the State Group).

Dr. Locke explained the code for the scoring system used in the report. He then reviewed the score sheets and said the comparisons suggest we have made significant improvement in meeting public health standards between 2002 and 2005.

- B. National Pandemic Influenza Planning. Dr. Locke gave two talks at Olympic Medical Center in October, one at Jefferson General Hospital last week and one this morning to the Access to Healthcare Committee regarding Pandemic Influenza. The National Pandemic Influenza Plan is specifically targeted at Avian Influenza with the focus on drugs, vaccine and public emergency preparedness efforts. Regional planning efforts are less focused on the technical response and more on involving business groups and school officials, presenting them with the challenge of how they will maintain their essential functions if an outbreak occurs.

Yesterday, an all day community meeting was held in Kitsap County. The meeting was well attended and the participants were engaged in the planning process. Similar community meetings are planned in Clallam County. A letter from Governor Christine Gregoire was included in the Board's packet. She welcomed national pandemic influenza planning efforts but noted that sufficient resources for state and local response are not part of that national plan.

- C. 2005-2006 Influenza Season – Vaccine Shortage. Dr. Locke reported that the flu vaccine shortage we hoped to avoid this year appears to be happening. The flu season has started. Although fairly mild locally and across the nation, there has been high activity in the southern U.S. The CDC went public last week to report there are flu vaccine "spot shortages". The CDC had initially projected that 100 million doses would be produced. 71 million doses were actually produced and distributed mostly by the manufacturer Sanofi. Chiron was originally projected to produce 38 million doses. This was subsequently reduced to 26 million and then to 16 million. However, Chiron has only distributed 8 million doses so far.

Another 10 million doses are expected to be produced over next month. This shortage compares to last year's shortages. If everyone who is recommended to have a flu vaccine received one, an estimated 180 million doses are needed.

Clallam County providers are experiencing spot shortages as well. We have determined that HHS will have to sell some of our vaccine to local providers to fill some of the more critical gaps. We ordered and received about 2,000 doses. We have used a little under 2/3

of that but still have some clinics scheduled. We will probably sell approximately 600 of our doses to local providers and the hospital.

X. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Groundwater Nitrates in Agnew. Ann Soule presented an informational update to the Board regarding groundwater nitrates in Agnew. In 1999, Environmental Health reviewed a well (Well #1) for a water system approval. The nitrate levels were above normal. Environmental Health performed monthly testing on 6-9 wells in the surrounding area, which were also found to be above normal. In 2001, Ecology was involved to assist with the investigation. They did some sampling and level measurements, inspected the nearby dairy, studied wells and made a recommendation for a further study. In 2004, Environmental Health conducted more monitoring including sampling and a neighborhood forum. A grant was received for 2005-06 to do additional testing. In October 2005, Environmental Health offered free nitrate analysis to owners of 13 wells used in previous studies. One sample (from Well #1) has been tested with a result of 9.55 mg/L (federal drinking water standard = 10 mg/L). Ann said she thinks the residents are currently using bottled water for drinking purposes. Future plans include testing of the water for a tracer (such as caffeine or a pharmaceutical) to pinpoint the likely source.
- B. Water Quality Position. The Commissioners agreed to keep the Water Quality Specialist position in Health & Human Services. The position was posted and applications were accepted through 11/14/2005. Andy will sort those applications for review and interview set up.

XI. OTHER

Mr. Tharinger reported that his lymphoma appears to be in complete remission and he will follow up with his physician in three months.

XII. ACTIVITIES CALENDAR UPDATE

Dr. Locke will be attending the Hood Canal "Joint Board of Health" meeting on 11/16/2005, but does not feel that members of our Board would find enough benefit to attend. Dr. Locke will report the discussions back to this Board in December.

XIII. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

XIV. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Stehr-Green moved to adjourn the meeting of November 15, 2005 at 3:12 p.m. Mr. Beitzel seconded and the motion carried.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED THIS _____ DAY
OF _____ 2005.

CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Michael C. Chapman, Chair

ATTEST:

Jeanette K. Stehr-Green, M.D., Vice Chair

Rene A. Leonard, Clerk of the Board

Stephen P. Tharinger

Howard V. Doherty, Jr.

Excused
Jim Leskinovitch

John E. Beitzel

Camille Scott