

**DRAFT MINUTES
CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
OCTOBER 21, 2008**

I. ROLL CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 P.M. by Michael Chapman, Chair.

Present: Michael C. Chapman, Chair
Stephen P. Tharinger
Howard "Michael" V. Doherty, Jr.
John Beitzel
Jeanette Stehr-Green, M.D.
Betsy Wharton

II. AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Howard Doherty moved to approve the agenda. It was seconded and the motion carried.

III. PUBLIC HEALTH HEROS AWARD PRESENTATION

Mary Selecky, Secretary of Health, presented five Public Health Heroes Awards:

- Individual - Mary Griffith, RN (Dungeness Wellness Clinic)
- Youth (under age 25) - Marissa Ortega-Welch and Gabriel Bernier (The Gleaning Project)
- Community - Larry and Michelle Little (children's marathon project connected with Olympic Discovery Trail Marathon)
- Business - Nash's Organic Produce (organic food)
- Program - New Family Services at Olympic Medical Center (home visits to all new mothers in OMC area)

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 16, 2008 MEETING

Commissioner Doherty moved to approve the minutes from the September 16, 2008, Board of Health Meeting. John Beitzel seconded and the motion carried with the exception of two changes noted by Dr. Jeanette Stehr-Green.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. West Nile Virus Activity

With mosquito season coming to a close, Dr. Locke discussed a news release from the Department of Health dated October 3, 2008, confirming the number of West Nile Virus cases found in Washington State this year. Three human cases have been confirmed this season as well as a dozen horses, nineteen dead birds, and over 40 mosquito pool samples. Confirmed cases were found primarily in Eastern Washington.

B. Washington Supreme Court Affirms I-901

Information about the recent Washington Supreme Court decision regarding an I-901 enforcement case was presented. The case affirmed the authority of the Kitsap County Health District to enforce the I-901 ban on indoor smoking in all places of employment, whether public or private.

C. Potential Closure of Port Angeles Pool

Dr. Locke referred to correspondence sent in by Krista Winn, Physical Education Teacher with the Port Angeles School District. Krista and members of the community are concerned that the pool will face closure in December due to lack of funding and has asked for support from the community and Board Members.

D. Public Health's "A-Ha" Moment

Dr. Locke provided the Board with a transcript of a presentation given by Dr. Risa Lavizzo-Mourey, President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Mary Selecky attended the presentation and stated that Risa is the 22nd most powerful person in the world. She talked about the value of public health and teaches a different way of looking at solutions instead of pointing the finger. Her inspirational presentation can be viewed on www.rwjf.org

E. WSAC/WSALPHO Funding Request

A copy of the letter sent by the Washington State Association of Counties and Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials to Secretary of Health Mary Selecky was included in the Board packet. This letter details the additional funding that will be necessary to maintain current levels of public health services statewide and also asks for support of proposals to create a stable, dedicated funding source for public health services.

VI. PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

October 10, 2008 Meeting Report

Norma Turner, Chair, is out of town.

VII. HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

A. Public Health Impacts of Climate Change

1. Climate Change and Human Health

Michelle Eaton, RN, BSN, Member of Clallam County Public Health Advisory Committee and a nurse with Olympic Medical Center, gave a PowerPoint presentation, "Climate Change and Human Health." Michelle talked primarily about the diverse

effects that climate change and global warming are projected to have on human health. These include disruptions in food supply, changing patterns of infectious disease, and threats to safe drinking water supplies.

2. Clallam County Climate Change Preparedness Activities

Dr. Bill Eaton presented information regarding activities that are taking place at Peninsula College targeting environmental sustainability and climate change. The goal is to understand the forest on the Olympic Peninsula and then develop global models to predict impacts of climate change and land use on forest health and carbon sequestration.

Dr. Locke stated that the entire November issue of the American Journal of Preventive Medicine focuses on the health effects of climate change.

B. Washington State Department of Health Representatives

- Mary Selecky, Secretary of Health, spoke about the financial crises facing Washington State and its potential impacts on health funding. The Governor has already ordered spending cuts in anticipation of decreased state revenues. The Department of Health has funds available to maintain current programs through June of 2009. What is possible, after this time, will depend on what the Legislature approves in the 2009-2011 biennial budgets.
- Gregg Grunenfelder, Assistant Secretary, Division of Environmental Health, gave a presentation of statewide efforts to address the impacts of climate change. Mr. Grunenfelder talked about climate predictions around heat. He pointed out that there has been a temperature increase of one degree Fahrenheit every decade in Washington State. Gregg added that snow water equivalent trends from the year 1950-2000 predicted a change in the Northwest climate. Health implications of climate change caused by excessive heat include, air pollution, asthma, increase in allergens, infectious disease, a rise in sea levels and psychological and social effects.
- Dr. Locke introduced Allene Mares, Director of Public Health Systems Planning and Development and Maria Flake, Office of Public Health Systems Planning and Development.

VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Clallam County On-site Sewage Management Planning Process

Andy Brastad, Director of Environmental Health, gave a presentation about changes being implemented in Clallam County's on-site sewage program. Andy talked about water quality issues and new inspections for homeowners. Andy stated that the department is looking at ways to fund training for homeowners

who wish to do their own septic system inspections. A demonstration project is underway to develop such a program.

IX. HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director of the Centers for Disease Control, Dr. Julie Gerberding, has challenged public health professionals to help make the United States the healthiest nation in the World. Mary Selecky shared a short video from the Healthiest Nation Alliance.

X. PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

October HHS Newsletter – included in packets

XI. NOVEMBER 18, 2008 BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

Dr. Locke will be on assignment with Jefferson County and will be excused from the November Board of Health Meeting.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Dr. Eloise Kailin distributed copies of a letter addressed to Mary Selecky, State Secretary of Health; regarding community water fluoridation. She addressed the Board of Health with her concerns regarding the fluoridation of the Port Angeles Municipal Water System.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Dr. Jeanette Stehr-Green moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Betsy Wharton and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:51 P.M.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED THIS ____ DAY OF _____ 2008.

CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Michael C. Chapman, Chair

ATTEST:

Camille Scott, Vice-Chair

Patricia Richards, Clerk of the Board

Howard V. Doherty, Jr.

Stephen P. Tharinger

John E. Beitzel

Jeanette K. Stehr-Green, MD

Betsy Wharton