

**CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM
DECEMBER 18, 2007**

I. ROLL CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:35 P.M. by John Beitzel, Chair.

Present: John Beitzel, Chair
 Camille Scott, Vice Chair
 Gary Smith
 Stephen P. Tharinger
 Michael V Doherty, Jr.

II. AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

John Beitzel proposed to move Item VII, Environmental Health Director's Report, Public Hearing – Clallam County On-Site Sewage Code, to immediately follow Item III, Approval of Minutes.

It was moved and seconded to approve the amended agenda. The motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 20, 2007 MEETING

Steve Tharinger moved to approve the minutes. Gary Smith seconded and the motion carried.

IV. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Hearing – Clallam County On-Site Sewage Code. Andy Brastad summarized the changes to the revised Code.

The prosecutor's office has been given a copy of this Code for their review and comments. However, due to workload issues, they have not responded.

John Beitzel opened the meeting to the public for comment. After the Board heard the public's comments and answered their questions, John closed the public hearing.

Assuming the legal review will be completed by the next BOH meeting, January 18, 2008, the Board will consider adoption of the On-site Sewage Code at that time.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ron Browning commented on the medically uninsured, urging the Board of Health to look into the bill recently signed by the Governor of California providing some kind of health insurance to 80% of the medically uninsured in that state.

V. OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Fall Region 2 Public Health Newsletter. Dr. Tom Locke noted the following which appear in the Newsletter:

- picture and description of the emergency preparedness exercise held in September in Sequim where the Health & Human Services Department dispensed Diphtheria-Tetanus vaccine to residents of the area
- Quarterly Communicable Disease Surveillance data.

VI. PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PHAC) REPORT

December 14, 2007 Advisory Committee Meeting Report. Norma Turner, Chair, reported:

- The Committee would like to hear from the Board of Health as to what they envision the role of the PHAC and BOH is to be in the posting of the hand washing signs in public restrooms.
- Dr. Bill Hennessey spoke to the Committee about the public health benefits of making county infrastructure more safe and accessible for walking, bicycle riding, and other forms of beneficial exercise.
- Next month the Committee will discuss public policy and planning at the city and county levels to get people out walking and biking.
- The Committee is also working to approve a letter to go out to the five school districts in the County asking them to give a synopsis of their health and physical education curriculums for grades K – 12.

VII. HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Health Assessment. Iva Burks advised the Board that the Department of Health assessment has been changed to May 13th. This will be a review of three programs based on the standards established for public health. The programs chosen are immunization, communicable disease and on-site septic.
- B. Public Health Press Newsletter. Chris Hurst was not available to give a Program Manager report for the health section. However, the Public Health Press newsletter was distributed to the Board. The Board responded favorably to the information and John Beitzel asked a copy be sent to the City Clerk in Sequim. The Board of Health would like to have it included in their packet each month as available.

VIII. HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

- A. Public Health Impacts of Floods. Dr. Locke reported on the different public health impacts of the recent winter storm. Contaminated water, failing septic systems, the need to dispose of large numbers of dead domestic animals, and the consequences of sustained power outages (food spoilage, lack of heat, unmet medical needs) were discussed. Washington State activated its emergency response system during the recent natural disaster, including its public health components.

B. Communicable Disease Reporting. Dr. Locke reported on implementation of a new Washington State law that mandates reporting of hospital associated infections starting in July of 2008. He also reported that a science advisory committee has been formed at the request of Governor Gregoire to develop reporting criteria for Methicillin Resistant Staph Aureus (MRSA) infections. The committee is on a short time schedule and will issue its recommendations by January 10, 2008. Tracking of respiratory infectious diseases was also discussed and a monthly report of disease activity in Washington State will be included in the Board packet during the upcoming "Flu Season".

IX. ACTIVITIES CALENDAR UPDATE

XII. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

It was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED THIS _____
DAY OF _____ 2007.

CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

John E. Beitzel, Chair

Camille Scott, Vice-Chair

ATTEST:

Patricia Richards, Clerk of the Board

Howard V. Doherty, Jr.

Michael C. Chapman

Stephen P. Tharinger

Gary R. Smith

