

**CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM
MARCH 20, 2007**

I. ROLL CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 PM by John Beitzel, Chair.

Present: John Beitzel, Chair
 Michael C. Chapman
 Stephen P. Tharinger
 Gary R. Smith

Mike Chapman moved to excuse Mike Dougherty, Jeanette Stehr-Green and Camile Scott from today's (March 20, 2007) BOH meeting. Steve Tharinger seconded and the motion carried.

II. AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

John Beitzel requested changes to:

- Item IV, Public Comments - add three (3) minute time limit, restricted to items not on the agenda
- Item XIII, Public Comment – add three (3) minute time limit, may include agenda items

Dr. Tom Locke requested addition to:

- Item V, Old Business and Informational Items - Letter to Victoria and British Columbia regarding their sewage

Mike Chapman moved to approve the amended agenda. Steve Tharinger seconded and the motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 20, 2007 MEETING

Gary Smith noted two errors in the minutes:

- Page 1 - heading – change "FEBRUAR" to "FEBRUARY"
- Page 2 – last line change "health" to "healthy"

Mike Chapman moved to approve the amended minutes. Steve Tharinger seconded and the motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ron (last name unknown) – stated he discovered that for the past nine months the water supplied to his home was from the Port Angeles Municipal Water system. Prior to nine months ago he was getting his water from Morse Creek. He expressed concerns about the safety of Port Angeles water, especially for people with impaired immune systems, and asked the Board why the PUD was not required to notify customers about different water sources.

Dr. Tom Locke responded that municipal water systems were regulated by the State Department of Health (DOH), not local Health Departments. While concerns have been raised by DOH about compliance with public water system filtration standards, Port Angeles water is regarded to be safe for general public consumption. Recommendations for people with severe immune deficiency are to completely avoid all recreational water exposures and boil all water that may carry a risk of cryptosporidium contamination.

V. OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Letter to Victoria and British Columbia regarding their sewage. At the February Board of Health meeting, Dr. Tom Locke was asked to draft a letter to congratulate British Columbia and the

City of Victoria for their decision to build a secondary sewage treatment plant for Victoria. Two groups were identified as being involved in this effort, the Provincial Ministry of the Environment and the Capital Regional District that operates Victoria sewage systems. Letters were presented to the Board for both governmental entities and were signed by the Chair on behalf of the Board.

- B. Seasonal Influenza Update. Dr. Locke reported influenza peaked in Washington State during the last week of February. If current trends hold true, this will be a relatively mild flu season.

VI. PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PHAC) REPORT

Norma Turner reported on the March 9, 2007 PHAC meeting.

- Two new members were welcomed: Sheryl Lowe is with the CARE (Community Advocates for Rural Elders) Project and is an enrolled member of the Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe; Michelle Eaton, RN, BSN, is currently working on her Masters and is associated with Peninsula College.
- Al Lapin and Christina Hurst presented to the chemical dependency class at Peninsula College and recruited a volunteer to work in the needle exchange program replacing a paid position.
- Harlan Knudson gave a presentation on electronic personal health records and will be working on that project with a sub-committee of the PHAC.
- The Committee endorsed Public Health Fees Option I with the modification that the County should charge out-of-county residents a higher fee than Clallam County residents for travel immunization evaluations.
- An email to the Washington State Legislature endorsing the Parent Child Assistance Program was approved.
- At the next meeting, the Committee will be working on ways to increase visibility of Public Health.

VII. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Environmental Health Fee Schedule Revision. Andy Brastad distributed and reviewed the 2007 Fee Proposal Information Sheet for the Environmental Health Division. The proposed fee schedule has been on the web site for about one month for public review and comment. After discussion by the Board it was decided to postpone a public hearing on the fee schedule until further discussion.
- B. On-site Sewage System Management Plan Work Group. Andy distributed and reviewed the Final Work Group Recommendations of March 12, 2007 covering On-site Sewage Inspections, Marine Recovery Areas, Sensitive Areas, Compliance and Financing. The draft will be on the web site later this week. Public workshops will be scheduled in April at the Olympic Natural Resources Center in Forks and at the Sequim Prairie Grange.
- C. Well 101 Workshop. Andy distributed flyers announcing the "WELL 101" classes with the scheduled dates and times. This class is modeled after the "Septic 101" class which has been well received in the community. The WELL 101 classes will be talking about well maintenance, primarily for people on Group B systems. It is also open to individual well owners.

VIII. HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Health Fee Schedule Revision. Iva Burks reviewed the proposed Public Health Fee Schedule. She asked that proposals for increases in the fees, both public and environmental health, be considered by the Board together. Also, she proposed that fees be linked to the cost of living index as a way of adjusting future fees to meet the rising costs of delivering these services.

IX. HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

- A. Legislative Update – PH Funding. Dr. Tom Locke reported HB 1825 went to the House floor for vote and passed unanimously. Appropriations will be decided in the last day or two of the legislative session and are expected to be in the \$10 to \$25 million range. New appropriations will be restricted to unmet needs i.e., enhanced communicable disease control, and will not be allowed to supplant current local funding.
- B. Infant Formula and Community Water Fluoridation. Dr. Locke reviewed a one page statement, which he authored, titled “reconstituting infant formula with fluoridated water.” He contacted Dr. Joel Berg, Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at the University of Washington and member of the American Dental Association Committee authoring the Interim Guidance on Fluoride Intake for Infants and Young Children, who provided background information on the Committee’s deliberations. Dr. Berg reviewed the information sheet and feels it accurately captures the issue. The proposal is to distribute this information to people who advise young parents on infant nutrition. In addition, to addressing the issue of reconstituting infant formula with fluoridated water, Dr. Locke wants to use this as an opportunity to promote two related issues: encouraging breastfeeding as far superior to formula feeding and avoiding excess exposure to fluoridated toothpaste for young children. The concentration of fluoride in toothpaste is very high relative to drinking water. Children under age 6 have an underdeveloped gag reflex and often swallow toothpaste if unsupervised. This can lead to potentially large fluoride exposures and is thought to be a risk factor for cosmetic fluorosis in young children.

X. PROGRAM MANAGER’S REPORT

March 19, 2007 Pandemic Influenza Tabletop Exercise. Christina Hurst reported the exercise had 28 participants. A moderately severe Influenza Pandemic was simulated with a focus on social distancing strategies, such as banning public gathering, closing schools, etc. Another area of focus was on continuity of essential services.

XI. ACTIVITIES CALENDAR UPDATE

XII. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

XIII PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Bob Hoyle expressed opposition to the On-site Sewage System Management Plan Work Group. He was asked by Steve Tharinger to give the Board something in writing with his specific issues.
- Frank Eyl commented on his opposition to the On-site Sewage System Management Plan Work Group activities.
- Dr. Eloise Kailin spoke of the risks to infants of fluoride in the public water supply citing the National Research Council’s publication of “Fluoride in Drinking Water: A Scientific Review of EPA’s Standards”.
- Ron (last name unknown) – spoke in opposition to fluoride and chlorine in the public water supply.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Steve Tharinger moved to adjourn the meeting. Gary Smith seconded and the meeting adjourned at 3:17 P.M.

APPROVED AND ACCEPTED THIS _____
DAY OF _____ 2007.

CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Jeanette K. Stehr-Green, M.D.

ATTEST:

John E. Beitzel, Chair

Patricia Richards, Clerk of the Board

Michael C. Chapman

Howard V. Doherty, Jr.

Stephen P. Tharinger

Gary R. Smith

Camille Scott, Vice Chair