

**CLALLAM COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING ROOM
JULY 17, 2007**

I. ROLL CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 P.M. by John Beitzel, Chair.

Present: John Beitzel, Chair
 Camille Scott, Vice Chair
 Michael C. Chapman
 Stephen P. Tharinger
 Michael V. Doherty, Jr.
 Jeanette Stehr-Green, M.D.
 Gary Smith

II. AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Dr. Jeanette Stehr-Green moved to approve the agenda. Gary Smith seconded and the motion carried.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE JUNE 19, 2007 MEETING

Steve Tharinger moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Jeanette Stehr-Green seconded and the motion carried.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

V. OLD BUSINESS AND INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Department of Health Press Releases – Vibriosis, Hepatitis C, HIV. Dr. Tom Locke reviewed three recent press releases:

- Vibriosis – this is an intestinal illness caused by naturally occurring toxin producing bacteria. Warm weather promotes the growth of these bacteria in marine waters and they can become concentrated in shellfish. This organism can cause serious skin infections for people who swim or wade in contaminated water. The organism that causes vibriosis is inactivated by cooking seafood to a temperature of at least 140° F. Consumption of raw oysters create the greatest human health risk and sickened several hundred people last year.
- Hepatitis C – the DOH is trying to encourage people to get tested, especially those with exposure risk factors. It is epidemic proportions in IV drug users who, after one year of IV drug use, have a 70% – 90% chance of having become infected with Hepatitis C.

- HIV Infection – National public health policy now recommends universal testing for HIV infection for everyone between the ages of 18 to 64 at least once. Subsequent testing is based on risk behavior. It is recommended pregnant women be tested with each pregnancy because there are very effective ways to prevent vertical transmission from mother to infant.

VI. PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE (PHAC) REPORT

July 13, 2007 Advisory Committee Meeting Report. Iva Burks reported on items covered during the meeting:

- The Health Officer, Dr. Tom Locke, gave updates and reviewed additional funding the Health Department will receive in 2008. He also talked about West Nile Virus.
- Chris Hurst, Public Health Department Manager, talked about the upcoming Sequim Health Fair and the WIC program.
- Iva gave an overview of the strategic planning process within the department, the behavioral health chemical dependency task force, local advocacy day and presented an overview of the budget process.
- Sheryl Lowe, PHAC member, gave a presentation on Care Partnership.

VII. HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

- A. Standards for Public Health in Washington State. Dr. Tom Locke explained the link between the Standards and Washington's Public Health Improvement Plan, enacted into law in 1995. Clallam County has been evaluated for its performance of these standards on two occasions – 2002 and 2005. The next review is in 2008.

The Standards are also being reviewed as potential accountability measures linked to the \$20 million the legislature appropriated for the next biennium for improving statewide public health capacity. Local health departments are required to use new funding to address priority issues and to track performance measures relating to those spending priorities. The process for setting these priorities and measures is ongoing.

- B. Volunteers In Medicine in the Olympics (VIMO) Clinic: The First 2 Years. Clallam County is one of the leaders in the State of Washington in community efforts to improve access to healthcare services. The Access to Healthcare Coalition Group represents local agencies such as United Way, mental health providers, pediatric clinics and volunteer clinics. The Volunteers in Medicine Group started out as a sub-committee of this countywide access program. This program just passed its two-year milestone having started July 7, 2005. This is a \$150,000 per year undertaking with very little of the money going for salaries; most goes toward medications and diagnostic tests. Over 75 volunteers are involved in this effort. The Clinic is open three days a week. Currently, they are seeing approximately 2,000 people; the need is to see 5,000 – 6,000 people. An ongoing recruitment campaign is being launched with the target being licensed healthcare providers, especially physicians. Volunteers will be going to medical clinics in person to talk with medical personnel and recruit physicians.

VIII. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dr. Locke reported on the 90% draft of the revised local on-site code. This is the current working draft. The BOH will be getting a strike-out copy later in the year. Hearings are expected to be held by October. Drafts of the code will be posted on the website for people who want to be involved in this process.

IX. HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Iva Burks reviewed the strategic planning process on which the Department is currently working. There were a total of five sessions involving Administration, Human Services, Developmental Disabilities, Environmental Health, Public Health and the management staff with Dr. Locke and Iva. The goals identified were:

- stability of funding
- planning for the shift of demographics in the county
- training and advancement of personnel
- utilizing the shift in technology to better deliver services
- education of population
- change in facilities (more discussion required).

Next steps are to rework the vision statement and talk with everyone within the department about program goals, what programs are mandatory, which are funded and which have no identified funding source. Staff needs to pick the two to three top goals in each program and continue work on them.

X. PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

- A. Chris Hurst reported the Department is in the process of implementing the new fee schedule adopted by the BOH in May.
- B. As part of the Emergency Management Grant, the Health Department is required to do a Point of Distribution (POD) vaccination exercise. This year, at the Olympic Peninsula Health Fair, the Department will be giving 300 tetanus vaccinations to fair attendees who volunteer for the shots. We will be using MRC volunteers during this exercise to be held September 15, at Sequim High School.

XI. ACTIVITIES CALENDAR UPDATE

Camille Scott will notify Patricia Richards regarding the best month, August or September, to hold the BOH meeting in Forks.

XII. NEXT MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

XIII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Mike Doherty moved to adjourn the meeting. Steve Tharinger seconded and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 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

Jeanette K. Stehr-Green, MD