

*Snohomish Health District
Board of Health Minutes
Regular Meeting
March 16, 2010*

Members Present

Patsy Cudaback, Councilwoman, Monroe
Jim Flower, Councilman, Sultan, Chair
Linda Grafer, Councilwoman, Mukilteo
Mark Lamb, Mayor, Bothell, Vice Chair
Drew Nielsen, Councilman, Everett
Dave Orvis, Councilman, Edmonds
Jim Smith, Councilman, Lynnwood
Dianne White, Mayor, Stanwood
Donna Wright, Councilwoman, Marysville

Members Absent

Mike Cooper, County Councilman
Dave Gossett, County Councilman
John Koster, County Councilman
Michelle Robles, Councilwoman, Mountlake Terrace
Dave Somers, County Councilman
Brian Sullivan, County Councilman

Others Present

Kathy Adamson, SHD First Steps Program Manager
Anne Alfred, SHD Solid Waste and Toxics Section Environmental Health Specialist
Cheryl Combest, SHD WIC Program Manager
Randy Darst, SHD Environmental Health Division Director
Nancy Furness, SHD Special Assistant for Public Health and Emergency Preparedness
Gary Goldbaum, MD, SHD Health Officer and Director
Steven Hellyer, SHD Information Systems Engineer
Tim McDonald, SHD Communicable Disease Division Director
Rick Mockler, SHD Deputy Director
Tim Murphy, SHD Information Systems Manager
Suzanne Pate, SHD Communications Specialist
Don Peterson, SHD Business Manager
Teresa Quigley, SHD Administration Specialist
Sharon Salyer, The Everett Herald
Christine Scarlett, SHD Human Resources Manager
Charlene Shambach, SHD Community Health Division Director
Steve Uberti, SHD Legal Counsel
Pam Wessel-Estes, SHD Tobacco Prevention and Control Program Manager

Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Health was convened at 3:12 p.m. by Chair Flower in the Board Room of the Snohomish Health District Rucker Building. Roll call was taken by Teresa Quigley, who reported a quorum was present.

Chair's Report

Chair Flower noted that, in response to County Council request, the County Executive's office is studying possible cost savings if Snohomish Health District should become a County department. A group of senior officials from the County and the Health District are exploring this issue and other options for improving efficiency.

Recognition of Steven Hellyer as the Health District Employee of the Quarter. Anne Alfred presented the Employee of the Quarter Award for the first quarter of 2010 to Steven Hellyer, Information Systems Engineer. Steven has been diligent in trying to maintain the systems comprising the Health District's network infrastructure, many of which are at or soon will be what the manufacturers refer to as "out of life" and "will not support." His commitment to keeping the District's information systems up and running while supporting the rest of the team and special projects is extraordinary. Steven is an invaluable member of the Information System Team and Snohomish Health District.

Health Officer's Report

Monthly Report. Dr. Goldbaum updated the Board on H1N1 and highlighted recent studies of the costs of food borne illness, the risk of death due to childhood obesity, the impact of salt consumption on cardiovascular disease, the dramatic increase in caloric intake among children, and the contribution of excessive sugar consumption to obesity and other risk factors for heart disease.

Public health funding and the 2010 legislative session. The Legislature is in special session. It appears at this time that core discretionary funding for public health is held harmless.

Presentation on First Steps/WIC programs. Cheryl Combest, manager of the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Nutrition Program, explained that WIC is a federally-funded, premier public health nutrition program designed to improve the health of pregnant, breastfeeding and postpartum women, infants and children up to age 5. The program offers nutrition counseling, provision of nutritious foods, breastfeeding promotion and referrals to other health care providers to those meeting eligibility standards. Licensed nutritionists and other nutrition professionals determine eligibility and provide individualized nutrition assessment, counseling and education to assist families in making healthier nutrition, physical activity and lifestyle choices. Kathy Adamson, manager of the First Steps program, explained that First Steps helps low-income pregnant women get the health and social services needed during pregnancy and baby's first year. Nurses, social workers, and dietitians lend support in making positive health care decisions such as where to go for prenatal care, how to prepare for the new baby, what to expect as a parent, and where to find help in the community. The First Steps and WIC visits are combined at the Health District's clinics in Everett and Lynnwood.

Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Nielsen and seconded by Mr. Lamb to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 9, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Committee Reports

Minutes from the February 26 Program Policy Committee meeting were included in today's meeting packet. Minutes from the March 1 Administration Committee meeting were not available. One of the items approved at the Administration Committee meeting was that bids be solicited for roof replacement on the Rucker Building. Don Peterson advised that the roof is over 22 years old and has reached the end of its useful life. A major tenant of this building is considering extension of its lease and is concerned about the roof. Due to the economic downturn, bids should be competitive at this time. The estimated cost of roof replacement is \$85-90,000, with a 20-year manufacturer's warranty. Staff's recommendation for a contract will be brought to the Administration Committee and full Board of Health in April. Also included in today's meeting packet were the monthly standing reports. There were no questions regarding these reports.

Consent Agenda

It was moved by Ms. Wright and seconded by Ms. White to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The Board approved the following items: (a) Resolution 10-04 authorizing February 2010 expenditures for Health District, AIDS and PHEPR funds; (b) Resolution 10-05, revising Sanitary Code; (c) Resolution 10-06, 2009 PHEPR Fund Budget Change No. 1; and (d) Resolution 10-07, 2010 General Fund Budget Change No. 1. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Agenda

Approval of H1N1 Pandemic Supplemental PHEPR funded contract with GMMB for H1N1 communications support. At the October 13, 2009 Board of Health meeting, the Board authorized staff to accept PHEPR H1N1 Supplemental funding as it arrives and expend those funds in accordance with terms dictated by the United States Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). The Health District is following a protocol of achieving internal approval for expenditures, followed by achieving CDC/DOH approval and then reporting expenditures to the Board of Health Administration Committee and the full Board.

Board members were provided with the January 31, 2010 H1N1 spending update. This document provides an expenditure update through January 31 and current projections for expenditures February through July 2010. Three goals have been set regarding expenditure of these funds: to comply with Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/Washington State Department of Health (CDC/DOH) parameters; to improve the Health District's capacity to address influenza in Snohomish County; and where possible to improve the Health District's capacity to provide public health services. The total allocation of H1N1 funds to Snohomish Health District is \$2,101,817, of which 22.3% or \$383,242 is for indirect and overhead expenses. Through January 31, \$925,162 in PHEPR H1N1 Supplemental direct funds was expended. February - July 2010 direct expenditures are projected at \$677,000. These projected expenditures have received CDC/DOH approval. The remaining \$116,413 represents undesignated direct funds which are available for expenditure prior to July 30, 2010.

Four specific expenditures in the Projected February - July 2010 column of the H1N1 Spending Plan were highlighted: \$22,000 is designated for a "Quantitative Fit Testing Unit"; \$11,000 is designated for a "Server Room Cooling System"; \$66,000 is designated for a NetSmart Insight License; and \$220,000 is designated for "Market Research." The market research item needs Board of Health approval, and was explained in detail. During the H1N1 mass vaccination clinics in 2009 and subsequent H1N1 vaccination outreach program in 2009 and 2010, significant shortcomings were identified in the Health District's ability to communicate influenza education messages to the public, especially to underserved and vulnerable populations. The federal H1N1 Supplemental funding provides an opportunity to fund a study which would identify methods for the District to improve its capacity to reach the public. GMMB, a consultant for communication solutions, has been contacted regarding this study and has provided a proposal which will help the District identify how to best communicate with specific target populations (for example: elementary and high school students, pregnant women, persons 65 and over, etc.) and develop a mechanism for feedback from the community to allow continuous communication improvement. The proposal is for a maximum of \$220,000. Following a bidding process, GMMB was selected by the DOH and is currently working on a similar project. Contracting with GMMB would alleviate the need for the Health District to go through a lengthy and costly bidding process. Also, the work that GMMB does for the District would benefit from the fact that they are currently performing a related study for DOH on a statewide basis.

As with other projects, the Health District has obtained CDC/DOH approval for use of the PHEPR Phase III Supplemental funds for this marketing research proposal. Following Board of Health approval, this project would immediately move forward, as all Phase III Supplemental funds must be expended by July 30, 2010. It was noted that the Program Policy and Administration Committees have reviewed this proposal and support the concept. Considerable discussion was held regarding GMMB's proposal at today's meeting, and concern was expressed on the proposed charges of \$220,000 for the deliverables. It was moved by Mr. Nielsen and seconded by Ms. Grafer to approve the contract with GMMB for \$220,000, and the motion did not pass by majority voice vote. Following further discussion, it was moved by Mr. Lamb and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve a contract with GMMB for \$150,000, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote. No further action is needed by the Board. The Health District will renegotiate the contract with GMMB.

Approval of Resolution 10-08, declaring April 5-11, 2010 as Public Health Week. Since 1995, the first week of April has been proclaimed National Public Health Week. Dr. Goldbaum noted that this is an opportunity to recognize the many benefits of local public health to the community and the good work of public health staff. It was moved by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Cudaback to approve Resolution 10-08, declaring April 5-11, 2010 as Public Health Week. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

Potential change in June Board of Health meeting. As PHELF Chair, Dr. Goldbaum will be attending WSALPHO/PHELF meetings June 7-9 in Spokane. Therefore, the Board decided to change the June Board of Health meeting from Tuesday, June 8 to Thursday, June 10. The meeting will be held at 3:00 p.m. in Conference Rooms 309A/B. Teresa will email a reminder to all Board members.

Information Items

A calendar for scheduled meetings in March and April was provided to Board members in their packets. It was noted that the March 19 Program Policy Committee meeting has been cancelled due to lack of agenda items.

Executive Session

No executive session was needed.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Jim Flower, Chair

Gary Goldbaum, M.D., M.P.H., Secretary