

*Snohomish Health District
Board of Health Minutes
Regular Meeting
October 19, 2010*

Members Present

Patsy Cudaback, Councilwoman, Monroe
Linda Grafer, Councilwoman, Mukilteo
Karen Guzak, Mayor, Snohomish
John Koster, County Councilman
Mark Lamb, Mayor, Bothell, Chair
Drew Nielsen, Councilman, Everett
Jim Smith, Councilman, Lynnwood
Dave Somers, County Councilman, Vice Chair
Dianne White, Mayor, Stanwood
Donna Wright, Councilwoman, Marysville
Stephanie Wright, County Councilwoman

Members Absent

Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, Councilwoman, Edmonds
Dave Gossett, County Councilman
Michelle Robles, Councilwoman, Mountlake Terrace
Brian Sullivan, County Councilman

Others Present

John Amos, Snohomish County Council
Jeff Clarke, SHD Deputy Director
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
Gayle Lanier, SHD Vaccine Preventable Disease Program Manager
Tim McDonald, SHD Communicable Disease Division Director
Tim Murphy, SHD Information Systems Manager
Suzanne Pate, SHD Communications Specialist
Don Peterson, SHD Business Manager
Teresa Quigley, SHD Administration Specialist
Barbara Rose, University of Washington Graduate Student
Christine Scarlett, SHD Human Resources Manager
Lois Smith, WSALPHO Managing Director
Glen Svendsen, Snohomish County Finance
Kelly Sylliaasen, SHD Clinic Office Supervisor
Steve Uberti, SHD Legal Counsel

Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Health was convened at 3:00 p.m. by Vice Chair Somers in the Board Room of the Snohomish Health District Rucker Building. Roll call was taken by Teresa Quigley, who reported a quorum was present. Dr. Goldbaum introduced guests Lois Smith, Managing Director of the Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials, and Barbara Rose, a University of Washington graduate student working on a chronic disease prevention project with the Health District. Barbara will give a presentation on this project to the Board in six to seven months.

Chair's Report

There was no report from the vice chair.

Health Officer's Report

Monthly Report: Dr. Goldbaum gave a presentation on the importance of Health Care Reform legislation and its impact on public health.

Chair Lamb arrived at 3:30 p.m. and presided over the balance of the meeting.

Minutes

It was moved by Mr. Nielsen and seconded by Ms. White to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 14, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Committee Reports

Minutes from the October 4 Administration Committee meeting were included in today's meeting packet. Don Peterson noted that dry rot was discovered in the final phase of the roofing project, and additional expenses are anticipated. This will be reflected in the September Financial Statement. The September 17 Program Policy Committee meeting was cancelled. 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. Donna Wright and seconded by Ms. White to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The Board approved the following items: (a) Resolution 10-25 authorizing September 2010 expenditures for Health District, AIDS and PHEPR funds; and (b) Resolution 10-26 authorizing Environmental Health Division fee increases effective December 1, 2010. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Agenda

Approval of Resolution 10-27, adopting the Snohomish County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. In order to be eligible for federal grant funds, an agency must have a mitigation plan that has been approved by the federal government. In 2005, a coalition partnership made up of Snohomish County, 12 cities, 30 special purpose districts and the Health District worked together to create and adopt the Snohomish County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan (SCNHMP) to fulfill the Disaster Mitigation Act (DMA) requirements for all participating partners. The County has recently updated this plan and is requesting adoption by all coalition members. It was not received in time for review by the Board of Health Program Policy or Administration Committee. The plan changes are minor, and the resolution identical to what was passed in 2005. Following discussion, it was moved by Ms. White and seconded by Mr. Nielsen to approve Resolution 10-27, adopting the updated Snohomish County Natural Hazards Mitigation Plan. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion Items

2011 General Fund Budget process. Jeff Clarke provided a general timeline for the budget process. Jeff and Dr. Goldbaum made a budget presentation to the County Council earlier today. Next week a draft budget will be distributed to the Board and staff. It will be discussed at the November 1 Board of Health Administration Committee meeting and November 16 full Board meeting. Adoption may not take place until December, as the County Council is not scheduled to approve the County budget until November 22. The new budget format is designed to assist staff and the Board to better understand how programs are funded and the ramifications of making different types of budget decisions.

Major funding impacts factored into the 2011 budget include: H1N1 funds have been spent; the Region 3 AIDS program and revenues are being transferred back to the State Department of Health in 2011; Water/Wastewater fees are down 56% (\$915,000) the past two years; tobacco settlement funds will be reallocated to the State General Fund mid-2011 (\$163,000); First Steps funds may end March 1, 2011 (\$410,000); and 5930 funding ends the first of 2012 (\$623,000).

The County Council has yet to decide if it will approve the County Executive's recommendation to give the Health District the same level of funding as in 2010 (\$3,923,000).

The First Steps program is perhaps the biggest issue the Health District is facing. The annual cost of the First Steps program is \$2,005,000. In 2010, the County contributed \$900,000; Medicaid Fee for Service provided \$410,000; Medicaid Administrative Match provided \$296,000; and the Health District provided \$399,000. The State Department of Social and Health Services is recommending elimination of State Medicaid Fee for Service funding effective March 1, 2011, which will also reduce the Medicaid Administrative Match funding. State funding decisions will not be certain until the Legislature passes a budget in spring, but the Board of Health must make decisions before the end of 2010. Therefore staff has developed four options for Board consideration: status quo throughout 2011 (no program or staffing changes, which would rely on a solution to the funding problem); status quo for six months, reduced program the remainder of 2011 (if no legislative help); status quo for six months, cancelled program the remainder of 2011 (if no legislative help); reduced program size and staffing effective March 1 (assuming no legislative help). The first three options provide for time to assess how the Legislature will act before making final decisions. The fourth option moves ahead with a smaller program without waiting.

It was noted that the proposed 2011 Health District Budget assumes the State's First Steps funding is unchanged in 2011 and that the County will give the Health District the same level of funding as in 2010. Other State proposed cuts, including the Governor's 6.3% across-the-board cut, are included in the proposed 2011 Health District Budget. If additional legislative cuts are made, the Health District will have to revise the Budget next year. Discussion was held regarding the County's 2010 contribution of \$667,000 from Mental Health Funds to the Nurse Family Partnership program, which was intended as a one-year bridge until federal funding came through. No federal funding has been received to date. A copy of Jeff's budget presentation today will be emailed to Board members. Dr. Goldbaum thanked Board members on the Budget Subgroup for their assistance.

Legal representation. Jeff Clarke announced that Snohomish Health District legal counsel, Steve Uberti, is leaving Bell and Ingram the end of October to join another law firm. Steve has expressed interest in continuing to serve the Health District. Bell and Ingram is recommending the Health District authorize that current active files be transferred to Mr. Uberti for continuing representation while the Health District proceeds with its formal process for making a final decision on future legal representation, and Board members were in agreement with this plan. Jeff and Don Peterson will review the current service contract with Bell and Ingram and develop a process, including Board members, for securing legal representation.

Information Items

Board members were provided with an H1N1 Spending Plan update as of October 4, 2010.

A calendar for scheduled meetings in October and November was provided to Board members in their packets. Chair Lamb noted that the November Board meeting was moved out to November 16 due to the WSAC Annual Conference.

Executive Session

At 4:13 p.m. the Board went into Executive Session to discuss collective bargaining. At 4:19 p.m. the meeting reconvened.

Other Business

Ms. Grafer displayed a pink T-shirt that City of Mukilteo firefighters are wearing to support the fight against breast cancer. Ms. Wright advised that she used video conferencing equipment at the Health District to participate in the October 13 State Board of Health meeting. Dr. Goldbaum noted that this equipment was purchased with H1N1 Pandemic Supplemental PHEPR funding. Board members discussed a 360 performance review for Dr. Goldbaum, to include input from staff and community members. Chair Lamb will check on consultants in this field and bring back proposals to the Board of Health.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

Mark Lamb, Chair

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