

***Snohomish Health District  
Board of Health Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
March 13, 2012***

**Members Present**

Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, Councilwoman, Edmonds  
Linda Grafer, Councilwoman, Mukilteo  
John Koster, County Councilman  
Kerri Lonergan-Dreke, Councilwoman, Lynnwood  
Dave Somers, County Councilman, Chair  
Karen Guzak, Mayor, Snohomish  
Dianne White, Mayor, Stanwood  
Donna Wright, Councilwoman, Marysville  
Stephanie Wright, County Councilwoman

**Members Absent**

Patsy Cudaback, Councilwoman, Monroe  
Shannon Affholter, Councilman, Everett  
Dave Gossett, County Councilman  
Mark Lamb, Mayor, Bothell  
Brian Sullivan, County Councilman  
Michelle Robles, Councilwoman, Mountlake Terrace, Vice Chair

**Others Present**

John Amos, Snohomish County Council  
Mark Hoppen, SHD Interim Deputy Director  
Randy Darst, SHD Environmental Health Division Director  
Nancy Furness, SHD Communicable Disease Special Assistant Director  
Gary Goldbaum, MD, SHD Health Officer and Director  
Kristin Kinnamon, SHD Communications Manager  
Tim McDonald, SHD Communicable Disease Division Director  
Suzanne Pate, SHD Communications Specialist  
Don Peterson, SHD Business Manager  
Karen Halpin, SHD Administration Specialist  
Charlene Shambach, SHD Community Health Division Director  
Steve Uberti, SHD Legal Counsel  
Michael Whitney, Everett Tribune  
Amy Blanchard, SHD Communicable Disease Program Manager  
Micha Horn, SHD Environmental Health Specialist II  
Alba Suarez, SHD Public Health Nurse

**Call to Order**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Health was convened at 3:00 p.m. by Chair Somers in the Board Room of the Snohomish Health District Rucker Building. Roll call was taken by Karen Halpin, who reported there was a quorum present.

## Chair's Report

Chair Somers and Dr. Goldbaum welcomed the new Snohomish Health District Interim Deputy Director, Mark Hoppen. Mr. Hoppen has a long history of working in city administration, most recently in Gig Harbor and Puyallup.

*Team of the Quarter.* The full Board joined Amy Blanchard in recognizing Micha Horn, Environmental Health Specialist, and Alba Suarez, Public Health Nurse, Communicable Disease Child Care Outreach Staff for receiving the Health District Team of the Quarter Award. Micha and Alba work half-time in the 1.0 FTE Communicable Disease Child Care Outreach program. With over 600 child care settings in Snohomish County, the child care outreach staff is prepared to respond to reports of notifiable diseases and take immediate investigative action to prevent disease from spreading. Micha and Alba are skilled communicators and adept at rapidly building rapport with providers. They are prepared to respond on short notice to potentially serious disease reports such as E. coli and pertussis. To date, they have investigated 15 pertussis cases in 2012. As a result of their prompt interventions, many infants who might have developed disease were identified and protected. Micha and Alba are trusted by the child care community and child health agencies for their expert and reliable guidance. Both staff have been requested to review and edit learning materials for large professional organizations including the Washington Health Coalition and the American Academy of Pediatrics. They produce brochures and online distance learning classes which are all widely utilized by Snohomish County child care providers and by other Washington LHJ's. The team set a record for their distance learning class this month when more than 200 responses resulted for the pertussis class.

## Health Officer's Report

*Monthly Report.* Dr. Goldbaum reported that Snohomish County is experiencing an epidemic of pertussis, which is a highly communicable disease transmitted from person to person, and presents a significant risk to young children and infants. It appears that a low vaccination rate among Snohomish County adults is enabling pertussis to spread with intensity. Dr. Goldbaum is urging the medical community to recommend vaccination for everyone, especially anyone who will have contact with infants. To reach unvaccinated adults who are uninsured or underinsured, the District is working closely with community partners to support mass vaccination clinics across the county. Two clinics (supported by funds from The Everett Clinic Foundation) were held February 4 at Snohomish Health District and at the SeaMar Marysville Clinic. The Group Health Foundation and Group Health Cooperative sponsored another mass vaccination clinic on February 25. Additional clinics will be offered by SeaMar in Monroe on March 24 and Cascade Valley Hospital on April 4. The manufacturer of the vaccine, Sanofi Pasteur, is providing Tdap at no charge for these clinics. In addition, we continue to provide Tdap through our own immunization clinic.

*Program Policy Committee.* Dr. Goldbaum reported that after surveying the Program & Policy Committee, members have agreed to change the meeting time and date to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month, starting at 3:30 pm, in Conference Room 309B. The next meeting will be March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 3:30 pm, in Conference Room 309A/B at the Rucker Building in Everett.

*NALBOH Article.* Dr. Goldbaum reported that in the latest NALBOH Newsbrief there is an article co-authored by Dr. Goldbaum and Mark Lamb entitled “*Community-Focused Strategic Planning*”. This news brief circulates to approximately 7000 readers.

*Nordin Award.* Dr. Goldbaum reported that Randy Durant, Environmental Health Specialist III, recently received a prestigious award from the Washington State Environmental Health Association (WSEHA). The association selected Randy to receive the *John P. Nordin Outstanding Sanitarian* award citing a career of high work standards, expertise, and collaborative skills in the environmental health profession. Randy is respected for his ability to educate the public regarding regulatory compliance, and assisting small business owners through the sometimes complex regulatory maze.

*PHEPR Program.* Nancy Furness updated the Board on the PHEPR Program. The Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response program (PHEPR) has been a part of Snohomish Health District for ten years, and is responsible for ensuring that all staff is ready to respond in the event of a public health emergency. Since 2002 the program has expanded to what is now called All Hazards Program, preparing for things such as disease outbreaks, mass clinics, planning for earthquakes, floods, technical failures, or anything that might affect the public health. One of the activities that the PHEPR program is undertaking this year is the creation of an Alternate Care Facility plan. This plan will cover how ill or slightly injured people will be cared for outside of a hospital setting using volunteers and community medical care providers.

## **Minutes**

It was moved by Mr. Koster and seconded by Ms. Guzak to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held February 14, 2012. The motion carried unanimously.

## **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **Committee Reports**

The March 5<sup>th</sup> Administration Committee meeting was cancelled. Included in today's meeting packet were Program Policy Committee minutes and the monthly standing reports. There were no questions regarding these reports.

## **Consent Agenda**

It was moved by Ms. Dianne White and seconded by Ms. Donna Wright to approve the items on the Consent Agenda. The Board approved the following items: (a) Approval of vouchers for February 2012; Resolution 12-08 authorizing February 2012 expenditures for Health District, AIDS and PHEPR funds; The motion carried unanimously.

## **Action Agenda**

*Approval of Resolution 2012-2014, AFSCME, PTE APHU and PTE EHU union agreements.* The agreements have not been signed by the Unions. It is anticipated the contracts will be signed by the April 2012 Board of Health meeting.

*Approval of Resolution 12-09, declaring April 2012 as Public Health Month. Following discussion, it was moved by Ms. White and seconded by Ms. Grafer to approve Resolution 12-09, authorizing April as Public Health Month for Snohomish Health District. The motion carried unanimously.*

## **Discussion Items**

Dr. Goldbaum reported that in the most current proposed state budget, revenue impacts on Snohomish Health District could be approximately a \$250,000 per year reduction. However, nothing formal has been announced.

## **Information Items**

The calendars for scheduled meetings in March and April 2012 were provided in the packets.

## **Executive Session**

An executive session was called at 3:54 regarding possible litigation. The executive session adjourned at 4:12.

## **Other Business**

There was no other business.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:12 p.m.

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Dave Somers, Chair

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