



***Snohomish Health District  
Board of Health Minutes  
Regular Meeting  
August 13, 2013***

**Members Present**

Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, Councilwoman, Edmonds  
Dave Gossett, County Councilman  
Linda Grafer, Councilwoman, Mukilteo  
Karen Guzak, Mayor, Snohomish, Chair  
Sean Richards, Councilman, Mountlake Terrace  
Dianne White, Mayor, Stanwood

**Members Absent**

Shannon Affholter, Councilman, Everett  
John Joplin, Councilman, Brier  
John Koster, County Councilman  
Vern Little, Mayor, Lake Stevens  
Kerri Lonergan-Dreke, Councilwoman, Lynnwood  
Dave Somers, County Councilman  
Brian Sullivan, County Councilman  
Donna Wright, Councilwoman, Marysville  
Stephanie Wright, County Councilwoman, Vice Chair

**Others Present**

John Amos, Snohomish County  
Amy Blanchard, SHD Communicable Disease Program Manager  
Wendy Burchill, SHD Program Assistant  
Judy Chapman, SHD Accountant  
Randy Darst, SHD Environmental Health Division Director  
Nancy Furness, SHD Special Assistant for Emergency Preparedness  
Gary Goldbaum, MD, SHD Health Officer and Director  
Kristin Kinnamon, SHD Communications Manager  
Gayle Lanier, SHD Communicable Disease Program Manager  
Peter Mayer, SHD Deputy Director  
Rita Mell, SHD Clinic Program Manager  
Brenda Newell, SHD Communicable Disease Program Manager  
Deborah Robinson, Infant Death Investigation Specialist  
Charlene Shambach, SHD Community Health Division Director  
Glen Svendsen, Snohomish County Financial Analyst  
  
Steve Uberti, SHD Legal Counsel



## Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Health was convened at 3:010 p.m. by Acting Chair Dave Gossett in the Auditorium of the Snohomish Health District Rucker Building. Roll call was taken by Lorie Ochmann, who reported there was not a quorum present.

## Health Officer's Report

SHD has just released the annual Communicable Diseases Report. This report does not include 2012, because data for each year are not final until well into the next year. Moreover, many infections are not reported. Of note, during 2007-2011 Snohomish County experienced notable increases in campylobacteriosis, pertussis, and syphilis. Many diseases are far less common today than 30 years ago, reflecting safer food and water, as well as broad uptake of immunizations.

Since June 28, the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), the Food & Drug Administration, and public health officials in multiple states have been collaborating to investigate an outbreak of cyclosporiasis, a food or waterborne infection caused by a parasite rarely encountered in the U.S. As of August 1, 2013, CDC had been notified of 400 cases (22 hospitalized) of Cyclospora infection from 17 health departments. Preliminary investigations suggest that a salad mix may be the source.

The Community Health Improvement Planning process is well underway. Three work groups have been convened, each focusing on one of the top three issues: Youth Physical Abuse, Obesity, and Suicide. The workgroups will continue to meet throughout the summer and early fall. In addition, staff has received fifteen requests for presentations of the *Community Report Card*.

Over the past decade, the Health District has received significant Medicaid Administrative Match (MAM) funding to reimburse for certain services to Medicaid clients. In late July, we were informed that the Center for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS) has agreed to reimburse local health jurisdictions in full for 2012, but will reduce reimbursements to 75% for the first six months of 2013 and then to 50% for the remainder of 2013. It is not known if CMS will continue to fund MAM in 2014.

Board of Health members have an important role in assuring that other elected officials understand what public health does. Staff encourages Board of Health members to alert their fellow electeds to important public health issues and activities.

The Whatcom Alliance for Healthcare Advancement (WAHA) is the agency funded to support the network of In-Person Assisters (IPAs) who will help people enroll into the expanded Medicaid or private insurance plans offered through the Washington Health Benefit Exchange. WAHA is hiring an IPA Coordinator specifically for Snohomish County. SHD is working with WAHA to site that Coordinator at the Rucker Building at least through 2013. This will assure training for SDH staff and assistance for our clients.

Dr. Goldbaum gave a presentation on Child Death Review, a formal, comprehensive, multidisciplinary review of a child's death to understand how and why the death occurred and to identify strategies to prevent children's deaths. The 14 member Child Death Review Team meets three to four times per year to review deaths of children under 18 years of age who were residents of Snohomish County and died in Snohomish County. In order to qualify for review, the deaths must not be attributable to natural causes: unintended, suicide, homicide, or undetermined. Statistics on unintended poisonings, drowning, motor vehicle crashes, and unsafe sleep practices between 2003 and 2012 were discussed. Responses to the case reviews include letters to courts or action by the SHD First Steps program. However, existing community programs are the primary resource for preventative education.



### **Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

### **Chair's Report**

Chair Guzak requested Board Members volunteer for the 2014 Budget Ad Hoc Committee. Dave Gossett, Linda Grafer, Karen Guzak, and Dianne White volunteered to participate. The first meeting was tentatively scheduled for 3:00 on Monday, August 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Committee Reports**

It was reported that the Administration and Program Policy Committees did not meet. The Financial Policies Ad Hoc Committee met twice and developed a recommendation for the full Board to consider. The Ad Hoc Structure and Governance Committee met once and is scheduled to meet again on August 21<sup>st</sup> to refine recommendations for Board consideration.

Included in today's meeting packet were the monthly standing reports. Board Members requested disease reports broken down by city and that neighboring counties data be included for comparison.

### **Action Items**

No business was conducted as there was not a quorum present.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 PM.

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Karen Guzak, Chair

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