



***Snohomish Health District
Board of Health Minutes
Regular Meeting
September 9, 2014***

Members Present

Linda Grafer, Councilmember, Mukilteo
Karen Guzak, Mayor, Snohomish
John Joplin, Councilmember, Brier
Ken Klein, County Councilmember
Sam Low, Councilmember, Lake Stevens
Scott Murphy, Councilmember, Everett
Sean Richards, Councilmember, Mountlake Terrace
Sid Roberts, Councilmember, Lynnwood
Donna Wright, Councilmember, Marysville
Stephanie Wright, County Councilmember, Chair

Members Absent

Suzie Ashworth, Councilmember, Granite Falls
Adrienne Fraley-Monillas, Councilmember, Edmonds
Terry Ryan, County Councilmember
Dave Somers, County Councilmember
Brian Sullivan, County Councilmember

Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Health was convened at 3:05 p.m. by Chair Stephanie Wright in the Auditorium of the Snohomish Health District Rucker Building. Roll call was taken by Lorie Ochmann, who reported there was a quorum present.

Minutes

It was moved by Ms. Guzak and seconded by Mr. Richards to approve the amended minutes of the regular meeting held August 12, 2014. The motion carried unanimously.



Consent Agenda

It was moved by Ms. D. Wright and seconded by Mr. Low to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: (a) vouchers 59107-59259 totaling \$1,460,908.30 for August 2014; and (b) Resolution 14-11 authorizing August 2014 expenditures for Health District and PHEPR funds. The motion carried unanimously.

Proclamations and Special Presentations

Nancy Furness provided background information on the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Program and read a proclamation proclaiming September National Preparedness Month.

It was moved by Mr. Low and seconded by Mr. Richards to proclaim September National Preparedness Month. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Public comment was given by Hanna Welander, representing Washington State Nurses Association.

Chair's Report

Chair Wright had no report.

Health Officer's Report

Vapor devices

The World Health Organization (WHO) has issued a report calling for increased regulation of vapor devices. The report explains that "while additional research is needed on multiple areas of e-cigarette use, regulations are required now to address health concerns, in particular for advertising and indoor use.

Ebola Virus Disease

The outbreak of Ebola virus disease (EVD) continues to expand. As of August 28, 3069 cases had been reported to the World Health Organization (WHO), including 1552 deaths. This is nearly double the number of cases as of a month ago. Staff has issued guidance to the local medical community and will be working with the medical community on protocols, should any



Snohomish County residents who have traveled to western Africa present with symptoms compatible with EVD.

Local public policy process

As part of SHD's effort to improve our policy development process, Pam Wessel-Estes and Dr. Goldbaum have met with some Board Members and have interviews scheduled with others. At a future Board meeting, staff will present a preliminary health policy agenda, informed by those interviews and discussions with the Public Health Advisory Council and the Ad Hoc Policy Committee.

Enterovirus

There have been large clusters of children in the Midwest hospitalized with enterovirus. The CDC is investigating. Enteroviruses are quite common and generally benign causing few, if any symptoms. No cases have been reported locally. Staff will be sending an alert to local providers advising that any clusters of the illness should be reported to SHD.

Committee Reports

There were no questions regarding the monthly financial standing report.

Mayor Guzak reported on the Policy Ad-Hoc Committee. Committee Members Mayor Guzak, Ms. Donna Wright, and Ms. Fraley-Monillas met on August 20. The group met with Dr. Goldbaum and SHD Policy Analyst Pam Wessel-Estes to discuss Smoking in Public Places legislation which now has greater complexity with marijuana and hookah smoking. The Committee will be redrafting some of the legislation and submitting it to the Board for review in the near future.

Governance and Finance Committee

Dr. Goldbaum asked for Board Member volunteers to participate on a Governance and Finance Ad-Hoc Committee. This Committee will review the structure of the health district and the Board. Dr. Goldbaum will email Board Members additional details.

Action Item

There were no action items.

Program Briefings



Smoking in Public Places (SIPP)

Dr. Goldbaum provided background on Smoking in Public Places legislation. WA State voters approved I-901 amending 70.160 RCW (formerly Washington State Clean Indoor Air Act). Now known as Smoking in Public Places (SIPP) Act, this law protects people in public places and workplaces from second hand smoke exposure. In 2012, 892,000 adults and 49,000 youth self identified as smokers. Use is higher among Native and Hispanic populations and people with mental health challenges. Tobacco use is responsible for 480,000 preventable deaths annually in the US and 7,600 in Washington State. Adults and children are still being exposed daily to second hand smoke daily.

New challenges have entered the market that current legislation does not address, including hookah smoking, marijuana (medical & recreational use), electronic devices and newly emerging products.

Local Authority is shared with law enforcement, which is responsible for individuals who do not comply with the law. SHD has the authority to pass local code, which is found in SHD's own Sanitary Code; to adopt and to amend (within limits) some state laws (which are not under pre-emption). SIPP gives authority to local health departments to enforce regarding public places and places of employment. SIPP calls upon the local city attorney, county prosecutor or local health department attorney to support actions to enforce in order to correct violations. SIPP also allows local public health to facilitate or clarify in order to implement. Challenges with the current law include (1) lack of clarity with a number of definitions; (2) smoking of non-tobacco products is not clearly defined; (3) difficulty in providing definitive answers to the public; and (4) the mandate is unfunded.

Pam Wessel-Estes, SHD Policy Analyst proposed a two stage plan to adopt and amend SIPP for Snohomish County. Stage One: Amend SIPP to (1) include marijuana and hookah smoking and (2) clarify existing definitions for smoke and smoking, employer and employee, public place, and place of employment. The proposed timeline for Stage One is as follows: July – present SIPP proposal to PHAC for comments; August – present SIPP proposal to BOH policy ad hoc; begin accepting public comment; September – update BOH on process; October – first reading at BOH meeting and obtain additional public comments; and December –second reading, public hearing, and BOH vote on proposed amendments.

Stage Two: Begin process to consider adding vapor devices to local SIPP in 2015. Objectives in phase include (1) develop staff report on vapor devices with most current research; (2) plan and implement public comment period; (3) meet with PHAC (Public Health advisory Council) and Ad Hoc Policy Committee to present findings; and (4) bring proposed amendments to BOH for vote before the end of 2015.

Dr. Goldbaum explained that staff intends to use this current process, which includes a first and second read and lots of opportunity for public comment, as a model for bringing future policy issues to the Board.

Mayor Guzak thanked Ms. Wessel-Estes for her work and thoroughness on this project.



2015 Budget Ad-Hoc Committee

Mr. Klein reported on the 2015 Budget Ad-Hoc Committee. Committee Members Mr. Klein, Mr. Joplin, and Mr. Low met with staff on September 16 to discuss three budget scenarios based on funding variations, primarily in light of the expiration of supplanting the .1 of 1% Mental Health/Chemical Dependency tax funding. The County Executive may propose a 50% cut in 2015, in which case it is unlikely general fund support would be unlikely from the county. The Executive's budget proposal will not be released until later this month.

2015 Budget Process Update

Judy Chapman, SHD Business Manager reviewed SHD's Financial Management Goals, (1) To achieve a balanced, stable and sustainable budget; (2) To increase awareness of future potential challenges & opportunities via six year forecast; (3) To set aside discrete reserves for contingencies, replacement of capital assets; (4) To address capital needs; (5) To increase transparency and accountability; (6) To identify new/expanded revenues where feasible while prudently controlling costs.

Ms. Chapman explained that much of SHD's revenue is from grants and contracts with other governments that have varying budgeting schedules. In the middle of SHD's fiscal year, funding from state grants could change for the balance of the year. Each month throughout the year, we are notified of changes to the DOH Consolidated Billing contract that provides all DOH funding as well as federal pass-through grants. At the federal level, WIC funding is down \$190,000, Medicaid Administrative Match claiming down \$200,000 and sequestration threat lingers. At the state level, while the Department of Health will see a budget cut, no SHD threat has been identified. Snohomish County may experience up to a 6% General Fund reduction totaling \$136,000, and the Mental Health/Chemical Dependency Supplant expiration will mean major impact to the First Steps Program.

Ms. Chapman discussed several cost increases will be incorporated in the budget. PERS rate increase in 2015 for an estimated cost of \$90,000, health care rate increase totaling \$83,000, and the cost of third party billing of TB services. Labor negotiations impact is yet unknown.

Included in the Capital Improvement Plan is a continuation of 2014 projects including planning initiatives, an Environmental Health business system, financial system upgrade, deferred maintenance of the Rucker Building, vehicle replacements, and technology infrastructure. Other considerations include Strategic Plan implementation, labor negotiations, and current staffing vacancies. There has been progress in a number of areas as well, such as fees are under review, funding threats have been identified, vacant positions are being scrutinized, and Ad-Hoc Committee guidance has been received.

Next Steps in September include reviewing capital requirements, and division budget proposals; a second Budget Ad Hoc Committee meeting, and revisions as needed in response to the County Executive's budget proposal. Staff will present the 2015 Proposed Budget at the October Board of Health Meeting.

Mr. Murphy suggested caution when considering general fund spending to offset the supplanting expiration to delay the inevitable.



Ms. Grafer inquired about the number of people served by the First Steps Program. Charlene Shambach, Community Health Division Director explained that 4,000 individuals are currently in the program. Women qualify during pregnancy and may remain in the program until the child reaches their first birthday.

Open Public Meetings and Records Retention

In March 2014, the Governor signed into law the Open Government Trainings Act (Engrossed Senate Bill 5964). The Act makes open government education a recognized obligation of public service. It is designed as a risk management requirement for public agencies, to improve trust in government, and to help prevent costly lawsuits. The Act requires basic open government training for local and statewide officials and records officers. In order to meet this requirement, Nancy Blevins, SHD Health Information Manager offered the required training for all Board Members via video presentation. Board Members present for the training were: Ken Klein, Sam Low, Karen Guzak, Sid Roberts, Scott Murphy, and Stephanie Wright.

Information Items

A calendar for scheduled meetings in September and October 2014 was provided to Board Members in their packets. The Board of Health 2015 Budget Ad-Hoc Committee meets September 16th at 3:00; the Policy Ad-Hoc Committee meets September 29th at 3:00.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:46 PM.

Stephanie Wright, Chair

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