

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, February 24, 2011 was called to order by Councilmember Dave Crump, Chair, at 12:30 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Commissioner Al French
Commissioner Mark Richard (arrived at 12:38 pm)
Councilmember Steve Corker
Mayor Mary Verner
Councilmember Amber Waldref
Councilmember Bill Gothmann
Mayor Tom Towey
Councilmember David Crump, Chair
Board Member Michael Fisk, DC (arrived at 12:41pm)
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH

ABSENT

Commissioner Todd Mielke
Board Member Susan Norwood, EdD, RN,

CITIZEN INPUT

Rose Marie Waldram, Greenacres, gave a handout and her new business card to each Board member. She spoke on fluorine gases and products that have invaded food and plants causing chronic degenerative diseases.

CHAIR REPORT – Councilmember Crump

Staff Recognition

Councilmember Crump welcomed Ann Pitsnogle, Executive Assistant, as the new Recording Secretary to the Board. She replaced Marcia Olson, who retired in January. Marcia was recognized at a retirement ceremony at the Health District earlier this year. The members expressed their gratitude for her many years of dedication to the Board.

New Board Member Welcomes

Mayor Tom Towey from the City of Spokane Valley and Spokane County Commissioner Al French, who previously served on the Board of Health when he was a City of Spokane Councilmember for six years, was welcomed as new and returning members to the Board of Health.

Outgoing Board Member Recognition

Outgoing Board of Health Member, Rose Dempsey, received special recognition for serving on the Board of Health with a certificate of appreciation and a \$50 donation to the Spokane Valley Meals on Wheels. Her service on the Board began in January 2010 and ended in January 2011. Rose Dempsey's insight and help to this agency was greatly appreciated.

Health Officer Performance Review

Due to the lack of a quorum in January, there was not a meeting of the Board of Health. Instead, an invitation was sent to Board of Health members to meet with Dr. McCullough to review performance and agency goals. Board Member Lutz attended the meeting with Councilmember Crump where a goal was set to complete Dr. McCullough's performance review on his anniversary date in May.

Meeting Evaluation Forms

Councilmember Crump reminded Board of Health members about the meeting evaluation included in the agenda packet. He asked the members to complete the evaluation after each meeting because it provides important guidance and feedback.

NALBOH National Convention

The Board was also reminded about the National Convention of NALBOH meeting scheduled in September in Coeur'd Alene, Idaho.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Joel McCullough, MD, MPH, MS

City of Cheney TFE Waiver

Commissioner Mielke brought a request from Chief Sales from the City of Cheney that the Board meet with him to discuss lowering the fees for a TFE. The result of that discussion was a request for the Executive Committee of the Board of Health to meet with the City of Cheney to discuss the TFE permits. The meeting took place January 17th between the Executive Committee, Police Chief Sales, the Administrator from the City of Cheney, Environmental Public Health staff, Torney Smith, and Dr. McCullough.

The City of Cheney along with the NW BBQ Association is planning a BBQ event this July in conjunction with the Cheney Rodeo. From the City of Cheney's perspective the high cost of the TFE permit would discourage participation. At the meeting, the Food Program Manager explained how the fees were arrived at and agency costs for inspecting events. The fees range from \$140 for a low risk food permit to \$480 for a high-risk food permit. The TFE permit requested by the City of Cheney is a high-risk permit. The meeting lasted about an hour and both parties had a better understanding of issues after the meeting. Several possible solutions were discussed such as sponsorship of the event, which could lower the cost of the TFE permit to individual vendors. There are detailed minutes of the discussion included in the agenda packet. No formal resolution has been agreed upon yet, and the Food Program is still working with the City of Cheney.

Councilmember Crump added the reason for the Executive Committee of the Board of Health discussion was because the Board has a policy requiring a 100% recovery of costs associated with fees. It would take a change in Board policy to allow a discount. Commissioner Richard stated the \$480 TFE permit is for a complex food vendor. Vendors with a more simplified food menu would pay considerably less. There is also a different rate for charitable organizations who can demonstrate their profits will be for charity. The challenge for the agency has been trying to reduce the rate for this event. For a fee for service permit, the costs will show up on other event bills or within the agency as an unbalanced budget.

Dr. McCullough and David Swink, Environmental Public Health Division Director, responded to questions from the Board:

- For TFE permits, the cost is the same whether the event is local or in a surrounding area.
- Each high-risk TFE permit is \$480 per vendor and for this event 25-40 vendors are expected.
- There are plan reviews and inspections before each food event. This is in order to prevent outbreaks instead of handle an outbreak.
- One option presented to the City of Cheney was to have a consolidated permit. One person requests the permit and assumes event liability and would work as a “go-between” for the event vendors and the Food Program.

Update on e-Cigarettes

Last September, the Board of Health passed a resolution encouraging local jurisdictions to adopt ordinances restricting the sale of e-cigarettes to minors. Since that time with the assistance of the Tobacco Control Program and legal counsel, there have been several hallmarks to report. On February 7th, the City of Spokane unanimously adopted an ordinance which restricted the sale of electronic cigarettes to minors. On February 8th, the Spokane County Commissioners adopted an ordinance restricting the sale of electronic cigarettes to minors as well. The City of Spokane Valley had the second reading of an ordinance restricting the sale of electronic cigarettes on February 22nd.

Dr. McCullough thanked the Board of Health for their support in this resolution. Dr. Fisk and Councilmember Gothmann thanked all involved in helping and commented it was a marvelous accomplishment for all jurisdictions and their attorneys to meet and work together on this matter. Councilmember Corker stated he was encouraged that vendors of the electronic cigarettes also appeared before his jurisdiction to ask for a restriction to be set for sales to minors.

Discussion and questions following the report:

- There has been no report received of the statewide effort restricting the sale of electronic cigarettes.
- There has been ongoing communication with the state on our efforts and progress locally.
- The goal is to contact those smaller jurisdictions such as Deer Park, Rockford, Liberty Lake, etc. to inform them of the work done locally. The intent is to have unified ordinances throughout the county.

School Based Health Centers

At the last Board of Health meeting, Stacy Wenzl reported the concept of a school-based health center in Spokane and its progress. On February 14th, there was a meeting of the School-Based Health Care Planning and Advisory Committee to determine the pilot schools. The group decided upon 2 schools—Sunset Elementary in Airway Heights and Glover Middle School in West Central Spokane. It is anticipated that in late March one of those schools will be selected as the pilot. A small group from the committee toured a school-based center in Walla Walla before they decided on the 2 schools. Because of the complexities of starting a school-based health care center, the committee decided to narrow the pilot center to one school.

New Fluoride Level Recommendations

In January, the Department of Health and Human Services proposed changing its recommended level of fluoride. It changed the range of .7 to 1.2 parts per million to a recommended level of .7 parts per million. This change is open for public comments and will not be effective until the comment period is over. According to the Department of Health and Human Services, the change is due to an increase in dental fluorosis seen in children. Most causes of dental fluorosis are mild and result in cosmetic discoloration of teeth in children and are the result of swallowing too much fluoride. When these levels were recommended in the 1950's, there were not the additional sources of fluoride as seen today with fluoridation and toothpaste.

Teen Videofest

On Feb 2nd, 2011 the Health District held its Second Annual Teen Videofest at the Lincoln Center. The Videofest challenged local youth between the ages of 14 and 19 to submit videos aimed at healthy communication. This year's theme was, "Raise Your Voice." About 150 people attended the event with Mayor Verner and Councilmember Gothmann attending as well.

Board members viewed the winning video. Mayor Verner thanked the agency for showing the winning video. She wanted Board members to see the caliber of films the teens put together. She was disappointed to hear that the agency no longer has the funding to continue this great program. She hopes this viewing will inspire the Board members to look for funding of this project in the community. All the videos are available for viewing on the Daily Risk website. There is also a voting contest on the site to determine the winner.

Complete Streets Certificates

Dr. McCullough presented certificates on behalf of Heleen Dewey, Health Program Specials in the Physical Activity and Nutrition Program, who was unable to attend the meeting due to inclement weather. The certificates and mugs were presented to Board members for their support of increasing physical activity and nutrition, complete streets, and fighting the battle of obesity within the county. The passage of complete streets, the bicycle helmet resolution and Smart Routes have been instrumental in moving policy forward in creating a healthier community in Spokane County.

Budget Updates

Due to the state budget shortfall, the state legislature reduced the local government assistance by 7%, which equals 1.7 million dollars. This resulted in a \$220,000 reduction to the Health District. There may be another reduction in the final 6 months of this year of at least an additional \$74,000. In addition to the local government assistance cuts, there were categorical funding cuts in Tobacco, Oral Health and HIV/AIDS programs. Given the complexity and the multiple funding sources of these programs, we were able to take these reductions without affecting staff. As an example, the state funding for the Tobacco Program is completely gone. Fortunately, we were able to sustain the cuts without losing staff because the program receives funding from the CDC and Youth Tobacco dollars. There is an interest at the state level to retain flexible dollars and still have categorical cuts. There are anticipated additional funding cuts for 2012; we cannot say definitively if there will be staffing changes next year or not. Mike Riley will give a more comprehensive budget update next month.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda consists of items considered routine which are approved as a group. Any member of the Board may request to remove any item from the Consent Agenda to be considered separately. Councilmember Gothmann made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda; motion seconded by Commissioner Richard.

Mayor Verner requested a minor change to the meeting minutes on page 10, third bulletin. She would not have requested an executive session on this topic mentioned, because it is not Executive Session material. She asked for the word "executive" to be stricken from the minutes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the December 2, 2010 Board of Health meeting minutes with changes requested by Mayor Verner.

Motion/Second: Gothmann/Richard

Approved: Unanimously

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, payroll warrants, and those other claims as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing which has been made available to the Board. Time frame of claims: November 1-30, 2010, December 1-31, 2010, and January 1-31, 2011. The Board, in a vote as moved by Councilmember Gothmann and seconded by Commissioner Richard, did approve for payment those vouchers included in the following list and further described in the total amount of \$1,886,664.34 and \$2,126,604.05 and \$631,529.97 and \$1,437,543.55 respectively.

Voucher Numbers:	#201377 - #B&OOCT10	\$ 600,073.01
Payroll Warrants:	#687734 - #687778	722,508.41
Advice Numbers	#DD8975 - #DD9185	
Payroll Warrants:	#689984 - #690015	564,082.92
Advice Numbers:	#DD9186 - #DD9397	
	TOTAL	\$1,886,664.34

Voucher Numbers:	#203029 - #B&ONOV11	\$ 825,055.73
Payroll Warrants:	#691842 - #691882	
Advice Numbers	#DD9398 - #DD9611	\$669,937.97
Payroll Warrants:	#694538 - #694576	
Advice Numbers:	#DD9612 - #DD9822	\$631,610.35
	TOTAL	\$2,126,604.05

Voucher Numbers:	#203972 -#B&ODEC10	\$ 631,529.97
	TOTAL	\$631,529.97
Voucher Numbers:	#210001 - #210026	\$ 98,702.11
Payroll Warrants:	#696110 - #696148	
Advice Numbers	#DD9823 - #DD10031	\$689,432.68
Payroll Warrants:	#698260 - #698296	
Advice Numbers:	#DD10032 - #DD10236	\$649,408.76
	TOTAL	\$1,437,543.55

Motion: To approve for payment those vouchers included in the above list and further described in the total amount of \$1,886,664.34 and \$2,126,604.05 and \$631,529.9 and \$1,437,543.55.

Motion/Second: Gothmann/Richard

Approved: Unanimously

ACTION ITEMS

Elect 2011 Vice Chair

Councilmember Crump reminded the Board of the action taken at the December 2, 2010 meeting whereby the chair for this year by rotation would have been Mayor Verner. Due to conflicts with her position with the City, she asked if other members of the City of Spokane were able to fulfill the Chair duties. Councilmember Waldref was unable due to her upcoming delivery and Councilmember Corker because of elections. The Board nominated Councilmember Crump as Chair and Mayor Verner stated she would offer to serve as Vice Chair for this year. This would switch the small cities rotation with the City of Spokane. For 2012, the Chair of the Board would be a representative from the City of Spokane; Vice Chair would be represented by Spokane County. Councilmember Waldref made a motion to nominate Mayor Verner to serve as Vice Chair for 2011; motion seconded by Councilmember Corker. The nominations were closed and Chair Crump called for the vote.

Motion: to elect Mayor Verner as the Board of Health Vice chair for 2011

Motion/Second: Waldref/Corker

Approved: Unanimously

Adopt 2011 Meeting Schedule

Councilmember Corker made a motion to adopt the proposed Board of Health 2010 regular meeting schedule, inclusive of January 2012, for meetings to be held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 12:30 p.m. except in August when there has traditionally been no meeting and the

November and December meetings are combined on the first Thursday in December; motion seconded by Councilmember Waldref

Motion: To adopt the Board of Health Regular Meeting Schedule for February 2011-January 2012 as presented.

Motion/Second: Corker/Waldref

Approved: Unanimously

Appoint 2011 Committees

The following 2011 BOH Committee appointments were discussed and made. Some members were absent from the meeting and their appointments will be confirmed following the meeting.

Executive Committee

Councilmember Mayor Verner (who will chair the committee)

Councilmember Dave Crump

Councilmember Bill Gothmann

Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH

Budget & Finance Committee

Councilmember Bill Gothmann

Councilmember Amber Waldref

Commissioner Todd Mielke (recommended by Commissioner Richard, to be confirmed)

The Legislative Committee appointments were tabled until brought forward at a later meeting date to allow for clarification of committee name and membership.

REPORTS

2011 Quality Improvement – Lyndia Tye

Lyndia Tye, Director of Disease Prevention and Response, co-chairs the Health District's Quality Council. The Quality Council (QC) and quality improvement (QI) efforts are reviewed annually and presented to the Board of Health. This is the start of the 4th year for the Quality Council. In 2010, there were 36 projects presented to the Quality Council with 15 projects completed. Four of these projects will be highlighted in this report.

2010 Highlights and 2011 Goals:

- Logic models have been completed by 52 of the 55 programs within the agency. This is the framework used for staff to pull activities and performance data together to assess how a program is working.
- Of those programs, 90% have 1 year of data compiled from logic models with many of those programs having 4-5 years of trend data from the model.
- Quality Improvement knowledge has increased greatly within the agency. An agency staff survey was completed in November, which emphasized the areas of growth. The survey showed the highest QI knowledge among managers. A 2011 goal is to engage and increase overall staff knowledge of QI.

- Last year, Quality Council trained each division within the agency on QI. In the past, staff has had trouble starting projects. This year, quality improvement technical assistance workshops will be provided where staff can talk about projects and methods that would help them improve their projects.
- Divisions report to Quality Council differently this year. The handout provided shows cross divisional performance measurements which look at agency performance on important public health issues. Divisions will report to Quality Council on improving the outcome measures and possible QI projects.
 - The baseline reported on the outcome measurements handout is reported from the previous year.
 - The measurement on the handout to increase the number of policies within the county involves creating policy changes in jurisdictions, agencies and boards within Spokane County that would help increase physical activity and nutrition.
- Divisions will also report on the following areas:
 - Public Health Standards review that is due in March, which will help identify areas for improvement.
 - Customer Service Satisfaction Surveys
 - Logic Model Data Review by program to identify areas for improvement.
 - Presentation Evaluations and potential areas for training
 - Audit Reviews and areas for improvement
 - Information Technology processes and effective use
- For 2011, Liz Wallace and Kyle Unland will both co-chair the Quality Council.

School/Childcare Immunization Record Review Project – Kristi Siahaya

Kristi Siahaya, Health Program Specialist in the Disease Prevention and Response Program, reported there were 15 employees who worked on the record review project part-time or full-time. This project's goal was to increase vaccination coverage rates in Spokane County. The project was able to encourage 26 childcare sites with 1,900 children and 5 school districts with 50,800 children to participate, which is about 58% of our school age children. The project reviewed 8,570 records of school age children and 1900 records of childcare children. School age vaccine coverage increased 21.3% after reviewing records. Childcare rates increased from 24% to 49% which is over a 20% increase as well. The actual exemption rates decreased about 3% for school age children and .8% for childcare. Overall, the goal of increasing rates by 15% was met. The childcare project also accomplished adding 132 records into Child Profile, Washington's state wide immunization registry.

There are 2 companion bills in the House and Senate to change the personal vaccination exemption for children entering school or childcare. This bill would require parents of children requesting an exemption to see their medical provider to become educated on vaccinations before they can receive an exemption. The religious exemption across the state is very low at less than 1% of enrolled students. The personal exemption rate for Spokane County is greater than 7% and continues to increase every year. The exemption rate for Eastern Washington is the highest in the nation. Reasons for vaccination exemptions include a few different classes of thought. One in particular is the thought that vaccinations are not considered "green" and are a chemical that is placed in the body. Groups that feel this way tend to be from a higher socio-economic class and are more educated with higher incomes. Another reason for people seeking

personal exemptions is risk of the vaccine versus the risk of the disease. People believe the disease does not exist any longer in the U.S. or that the risk of vaccine outweighs the risk of getting a disease. Some parents believe that by choosing to get a child vaccinated it becomes the parent's fault if a child has a reaction, as opposed to a child getting the disease as a part of nature and, therefore, not the parent's fault.

Spokane Regional Health District Employee Vaccination Project – Tiffany Reed

Tiffany Reed, Health Program Specialist in the Disease Prevention and Response Program, reported that as the co-chair to the Wellness Committee, the project goal was to increase employee seasonal flu vaccinations. Historically, our agency has been at a 40% vaccination uptake, which is pretty low, but consistent to health care workers. For last year's project, the rate was increased to 60% mostly due to the offer of free vaccinations. For the QI project, the goal was set at improving the rate to 70%. The time period to accomplish the goal was September 2009 to November 2009. We met and exceeded the goal and are at 72% vaccination rate. Reasons attributed to the increase were the H1N1 outbreak, incentive programs offered in the agency, weekly reporting and education, and extra incentives near the end of the time period. There is currently ongoing research into the reasons why employees did not get vaccinated.

Impacting and Improving Employee Activity and Health Project – Cindy Green

Cindy Green, the Injury Prevention, Physical Activity and Nutrition Program Manager reported that in 2008, Spokane Regional Health District was awarded a grant by the Department of Health as part of the project by Robert Wood Johnson to look at quality improvement. The project included 9 health districts in three topic areas. Our topic area was physical activity and there were three health districts looking at this topic. Each had an option to focus on adults or children.

The agency decided to focus on adults within the agency. A team was assembled consisting of Heleen Dewey, from the Physical Activity and Nutrition Program, Liz Wallace from the Community Health Assessment Program, and Mary Holmquist from Human Resources, and herself. It was discovered that employees that were getting a minimum of 150 minutes of activity a week was lower than the county average. The goal was to increase from 50% to 60% activities of agency employees to the 150 minutes of activity recommended a week. The team interviewed staff to determine reasons people are not active and these were because of time, motivation, money, and culture.

Solutions included creating a supportive environment for physical activity within the agency; promoting healthy activities; biometric screenings given to provide health information to staff; the Biggest Improver Program, yoga classes, and circuit training. By the end of the first year of Biggest Improver, 90% of participants were getting 150 minutes of activity. The second year nearly 70% of people met the minimum 150 minutes while 35% were still getting 300 minutes of activity. The team didn't quite meet the goal of 60% of employees getting the recommended level of activity, but had made a significant increase in employee activity. The project was given to the Wellness Committee to continue within the district.

Uniformed Process for Detoxing and Discharging Patients – Julie Albright

Julie Albright, Program Manager for the Opioid Treatment Program, reported on the quality improvement project her program completed. Patients within the Methadone Program were being discharged but it reasons why were not unified, the project worked on ways to unify and decrease the discharge rate. The Target System was used to report to the state every time a patient was discharged. This data was reviewed at staff meetings and ideas were suggested to improve the process by using Process Navigator. The key reason for discharges was missed counseling appointments. Trainers were eventually used for 2 day trainings, which provided models to use for counseling and to keep patients engaged. This changed the discharge rate and aligned reasons for discharge more uniformly.

BOH Annual Evaluation – Liz Wallace/Board Member Lutz

Liz Wallace, Epidemiologist with the Disease Prevention and Response Program and member of the Strategic Planning Goal #8, reported the annual BOH evaluation survey was sent to Board members at the beginning of this month. At this time, there are only 6 responses to the survey and she would like report to the Board after receiving more responses. A full response from the Board would help provide a more accurate evaluation for the Board. A hardcopy of the survey is included with each agenda packet for Board members. If members have already completed the form, they can disregard the survey; otherwise, fill in the hardcopy or complete the survey online. The Board is requested to complete and return the surveys by February 25th. A report of the survey outcomes will be given at the March Board meeting

Dr. Lutz added in light of this project, he and Liz Wallace will submit a presentation to NALBOH. Any Board members interested in presenting at NALBOH need to contact agency division staff. At this time, Christopher Zilar has submitted an abstract on e-cigarettes and is hoping to include Commissioner Richard in the presentation.

Strategic Plan Goal #2 – Kim Papich

Kim Papich, the Health District's Public Information Officer, introduced herself and gave a synopsis of the flyer created by the Strategic Plan Goal #2 for the state's legislative days. The purpose of Strategic Plan Goal #2 is to develop and implement strategies to provide sustainable and adequate public health funding. Committee members include Mayor Verner; Councilmember Steve Corker; Torney Smith; Lisa Ross; CSHCN Program Manager; Natalie Tauzin, Health Program Specialist in Physical Activity and Nutrition; Steve Holderby, Liquid Waste and Environmental Resources Program Manager; David Swink, Environmental Public Health Division Director; and herself. Within this group, a need was identified for a document for participants to carry to the upcoming legislative days that would demonstrate the needs within the community and how public health addresses each. Highlights from the document include:

- There are 1 in 4 adults and 1 in 10 children in Spokane County are considered obese. Obesity in the nation accounts for \$40 billion in additional medical spending. Spokane Regional Health District has several programs that address this issue. Initiatives include Spokane Moves Safely, Neighborhoods Matter, Health Corner Stores and Let's Move.

- There were 87 unintentional deaths from prescription overdoses last year in Spokane County. Fatalities from prescription overdoses are the leading cause of unintentional death in the state, which surpasses motor vehicle accidents. Dr. McCullough is a member of the state task force working on that issue and the agency Opioid Treatment Program addresses it locally.
- The percentage of mothers in Spokane County who smoke is 18%. The state percentage is 11%. Hospital expenses for a pre-term baby of a mother who smokes is \$82,000 compared to \$5,000 of expenses for a full-term baby whose mother does not smoke. Even though causality is not mentioned in figures given for a recent Pacific NW Inlander article, correlation of inter-uterine smoke exposure and SIDS is mentioned and figures show the rate in Spokane is twice as high as the state. The agency's Women, Infant and Children's Program (WIC) has a special tobacco task force and have been offering weekly classes. The Tobacco Prevention and Control and the Nurse Family Partners Programs have also been involved.
- There were over 1600 Chlamydia cases in Spokane County last year. Spokane has surpassed the state's rate of increase. STD's in United States results in 16.4 billion dollar in medical expenses each year. SRHD's public health clinic and HIV/AIDS Program are working to address those numbers.
- The number of whooping cough cases in the U.S. increased from 17,000 in 2009 to 21,000 in 2010. Spokane County, Grant County and Northern Idaho had outbreaks of whooping cough last year. There was also a case of measles reported 2 weeks ago in Vancouver, WA. The CD Epidemiology, Immunization Outreach Programs, and Public Health Clinic are all working to increase vaccination rates.
- The Status of Oral Health report in Spokane County last month reported 14.2 billion dollars spent in dental emergency room visits in the nation last year. As of January 1, 2011, there are 12,000 adults in Spokane that have no medical coverage for non-emergency dental diagnosis. This will result in an increase in visits to emergency rooms for dental issues.
- The Nurse Family Partnership Program has received significant national attention for their weekly nursing home visits to low-income and first time mothers providing education to mothers with children from birth until age two. KHQ will also produce a "human interest" story chronicling the success of one of those families.
- SRHD is serving over 1500 children with special healthcare needs and is serving as the regional hub for children with delays or disabilities no matter the income level.
- The WIC program served over 25,000 people last year. This benefits the local economy with over \$10 million being spent in local grocery stores for healthy foods.
- The Environmental Public Health Division inspected over 3000 food establishments last year, which has prevented the spread of foodborne illnesses such as e-coli and salmonella. Another special interest story is planned with KXLY taking a food inspector into a local residence to compare requirements of local food establishments with a home of a Spokane resident.
- In 2010, Spokane Regional Health District provided 20,000 immunizations for all ages.

- Over 900 new cases of STD's were investigated last year. Our agency is following a model from Australia whereby social media is used to confidentially notify partners.

Goal Team plans moving forward are to remove legislative language from this document and present it to stakeholders in the community and public at-large, in addition to the media.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK-IN

Council of Governments– Commissioner Richard

There will be a discussion at the Council of Governments tomorrow where Christine Barada will give a brief outline regarding health reform. This outline is related to the state initiative more than the national effort. This is an outcome of our beliefs that the state legislature and Governor's office are looking for a more efficient, outcome based delivery of services. The presentation will include consultant findings.

Commissioner Richard welcomed the new recording secretary, Ann Pitsnogle, and stated he wished the vacating secretary, Marcia Olson, well and that she will be missed.

Electronic Cigarette Efforts- Board Member Fisk

Board Member Fisk recognized the efforts of Board Member Lutz for taking the lead on the e-cigarette issue and going out in the community and gathering information and bringing it to the Board. He also thanked everyone else who was involved in the recent e-cigarette work.

Various Topics – Board Member Lutz

Stacy Wenzel who presented to the Board a couple of months ago has just had a baby. A card was passed for members to sign for her. Board Member Lutz's wife has knitted baby booties and a hat, which will be given along with the card to Lyndia Tye to pass to Stacy for her baby.

Part of the quality improvement project involves increasing awareness and education of Board members to the community. A goal from the project is to create a website. Board Member Lutz has been working with Tony DeStefano, Programmer Analyst at the Health District, on that and would like to request a picture and a brief bio from each Board member. In the biography, BOH Members were asked to include a comment on their vision of public health for the community.

A thank you was extended to all the elected officials who worked on the e-cigarette issue. Last week Board Member Lutz was in King County working on the community guide and he was commended for our work on the e-cigarette issue. Also, he learned while in King County that the first initiative, which looked at flavored tobacco products, moved beyond committee except the flavoring portion of the initiative. He requested Christopher Zilar respond to possible reasons why it was not moved forward.

Christopher Zilar, Program Manager to the Tobacco Prevention and Control Program, responded to the Board stating recent products introduced by the tobacco industry looks like candy more than tobacco. One in particular is a product that looks like a Tic-Tac. There were concerns from the legislature about ways to tax and enforce laws on those products. There was a law enacted last year that required tobacco products to be taxed at an equitable rate based on weight. This

presents a challenge to accomplish for the state. Because of those challenges, it was decided to remove that portion of the initiative in order that the rest would have a better chance of passing.

Board Member Lutz added that it would be advantageous for the Board to contact officials regarding those pending bills. It would also be helpful to work with local boards of health across the state. He has been working with NALBOH which is introducing local boards of health across the state to the community guide, and he sees opportunities that exist with those boards to weigh in with the elected officials as one voice on public health.

Regional Health Care Authority – Commissioner French

Commissioner French commented on the Regional Health Care Authority meeting to be held just after the Council of Governments meeting that Commissioner Richard spoke about. Commissioner French added 2 counties in the state (Clark and Spokane) are the leads for the Regional Health Care Authority. Over 100 people have RSVP'd for tomorrow's meeting. Some of the participants wanting to be involved in this effort are as far away as Asotin, Grant, Ferry and Pend Oreille Counties. All are excited to have this meeting and a lot of the credit should be given to Commissioner Richard for his involvement with this effort.

Commissioner Richard added that the Council of Governments meeting will be held tomorrow morning where Christine Barada will give a quick synopsis of possible healthcare reform options. At 2:00 p.m., many stakeholders, their delegates and elected officials from outlying counties have been invited to participate in a meeting to contemplate a regional approach to healthcare reform.

Board of Health Orientations – Councilmember Crump

Councilmember Crump thanked Dr. McCullough and staff for implementing Board orientations to the new Board members, which is a wonderful improvement from years past. He would like to challenge the Board to visit at least one department or group at the Health District to become more involved with the agency. Torney Smith shared a commendation letter at the Executive Committee of the Board of Health which was sent about an employee who went out of their way to help the public. It would be great if employees from the agency were aware of this Board's involvement in the agency.

Opioid Treatment Program – Mayor Verner

Mayor Verner agreed with Councilmember Crump that staff in the agency are professional and she is proud to work with them. Today, she met with Julie Albright, Program Manager of the Opioid Treatment Program, and she gave an excellent briefing to her and one of the City's Police Command Staff on the safeguards in place with the Methadone dosing called "carries." Carries are methadone treatments that can be conducted outside of the agency treatment facility for clients who have exhibited good behavior. This briefing was appreciated since her role as an elected official requires her to be well educated about the facts so she can address rumors or myths in the community.

On the same theme, Mayor Verner asked for the Health District to brief the BOH at an upcoming meeting about medical marijuana dispensaries. She is seeing more facilities in Spokane and

would like to be educated on the federal and state laws and gain an understanding of any actions the Board could take regarding those facilities. This includes fortified alcohol products.

On a recent visit with local firefighters, she learned firefighters are spending a significant amount of time responding to a particular neighborhood's drug of choice, which are the fortified alcohol products. This neighborhood is not in the downtown alcohol impact area and firefighters are asking what can be done to control access to those drinks. Firefighters saw a lot of illnesses and a high call volume when Four Loco was still available. These are very inexpensive, large, fortified alcohol drinks that are causing many problems in this particular neighborhood and she would like to address the issue.

Mayor Verner asked a question about the new nicotine products to Christopher Zilar. Mr. Zilar responded that candy marketed recently includes tobacco in the product itself and not a nicotine laced product.

Mayor Verner thanked everyone involved with the full medical school and graduate medical education programs that many people have been trying to bring to Spokane. There will be an offer to Dr. McCullough to sit on the steering committee to assure there is public health input on the curriculum structure and possible graduate medical opportunities.

Strategic Planning Goal #2 – Councilmember Corker

Councilmember Corker gave his compliments to Kim Papich and the Strategic Planning Goal #2 for their outstanding work. The BOH may have already received additional paperwork prepared for the upcoming legislative and lobbying efforts to help public health address funding concerns. Being a member of this committee, he has seen staff demonstrate exceptional professional skills. This is valuable in promoting the goals and vital work of this agency.

Recently, Mayor Verner and Councilmember Corker participated in the Neighborhoods Matter program, which has focused on the East Central Community Center. The group has been very involved with the students from Sheridan Elementary School and the East Central neighborhood to lobby Spokane City Council and the library board to keep the library open this year. Those efforts directly affected the outcome of the library remaining open this year. He commends agency staff for being involved.

Councilmember Corker welcomed Commissioner French and Mayor Towey to the Board. He looks forward to working with both of them. Rose Dempsey was commended for her dedication to the Board.

Staff Appreciation – Councilmember Gothmann

Councilmember Gothmann thanked the Health District for its involvement with the City of Spokane Valley and other municipalities on local issues.

Board Presentations – Mayor Towey

Mayor Towey thanked and congratulated staff on their presentations at the meeting today. They were very informative and well presented.

Electronic Cigarettes – Councilmember Waldref

Councilmember Waldref commented that she appreciates what the Board and staff did on the e-cigarette issue. It was very educational working through the process. The presentations at the today's meeting were very well done, especially the information on the immunizations and the increase in vaccinations due to the efforts at the Health District.

Councilmember Waldref stated her second child is due in 5 weeks and she may not be available at the March Board meeting. She plans on taking most of April off and will be attending meetings again after her time away.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on March 24, 2011.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - There was no Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.

APPROVED:


Board of Health Chair

Date: 3-24-11

Recording Secretary

