

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **October 24, 2013** was called to order by Commissioner Todd Mielke, Chair, at 12:30 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Commissioner Al French (departed 1:38pm)
Commissioner Todd Mielke, Chair
Commissioner Shelly O'Quinn (arrived at 12:40pm)
Councilmember Jon Snyder
Councilmember Ben Stuckart
Councilmember Amber Waldref
Councilmember Chuck Hafner, Vice Chair
Mayor Tom Towey
Mayor Tom Trulove (arrived at 12:40pm)
Board Member Keith Baldwin, MHA
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH
Board Member Susan Norwood, EdD, RN

CITIZEN INPUT

- Carolyn Pickett, Spokane County, WA – Spoke on the dangers of marijuana changing the PH factor in the human body. She recommended the Board Members read online information from the DEA.

CHAIR REPORT – Commissioner Todd Mielke

The new District 2 citizen appointment, Keith Baldwin, was introduced to Board Members.

Councilmember Hafner was thanked for standing in as chair while Commissioner Mielke was completing his Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) duties.

The agenda outline was rearranged to address action items in order to accommodate BOH members who are unable to attend the full meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution #13-07 - Approval to Adopt a Labor Contract for Employees of SRHD Who Are Members of the WSNA – B. Lorang

The WSNA contract begins October 1, 2013 and ends September 30, 2016. The contract includes a 1.8% cost of living adjustment (COLA) that will be applied January 1, 2014. There are agreed upon reopeners for COLA for the duration of the contract. In 2014, medical will increase by 0.5% and there was no increase to dental insurance premiums. The agency will pick up the difference for the lowest cost medical plan. The total cost of COLA plus the increased medical premiums will be \$20,000.

Commissioner O'Quinn expressed her concern that it would be difficult for Spokane County to allow a similar COLA for its employees. Barb Lorang stated the Board approved up to a 2% increase in COLA at its July meeting, and state that SRHD had a balanced budget.

Commissioner O'Quinn requested the dates of BOH meetings be reviewed before the beginning of the year in order to assure the majority of the Board can be present at meetings.

Councilmember Waldref made a motion to approve the resolution as it was presented. Board Member Norwood seconded the motion.

Motion: To approve Resolution #13-07 Approval to Adopt a Labor Contract for Employees of SRHD Who are Members of the WSNA.

Motion/Second: Waldref/Norwood

Approved: 9Yes/3 No (French/O'Quinn/Mielke)

Resolution #13-08 Approval to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding Covering 2014 Wages & Benefits for Employees of SRHD Who Are Members of the PTE, Local 17 – B. Lorang

The contract with Professional Technical Employees (PTE), Local 17 impacts the majority of employees (140). The current contract will end December 31, 2015 with agreements for reopeners annually for potential COLAs. The provisions in the MOA are identical to the WSNA contract.

Councilmember Stuckart made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Waldref seconded the motion.

Commissioner O'Quinn expressed the same concern about the agreement as with the previous resolution.

Motion: To approve Resolution #13-08 Approval to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding Covering 2014 Wages & Benefits for Employees of SRHD Who Are Members of the PTE, Local 17.

Motion/Second: Stuckart/Waldref

Approved: 9 Yes/3 No (French/O'Quinn/Mielke)

Resolution #13-09 Adoption of the 2014 Budget – M. Riley

The resolution is requesting expenditure authority for \$21,344,503.00. The BOH Budget and Finance Committee has been reviewing the fee schedule and budget process since the beginning of the year. The Logical Decisions for Windows (LDW) program has been used, as in previous years, to help determine budgeting priorities. Staff has reviewed every line item of the budget and the BOH Budget and Finance Committee has given its approval of the budget.

The agency grant dollars have increased this year with a new SNAP-ED grant, which improves the purchasing and healthy food options of SNAP recipients by using focus groups in conjunction with the housing authority. The Community Transformation Grant (CTG) has had an increase in funds and the rate for children in the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) program has increased along with the amount of children served through the school districts.

Overall salary and benefit expenditures will decrease for the year due to a 6.78 FTE reduction due to the Laboratory and Clinic closures in 2013. The Bioterrorism Lab will continue until July 2014 with the Health Officer researching ways to continue the services.

The electrical and computer components of the elevators will be updated, which has resulted in an increase in the building maintenance budget. The agency reserves are close to 25% and its projected that \$87,500 will be added to the reserve in 2014.

Councilmember Stuckart made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Councilmember Hafner seconded the motion.

Motion: To approve Resolution #13-09 Approval of the 2014 Budget.

Motion/Second: Stuckart/Hafner

Approved: 11 Yes/1 No (French)

Millennium Bulk Terminal Environmental Impact Study (EIS) Request Letter – J. McCullough

At the last Board of Health meeting, Dr. McCullough asked the Board if it would like to send an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) request letter to ask that health and environmental impacts be studied for Spokane County for the Millennium Bulk Terminal. The Board voted to request staff to draft a letter for approval at today's meeting. The Executive Committee of the BOH reviewed the letter and revisions were made as requested.

Councilmember Stuckart made a motion to approve the letter as presented. Councilmember Snyder seconded the motion.

Commissioner Mielke made motion to amend the letter striking the word "adverse" in paragraph one, line 2 and in line one in the second to last paragraph amending the sentence as follows after the word transportation: "...versus truck traffic hauling the same product." Commissioner O'Quinn seconded the motion.

Councilmember Stuckart recommended line one in the second to the last paragraph be changed to state, "include an analysis of all transportation modes to determine the effects on many of the environmental elements..." and strike the word "adverse" from paragraph one, line 2. Commissioner Mielke and Commissioner O'Quinn accepted the friendly amendment to the motion.

Motion: To amend the Millennium Bulk Terminal Environmental Impact Study (EIS) Request Letter to strike the word "adverse" from paragraph one, line two and changing line one in the second to the last paragraph after the word "transportation" to read as follows, "include an analysis of all transportation modes to determine the effects on many of the environmental elements..."

Motion/Second: Mielke/O'Quinn

Approved: 10 Yes/1 No (Snyder)/1 Abstain (Baldwin)

Motion: To approve the Millennium Bulk Terminal Environmental Impact Study (EIS) Request Letter as amended.

Motion/Second: Stuckart/Snyder

Approved: 8Yes/ 3 No (French/O'Quinn/Trulove)/1 abstain (Baldwin)

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

Spokane County Gonorrhea Outbreak

There has been a significant increase in the number of gonorrhea cases in Spokane County. Current data shows 212 cases reported since the end of September compared to 134 cases last year, which is a 58% increase. The Department of Health (DOH) has declared Spokane County in outbreak status. There have been outbreak statuses in four other counties with the state of Washington seeing a 34% increase in the number of cases. There has been a trend increase since 2009 with a significant increase since the 3rd quarter of 2012. Spokane County and Washington State are below the national gonorrhea rate of 104.2 per 100,000.

The Health District has communicated with healthcare providers informing them the importance of screening due to the asymptomatic nature of the disease, emphasizing gathering of sexual histories of patients, and using the current guidelines for treatment of gonorrhea. Press releases have been sent by SRHD and DOH and various media interviews have been completed emphasizing prevention. All cases of gonorrhea will be interviewed assuring that all patients and partners have been notified and treated. Data will be tracked to determine effectiveness of interventions. The reason for the increase in cases is unclear. Treatments are successful but over the last decade there has been an increase in drug resistant gonorrhea. There is no indication that the outbreak is due to antibiotic resistant gonorrhea.

Bioterrorism (BT) Lab Update

Last year, it was reported that the BT Lab may close if additional funding was not secured. DOH has the BT Lab as the top priority for carryover dollars. We anticipate funds will be received for the lab and that it will be the last time it will be funded by the DOH. Without additional funding, the BT Lab will close June 30, 2014.

CONSENT AGENDA

Consists of items considered routine which are approved as a group. Any member of the Board may request to remove an item from the Consent Agenda to be considered separately.

Meeting Minutes: September 26, 2013

2013 Vouchers paid: September 1-30, 2013

Voucher Numbers:	#232023 - #232200 & EFT B&OAUG13		\$ 168,839.20
Payroll Warrants:	#814578 - #814608	Advice Numbers: #DD22553 - #DD22737	611,804.91
Payroll Warrants:	#816167 - #816199	Advice Numbers: #DD22738 - #DD22920	583,179.70
		TOTAL	\$1,363,823.81

Motion: To approve the September 26, 2013 meeting minutes as presented.

Motion/Second: Hafner/Waldref

Approved: Unanimously

Motion: To approve the September 1-30, 2013 vouchers as presented.

Motion/Second: Norwood/Trulove

Approved: Unanimously

REPORTS

BOH Survey – S. Wenzl

The purpose of the BOH survey is for agency staff to determine improvements needed in supporting Board members and will be followed up with in-depth interviews of all members. The results will be reported in January 2014. The 5 governance responsibilities adapted from the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) was reviewed by the Board.

Commissioner O’Quinn requested the BOH surveys be brought to the in-depth interviews.

Commissioner Mielke asked the Board members report any items for the Board Member Check In before starting the survey to allow Board members to leave the meeting after completing the survey.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

WIC Services – Councilmember Snyder

Councilmember Snyder asked Dr. McCullough the impact to WIC services due to the Federal Government shutdown. Dr. McCullough reported that layoff notices were sent but no staff were impacted due to the limited number of days the government was shutdown.

Board of Health Meeting Schedule – Commissioner O’Quinn

Commissioner O’Quinn requested staff consider moving the BOH meeting dates for 2014 in order for more members to attend. Commissioner Mielke requested the recording secretary research the previous meeting schedule survey results, review calendars and poll members to establish the best meeting dates.

Health Officer Review – Commissioner Mielke

The performance review for the health officer is due. Commissioner Mielke will consult with the Executive Committee of the BOH to initiate the review.

Gonzaga Nursing Students – Board Member Norwood

Board Member Norwood acknowledged Gonzaga University students who were observing the meeting as part of their Community Health class.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on December 5, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 2:04 p.m.

APPROVED: Charles E. Mielke
Board Member Name and Title

Date: 12/5/13

Art Hawwood
Recording Secretary

