

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **January 28, 2016** was called to order by Mayor Kevin Freeman, Chair, at 12:33 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Mayor Kevin Freeman, Chair
Commissioner Al French (departed at 1:18 p.m.)
Commissioner Todd Mielke (arrived at 12:40 p.m.)
Commissioner Shelly O'Quinn, Vice Chair (arrived 12:38 p.m.)
Councilmember Lori Kinnear
Councilmember Ben Stuckart
Councilmember Amber Waldref (departed at 1:39 p.m. and returned 1:47 p.m.)
Councilmember Chuck Hafner
Board Member Keith Baldwin, MHA
Board Member Susan Norwood-Boysen, EdD, RN
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH

ABSENT

Councilmember Dean Grafos

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no public input.

CHAIR REPORT – Mayor Freeman

Outgoing Board of Health (BOH) Members

Torney Smith, Administrator, recognized outgoing board members, Councilmember Mike Fagan and Commissioner Mielke, and presented plaques. The remaining outgoing members not present at the meeting will receive their plaques by mail.

Health Officer Recognition

Councilmember Hafner recognized health officer, Joel McCullough, for his work at the agency and presented him a handmade, engraved table tray.

Councilmember Hafner Recognition

Councilmember Hafner was recognized for his recent award for the 2015 Spokane Valley Chamber Man-of-the-Year Award and for his birthday.

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

Zika Virus

The virus is spread mainly through the bite of a mosquito. The mosquito species is also responsible for Dengue and Chikungunya fevers. Symptoms are generally mild and last several days to a week. The most common symptoms are rash, fever, joint pain and red eyes. Approximately one-in-five that are bitten become ill. The virus can be passed from a mother to a fetus during pregnancy. There have been significant reports of birth defects in those who are infected with the virus.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) has issued travel notices for those traveling to areas where virus transmission is ongoing educating them on how to protect themselves. CDC has recommended pregnant women postpone travel to areas where Zika virus transmission is ongoing. This virus is not expected to be a significant disease threat within the continental U.S. because the mosquito species responsible for transmission is found mainly in tropical and subtropical areas.

New SRHD Human Resources Manager

The new Human Resources Manager, Sue Winters, was introduced. She will start her position February 16, 2016.

Health Officer Farewell

Dr. McCullough shared that it was his honor to serve at the health district. He will be acting as interim health officer until a replacement has been found. He will be serving as the Medical Director of Community Health and Epidemiology at Providence Healthcare. He will be responsible for infection control in inpatient and outpatient settings in all Providence systems in the northwest and will develop the pathogens unit to treat patients that have special pathogens, such as, Ebola. He will work with outpatient clinical systems to improve clinical prevention efforts and will develop a strategy to improve Providence’s reach in population health.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Linda Graham, Health Policy and Communications Manager

A list of current bills that are open in the session was included in the BOH packet. An updated list will be sent to BOH after the meeting. The first cutoff date for bills is next week.

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: December 3, 2015

2015 Vouchers paid: November 1-30, 2015

Voucher Numbers:	#238358 - #238652 & EFT B&OOct2015		\$ 709,535.99
Payroll Warrants:	#905161 - #905187	Advice Numbers: #DD32391 - #DD32579	703,288.74
Payroll Warrants:	#906984 - #90710	#970250 - #907356	
		Advice Numbers #DD32580 – #DD32771	677,004.60
		TOTAL	\$2,089,829.33

2015 Vouchers paid: December 1-31, 2015

Voucher Numbers:	#238653 - #238843 & EFT B&ONov2015		\$ 537,385.47
Payroll Warrants:	#908617 - #908639	#909108 - #909112	
		Advice Numbers: #DD32772- #DD32967	706,474.38
Payroll Warrants:	#909906 - #909935	Advice Numbers #DD32968 – #DD33161	684,072.45
		TOTAL	\$1,927,932.30

Motion: To approve the consent agenda including meeting minutes and vouchers as presented.

Motion/Second: Hafner/O’Quinn

Approved: Unanimously

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The BOH adjourned for 10 minutes for an executive session pursuant to RCW §42.30.110(1)(g) related to salary for a public employee. Mayor Freeman requested the board attorney and the Human Resources Manager remain for the session.

At 1:10 p.m., the board attorney requested another five minutes for the executive session.

MEETING RECONVENED

The meeting reconvened at 1:15 p.m.

ACTION ITEMS

Interim Director Salary – Mayor Freeman

Councilmember Stuckart made a motion to increase the salary of the administrator by \$2,475 a month in the interim starting on February 16, 2016. Councilmember Hafner seconded the motion.

Commissioner Mielke clarified the amount per month and noted the extra workload placed on the Administrator assuring duties up to, but not of the medical doctor, are coordinated and covered. With costs of an interim health officer and interim director, there will still be a net gain to the health district.

Motion: To approve an increase to the monthly salary of the administrator by \$2,475 in the interim starting on February 16, 2016.

Motion/Second: Mielke/Hafner

Approved: Unanimously

Interim Health Officer Contract – Mayor Freeman

SRHD Attorney, Michelle Fossum, explained the terms of the interim health officer contract. Board Member Baldwin made a motion to approve the interim health officer contract with typographical corrections completed that were noted to the recording secretary prior to the meeting. The recording secretary noted the corrections had been made. Commissioner O'Quinn seconded the motion.

Motion: To approve the interim health officer contract with typographical corrections completed.

Motion/Second: Baldwin/O'Quinn

Approved: Unanimously

Adopt 2016 Meeting Schedule – Mayor Freeman

Commissioner Mielke made a motion to approve the 2016 BOH meeting schedule. Councilmember Waldref seconded the motion.

Commissioner O'Quinn noted the Board of County Commissioners will not meet the last week in July and the commissioners will most likely not attend the meeting in July. Commissioner Mielke asked the BOH members to consider another date in July. Councilmember Hafner requested the recording secretary find another date in July for the BOH to meet.

Motion: To adopt the 2016 Board of Health meeting schedule.

Motion/Second: Mielke/Waldref

Approved: Unanimously

Adoption of the BOH 2016 Committees – Mayor Freeman

Budget and Finance Committee – Commissioner O'Quinn nominated Councilmember Hafner as chair to the committee. Councilmember Hafner accepted. Commissioner Mielke seconded the motion.

Councilmember Stuckart, Board Members Boysen and Baldwin volunteered to serve on the committee. The new county commissioner, when determined, would be appointed to the committee.

Motion: To approve nomination of Councilmember Hafner to chair the Budget and Finance Committee

Motion/Second: O'Quinn/Mielke

Approved: Unanimously

Policy Committee – Councilmember Waldref volunteered to chair the committee. Councilmember Stuckart nominated Councilmember Waldref to the Policy Committee. Councilmember Hafner seconded the motion.

Board Member Baldwin, Mayor Freeman, and Councilmember Hafner volunteered to serve on the committee.

Motion: To approve nomination of Councilmember Waldref to chair the Policy Committee

Motion/Second: Stuckart/Hafner

Approved: Unanimously

Education and Communications Committee – Board Member Baldwin noted the Governance committee discussed combining the Education and Communications committee with the Governance committee. Board Member Baldwin requested Board Member Lutz define the scope of the committees if combined.

Councilmember Hafner made a motion to combine the Education and Communications and the Governance Committees. Commissioner O’Quinn seconded the motion.

Councilmember Stuckart questioned the origin of the previous health officer search committee. Commissioner Mielke and Torney Smith, Administrator, answered that an ad-hoc committee was formed for that role. Councilmember Stuckart noted he would like to serve on the health officer search committee.

Councilmember Kinnear, Councilmember Hafner, and Board Member Boysen volunteered to serve on the committee.

Motion: To combine the Education and Communications Committee with the BOH Governance Committee.

Motion/Second: Hafner/O’Quinn

Approved: Unanimously

Commissioner Mielke requested some of the duties related to board member expectations be transferred to the Executive Committee of the BOH. Board Member Baldwin clarified that the Governance Committee was created to update BOH function and policy and as completed the items were assessed. The Executive Committee is still tasked with defining parameters for BOH expectations and operation. The Governance Committee was not intended to continue indefinitely and agreed the duties should be completed by other committees. Commissioner Mielke recommended adding under the ECBOH description, “assist in administrative functions necessary for the success of the BOH.”

Motion: To approve nomination of Board Member Lutz to chair the Education and Communications Committee

Motion/Second: Stuckart/O’Quinn

Approved: Unanimously

Commissioner O’Quinn reported the ECBOH meeting conflicts with the Airport Board meeting that she is a member. Mayor Freeman requested the committee consider another time for the meeting.

Executive Committee of the BOH – The committee members designated for the committee include Mayor Freeman, Commissioner O’Quinn, Councilmember Hafner, Councilmember Waldref and Board Member Lutz.

WORK SESSION

Intent to Enforce Vaping Devices Under the Smoking in Public Places Law – Linda Graham and Paige McGowan

Mayor Freeman stressed the BOH will be implementing and enforcing policy on this matter. Linda Graham began the presentation noting that the BOH will be considering enforcement of vaping under the Smoking in Public Places (SIPP) law. No action will take place today, but is only informational to the upcoming hearing at the February BOH meeting with a vote in February or March.

Samples of vaping devices were viewed by BOH members. The BOH has been presented reports previously on vaping, discussed vaping related to the legislative agenda, adopted a BOH legislative agenda regarding vaping, and received a presentation last April on the public health concerns related to vaping and the SRHD Tobacco program work on the matter.

The BOH Policy Committee is recommending the BOH pass a resolution to prohibit the use of vaping devices in public places and places of employment. This policy would prohibit vaping within 25 feet of doors, windows, and ventilation in-takes and would require signage that states 'no vaping' to be placed in public places or places of employment.

The policy would not ban vaping nor vaping in homes nor a ban on the sale of retail vaping devices. It would simply include vaping under the SIPP law.

BOH authority comes in part from the SIPP law. The health district has the authority to enforce the law on business owners and places of employment. The legislation also gives the BOH the ability to adopt regulations that are related to that enforcement activity. The BOH will direct the creation and enforcement of the policy in Spokane County.

The BOH has already passed a resolution encouraging local jurisdictions to prohibit sales to minors and to make it a penalty for minors to possess vaping devices in 2010, which several local jurisdictions quickly adopted. The state followed by prohibiting sales to minors in 2013.

There is current pending state legislation to place vaping devices under the same state regulatory systems that tobacco is under. Nothing in the proposed legislation prohibits the use of vaping devices in public places. It is not expected that the state will undertake any action on vaping in public places.

Vaping devices and products are not regulated by the federal government. A "deeming rule" has been proposed by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) that would put vaping devices under similar regulatory structure as tobacco products. It is not clear when that will be adopted.

Paige McGowan, Health Policy Specialist, Tobacco Program, presented the justification for the policy. Toxins in the vaping liquid have been shown to vary by brand with over 500 brands and 7700 flavors. The vapor has been shown to contain nicotine, formaldehyde, ultra-fine particles, heavy metals and other cancer causing agents. The long term impact to exposure hasn't been determined.

Some research has shown that vapor is safer than second-hand smoke exposure. From a public health perspective and drawing from best available research, there is cause for concern for exposure to the vapor. The vapor may be safer than cigarette smoke, but does not mean it is safe.

A complicating factor is that the devices can be used to consume a wide variety of substances including marijuana and other synthetic drugs. It would be impossible for a bystander to know what they're being exposed to. If the FDA takes action on the deeming rule, there would be some regulation of the devices. From a public health perspective and knowing the devices can be used for other substances and drugs, regulating the actual use of the device in public places and places of employment is important.

In Spokane in 2014, 26% of youth reported having used a vaping device and only 12% using a cigarette. Nicotine impacts developing youth. Nicotine use during adolescence is associated with lasting cognitive and behavioral impairments including effects on memory and attention. Other concerns are life-long nicotine addiction and evidence of those using vaping devices have an elevated chance of using cigarettes in the future. Youth are impressionable and the policy would remove vaping devices from public places and places of employment and help reduce the normalization of smoking.

Businesses have requested the health district take action. Even though businesses are allowed to enforce their own no vaping policies, enacting this regulation would assure uniformed enforcement.

Linda Graham outlined the history leading to the request for the policy. The public comment period is currently open and will end February 5, 2016. Comments will be presented to BOH members prior to the hearing.

Linda Graham provided an overview of the proposed resolution. The effective date is proposed for July 1, 2016. This will allow time to educate business owners and public, as well as provide signage. The date may be affected by when the board votes on the matter. The proposed regulation is expected to affect 21 vaping businesses and doesn't affect vaping in private vehicles.

Mayor Freeman reminded the board of the importance of a quorum next meeting and requested members allow extra time on their calendars in case the meeting ran over the usual time slotted.

Board Member Lutz asked whether members who are not present for the vote would be able to submit a vote. Legal counsel responded members would need to be able participate and hear the entire event to be able to vote on the matter. If the vote is deferred until March, absent members would have an opportunity to view the video on the subject prior to the meeting and then would be able to vote.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

Service on the Board of Health – Commissioner Mielke

Commissioner Mielke expressed his thankfulness for being able to participate on the BOH. He has been a member since 2004. The board has been through many changes and challenges and is a better board and organization since he started. He stated he has never met a more dedicated staff trying to make the community a better place.

Commissioner Mielke and Dr. McCullough – Board Member Lutz

Board Member Lutz thanked Commissioner Mielke for his time on the board. He also thanked Dr. McCullough for his work at the health district. He believes the community will benefit from his role in his new position.

New Position – Dr. McCullough

Dr. McCullough stated he looked forward to working with the board and health district in his new position.

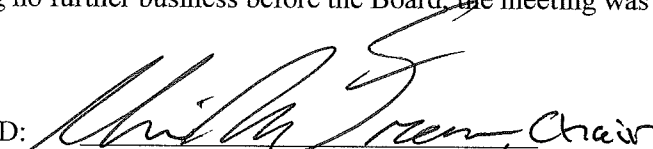
NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on February 25, 2016.

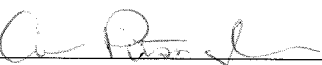
ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

APPROVED:


Board Member Name and Title

Date: 2/25/2016


Recording Secretary