

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **October 26, 2017** was called to order by Board Member Chuck Hafner, Vice Chair, at 12:30 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Board Member Chuck Hafner, Vice Chair
Commissioner Josh Kerns (arrived at 12:32pm)
Commissioner Mary Kuney
Councilmember Breean Beggs (arrived at 12:37pm)
Councilmember Karen Stratton
Councilmember Mike Munch (arrived 12:38pm)
Councilmember Sam Wood
Board Member Susan Boysen, EdD, RN (departed at 2:37pm)

ABSENT

Mayor Kevin Freeman, Chair
Commissioner Al French
Councilmember Lori Kinnear

CITIZEN INPUT

- Luis Manriquez, Spokane, WA --Spoke on the safety of vaccines and immunizations being listed as one of the top ten public health achievements of the 20th century by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). He stated sending unvaccinated children to school during an outbreak is a clear risk to that child, all the children in the school and everyone in the neighborhood when they return home. He requested the board maintain the exclusion rule to help protect the community.
- Sylvia Stellmacher, Spokane, WA – Spoke about her experience in Africa with unimmunized children suffering from vaccine preventable diseases and the immunocompromised children she now works with in the Sacred Heart Medical Center (SHMC) Pediatric Oncology unit who cannot receive immunizations. The immunocompromised children are at risk when they interact with community members who may have contracted illnesses. She urged all to consider those who are most at risk and assure those who are not vaccinated don't put others at risk.
- Courtney Roberts spoke for Laura Stalp, Spokane County, WA – Spoke on her personal experience working in Mt. Vernon, WA as a substitute school teacher during an outbreak of mumps. She stated it is important that unvaccinated children stay at home during an outbreak.
- Nikki Lockwood, Spokane, WA – Not present to speak.
- Jacklyn Gallion, Spokane Valley, WA – Spoke on exempt students not being a danger to immune compromised students. She questioned whether schools notify immune compromised patients when classmates are recently vaccinated. She noted that most of the Washington Department of Health's (WADOH) list of notifiable health conditions are contagious and few theoretically being vaccine preventable. She stated WADOH recognizes vaccination as causing contagious infections. She questioned whether it is the responsibility of the schools to have immune compromised children enrolled in school while they are not healthy. She noted the September Board of Health (BOH) meeting discussion about mandatory mumps exclusions. She states she has SRHD Director Smith's admission and two lawyers who have confirmed that exclusions were not mandatory. She stated if the BOH attorney has a viable, legal argument contradicting this information, it should be shared. She stated evidence points that Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) improperly denied several hundred students their access to education for 25-90 days.

- Ed Pace, Spokane Valley, WA – Spoke in support of parental rights on behalf of his constituents as a Spokane Valley Councilmember. He stated that on August 29, 2017, he placed a proposed parental rights ordinance on the Spokane Valley City Council's Advance Agenda with the support of two other councilmembers, Caleb Collier and Mike Munch. He stated it is shameful parents must ask for permission not to vaccinate their children and shameful that parents can't decide whether to send their healthy children to school during a disease outbreak. He continued it is shameful that a teenage girl under the care of her parents can obtain medical procedures without her parent's knowledge and shameful that parents can't censure information given to their children at public school. He stated city councilmembers take an oath of office to uphold and defend the U.S. and Washington State Constitutions. The constitutions state governments are established and maintained to protect individual rights and that parental rights come from nature and God. He asked for a collaborative search for both parties to win regarding parental rights with a series of conferences held jointly by the health district, Central Valley School District, and the City of Spokane Valley.
- Kayloni Bonner, Spokane Valley, WA – Shared excerpts of the letter sent to the secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) on October 12, 2017 outlining serious violations of duty and lawful order to ensure and improve vaccine safety. She stated those who are demanding policy reform are not asking for vaccine use to end, but for known flaws, risks and limitations of each vaccine be respected and for policies to respect those limitations and risks. She stated more information on the letter and work can be researched at www.lcandecide.com.
- Jennifer Burrows, Spokane, WA – Ms. Burrows read a letter that was sent to HHS about their responsibility for vaccine safety and the approval process for vaccines.
- Andie Frostad, Spokane, WA – Spoke on her son's experience and lasting health issues due to a vaccine. She noted there is no antidote for an adverse reaction to a vaccine and no guidelines for parents or providers who experience an adverse reaction event. She stated the risk versus the benefit is not known without an active vaccine adverse reporting system. She said her son's reaction was not reported to the CDC. She questioned if the board kept detailed statistics on local reports of adverse reactions to vaccines and whether the board takes into consideration families like hers when making policy.
- Kris Eiffert, Spokane County, WA – Spoke on her experience with the polio virus at three years old. She became infected four months after the polio vaccination program became effective and her mother was waiting for vaccine. As an adult, she has now been diagnosed with post-polio syndrome (PPS). She asked for anyone who knows of someone who is experiencing PPS to contact her for information.
- Kim Helm, Spokane Valley, WA – Ms. Helm continued reading the HHS letter that Jennifer Burrows read.
- Kristina Nielsen, Spokane, WA – Ms. Nielsen continued reading letter to HHS that Jennifer Burrows began.
- Carol Trask, Spokane Valley, WA – Ms. Trask continued reading the letter to HHS that Ms. Nielsen read.
- Yvonne Fredrick, Spokane Valley, WA – Ms. Frederick continued reading the letter to HHS that Ms. Trask read.
- Erin Kranzler, Spokane Valley, WA -- Continued reading the letter to HHS that Ms. Frederick had shared.
- Deb Harper, Spokane County, WA – Ms. Harper was not present to comment.
- Paula Smith, Greenacres, WA – Ms. Smith finished reading the letter that Mr. Kranzler Shared. She encouraged the board to read the full notice and facts of summary.
- Kim Standler, Spokane Valley, WA – Spoke on her daughter's brain swelling due to the MMR vaccine and the severe lasting health effects due to her adverse reaction to the vaccine. She stated she

needed the policies of the board to reflect the constitutional rights of her son and other children on education, privacy and nondiscrimination.

- Petra Hoy, Spokane Valley, WA – Read a letter from Gretchen LaSalle from Rockwood about vaccines as the best preventative care to limit the spread of disease.
- Leilani DeLong, Spokane Valley, WA -- Continued reading the letter from Ms. LaSalle.
- Jeff Beaulac, Spokane Valley, WA – Mr. Beaulac continued reading the letter from Ms. LaSalle.
- Marianne Kartcher, Spokane, WA – Ms. Kartcher continued reading the letter from Ms. LaSalle. She stated it's the community and BOH's responsibility to protect the community and the good of the many need to outweigh the good of the few.
- Jerry LeClaire, Spokane, WA – Spoke on his experience during the polio epidemic and the benefit of vaccinations. He stated he believes those who are unvaccinated should be excluded from school during a disease outbreak.
- Dave Fregeau, Spokane, WA – Spoke about the public's confusion regarding the matter before the board. He stated the topic of discussion is whether unimmunized children should be allowed in school during an outbreak. He stated unimmunized children shouldn't be allowed in school during an outbreak.
- Dan Moorman, Spokane, WA – Spoke in favor of the epidemiologists and health officers who make the decisions about exclusions and their expertise to make the decisions appropriate for the community. He stated epidemiologist and health officers should be trusted above a parent trying to make the decision for their child.
- Chris Jackson, Spokane Valley, WA – Encouraged the board to include youth in the discussion about immunization to gain their perspective about the issue. He also encouraged developing venues where their input could be given.
- Richard Chan, Spokane Valley, WA – Spoke about schools' responsibility to protect those who they are charged with and if it was the responsibility of the person sending the child to school, who would bear the legal responsibility when someone spreads a disease or continues an epidemic.
- Deborah Chan, Spokane Valley, WA – Stated that the proposed ordinance is a gross overreach of responsibility by the City of Spokane Valley. The matter is a public health, state and federal issue. The city is responsible for taking care of the streets, crime and citizens' every day needs. She stated Spokane Valley Councilmember Pace is representing his constituents and that most them want their children to be safe in school.
- Dr. William Lamont Worden, Greenacres, WA -- Spoke on his shock about the controversy and the discussion surrounding immunizations. He stated his heart aches for the mothers whose children suffered adverse effects due to vaccines. He analogized banning vaccines to banning of seatbelts because a person couldn't get out of car after an accident and died. Because of the safety of the public, the community agree to give up certain freedoms because of concern about the community and that is the issue of the board.
- Colleen Terriff, Spokane County, WA – Stated she hears the concerns about safety of medications, testing methodology, conflicts of interest, disclosure and bias. She stated parents are responsible to protect their own children, other children and vulnerable populations in the community. An unvaccinated child becomes an unvaccinated adult and could spread infections and later develop disease complications.
- Nancy Babcock, Cheney, WA -- Spoke on her grandchildren who are not vaccinated and the lack of worry about exposure to disease due to taking care of their health. She stated everyone is exposed to diseases continually and schools are just one area of exposure. Kids who are immune compromised should not go to school if the risk is too great. She stated she believes it a parental decision to bear the responsibility of negative outcomes for sending their children to school unvaccinated.

- Phyllis Hess, Spokane Valley, WA – Spoke about her family members being exposed to childhood illnesses and surviving without long lasting effects and her children being immunized and having issues with their health. Her younger children who were not vaccinated are seldom sick. Some of her children have not seen a doctor since they were a month old. Three of her four children who were immunized have autoimmune diseases. She asked the board to preserve the right for parents to choose what is best for their children.
- Judy Armes, Spokane Valley, WA – Spoke about her exposure to rubella while pregnant and her stress during pregnancy due to the exposure. Rubella is contagious before a person knows they are infected. Children can bring the disease home before it has been discovered possibly infecting pregnant women. Vaccinations can protect the spread of disease.
- Stephanie Helter, Spokane, WA – Advocated that parents who chose not to vaccinate their children be compelled to act responsibly. The scientific community determined through extensive research that unvaccinated children remain out of school for a set amount of time during outbreaks of vaccine preventable diseases to protect the population. Non-vaccinating parents need to comply with this standard because of their decision. No vaccine is 100% effective, but their efficacy does increase as the number of vaccinated people in any given community increases—due to herd immunity. The more unvaccinated members in a community, the more all members of the community are unprotected to illness regardless of their immunization status. Anything less than exclusion of non-vaccinated students weakens vaccine efficacy and the effect of herd immunity. She urged the board not to base decisions on emotion. This is an argument of fact and science.
- Gen Heywood, Spokane, WA – Not present to comment.

The chair recessed the meeting for three minutes at 2:08pm. The meeting reconvened at 2:11pm.

CHAIR REPORT – Board Member Chuck Hafner, Vice Chair

New Board Member

The vice chair welcomed Commissioner Kuney as a new member to the board.

Citizen Appointment Update

Due to the difficulty filling the appointed citizen position on the board, board members were asked to encourage applicants to the position.

BOH Budget & Finance Committee Meetings

The BOH Budget & Finance Committee will hold a meeting November 2 at 11am and November 9 at 8am.

BOH Administrative Hearing December 7

An administrative hearing will be held December 7. The hearing may extend the meeting beyond 2:30pm. Board members were asked to prepare to stay longer for the meeting.

WSPHA Leadership Award

SRHD Administrator, Torney Smith, was recognized for receiving the Washington State Public Health Association Leadership Award for 2017.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Linda Graham, Health Policy Specialist

Councilmember Beggs reviewed the legislative agenda process, the 2017 BOH legislative agenda and proposed items for the 2018 agenda. Councilmember Beggs recommended adding the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to Tier 1.

Commissioner Kuney asked for prioritization of legislative items within each tier. Commissioner Kerns requested demographics on vaping product usage. Councilmember Beggs recommended legislation on a vaping tax be listed as Tier 3, Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) legislation to Tier 3, lead base certification fees to Tier 3, and tax on sugary beverages not be included on the list.

Councilmember Beggs made a motion to list the HMIS as Tier 1, tax on vaping products, MTCA legislation, and lead base tax as Tier 3. Councilmember Munch seconded the motion.

Linda Graham questioned the approval of the current legislative items. Counsel noted the standing motion would need to be voted upon first.

Councilmember Beggs amended his motion to include in the 2017 BOH legislative agenda current issues as put forward by Linda Graham, add HMIS to Tier 1, tax on vaping products, MTCA, and lead based paint certification fees to Tier 3.

Motion: To approve items on the current legislative agenda as proposed and add Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS) to Tier 1, tax on vaping products, Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), and lead-based pain certification fees to Tier 3.

Motion/Second: Beggs/Stratton

Approved: Unanimously

The resolution for the final 2018 BOH legislative agenda will be considered at the December 7 meeting.

Linda Graham presented the draft resolution supporting Tobacco 21. The resolution was previously approved by the board except for the newly added language that asks other jurisdictions in the Spokane area to pass similar resolutions.

Councilmember Munch noted he agrees with the science behind the legislation, but would not support the resolution due to his concerns with eighteen-year-olds being old enough to join the police force or the military, but not old enough to chew or smoke. Councilmember Stratton agreed with Councilmember Munch.

The vice chair requested the Consent Agenda be considered before the health officer and administrator reports.

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 28, 2017

2017 Vouchers paid: September 1 – 30, 2017

Voucher Numbers:	#244051 - #244224 and 244225 voided voucher And 244226-244276 and EFT B&O Aug 2017	\$ 728,154.11
Payroll Warrants:	#979146 - #979152 #979493 - #979505 Advice Numbers: #DD41343 - #DD41569	\$786,469.11
Payroll Warrants:	#980419 - #980422 #980849 - #980853 #981043 - #981051 Advice Numbers: #DD41570 - #DD41798	\$745,515.41
	TOTAL	\$1,531,984.52

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

Motion/Second: Beggs/Boysen

Approved: Unanimously

AGENCY REPORT – Torney Smith, Administrator

ESD101 Superintendent Meeting

Torney Smith and SRHD Epidemiologist, Mark Springer, will attend the ESD101 School Superintendent’s meeting tomorrow morning.

Great American Smokeout

The Great American Smokeout will be held November 16. David’s Pizza is supporting SRHD’s effort with the smokeout challenge. City of Spokane Councilmember Stuckart who is participating in the challenge has not smoked in 16 days.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Robert Lutz, MD, MPH, Health Officer

There was no report.

COMPTROLLER REPORT – Mike Riley, Comptroller

There was no report.

REPORTS

History of SRHD Budgeting Process – Mike Riley, Comptroller

SRHD has begun using a new budgeting software named Prophix. Staff have been required to learn the new software, which has put the process behind schedule. The 2018 budget will be reviewed by the BOH Budget and Finance Committee starting next week and the proposed budget will be presented at the December 7, 2017 meeting.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

Board of Health Policy Committee – Councilmember Beggs

Councilmember Beggs stated the BOH Policy Committee will be discussing human trafficking and invited board members who have items they would like the Policy Committee to review to either attend the committee meeting or contact committee members.

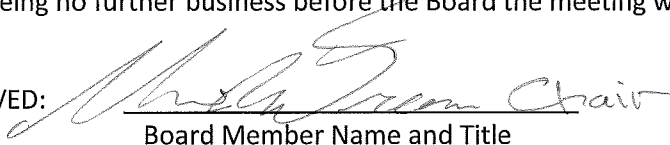
NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on December 7.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

APPROVED:


Board Member Name and Title

Date:

12/6/2017


Recording Secretary