



BOARD OF HEALTH

The Thurston County Board of Health has responsibility and authority for public health in both incorporated and unincorporated areas of the County.

Minutes for October 9, 2018

1) Call Meeting to Order

Chair Bud Blake called the meeting to order.

In Attendance:

Bud Blake, Chair; John Hutchings, Vice Chair; Gary Edwards, Commissioner; Ramiro Chavez, County Manager; Schelli Slaughter, Public Health and Social Services Department Director; Rachel Wood, Health Officer; and Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health.

Approval of the Board of Health Agenda:

Vice Chair Hutchings moved to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously. The motion carried.

Approval of the Meeting Minutes and Work Session Notes:

Vice Chair Hutchings moved to approve the August 14, 2018 regular meeting minutes and accept work session summaries from June 27, July 25, August 7, August 14, and September 6, 2018. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously. The motion carried.

2) Proclamation

Description: Breast Cancer Awareness

Liz Davis, the Public Health and Social Services Department (PHSS) Child, Family, and Community Wellness Division Director, introduced the Breast Cancer Awareness Proclamation and shared her personal family experience of losing a family member four years ago to breast cancer. She spoke in support of all the work being done in our community and across the nation in support of the topic and the progress that has been made. Ms. Davis then introduced Thurston County Sheriff John Snaza. Sheriff Snaza addressed the Board and spoke in support of breast cancer awareness. He also spoke on the Sheriff Office's participation in the nationwide campaign "Pink Patch Project", a campaign of law enforcement officers wearing the patches designed to increase awareness about the life-saving benefits of early detection and intervention in the fight against breast cancer. Sheriff Snaza thanked the Board for their support. The Board thanked the Sheriff's office for their support and commitment to breast cancer awareness to save lives and fight breast cancer. Ms. Davis introduced Nicole Woolsey, the Community Development Manager for the American Cancer Society (ACS). Ms. Woolsey addressed the Board and spoke in support of breast cancer awareness explaining the meaning behind wearing pink in honor of breast cancer awareness. Wearing pink during October shows support for educating the public, advancing research and honoring the millions of women and men who have fought the disease so that one day no one will have to fight it again. Ms. Woolsey then acknowledged those present in the audience to support breast cancer awareness and who volunteer their time to the volunteer based American Cancer Society. Ms.

Woolsey introduced Alan Shimamoto, a breast cancer awareness supporter along with his wife Louisa, who shared his personal experience during his mother's struggle with breast cancer and shared his desire to help raise money to support the cure for breast cancer. The Board thanked Mr. Shimamoto for sharing his story. Ms. Woolsey then introduced Melissa Lilly, a breast cancer survivor, who shared her emotional story of survival and shared statistics and information about breast cancer. The Board thanked Ms. Lilly and commended her for her bravery. Ms. Woolsey discussed the successes of the work being done around eradicating breast cancer. She thanked the Board for their recognition of this important issue and for inviting her to speak. At the Board's request, Michael Jameson, a participant in the ACS Real Men Wear Pink campaign, addressed the Board and spoke on breast cancer awareness. He then shared his family's story of losing several members to cancer and thanked the Board for their acknowledgement and support. Also at the Board's request, Russ Kruger Knorr, a participant in the Real Men Wear Pink, addressed the Board sharing his experience when a close friend lost his wife to breast cancer. He thanked the Board and Ms. Woolsey. The Board thanked all present for attending, sharing their stories and for all of their efforts in the fight against breast cancer. Commissioner Edwards briefly shared how breast cancer has touched the lives of his family members. Vice Chair Hutchings shared his family and personal story of being effected by cancer. He also commended everyone for their efforts and dedication. Ms. Woolsey spoke on the three main fundraisers held by ACS each year which are Relay for Life of Thurston County, Making Strides of South Sound, and Real Men Wear Pink events that raise funds for research and support for victims. Chair Blake gave a "shout out" to Corrine Wohl a breast cancer survivor who spoke at the 2017 Board of Health meeting in support of breast cancer awareness. Ms. Woolsey spoke briefly on genetic testing for bracketing mutations in women when breast cancer runs in their family. Vice Chair Hutchings read the Proclamation proclaiming October as Thurston County Breast Cancer Awareness Month, as the Board honors all those who lost their lives to breast cancer, and recognizes the courageous survivors who are still fighting this disease. The Board encourages citizens, other government agencies, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, and all other interested groups to join in activities that will increase awareness of what Americans can do to prevent breast cancer. A photo was taken of all those present in support of the proclamation with the Board members.

Description: Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Ms. Davis introduced the National Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation and introduced Sheriff Snaza; Trish Gregory and Natalie Skovrin of Family Support Center of South Sound (FSCSS); and Sara Lloyd of SafePlace, all present in support of the proclamation. Sheriff Snaza spoke in support of the collaborative efforts of the Sheriff's office, the Family Support Center, and SafePlace working together to stop domestic violence and the continuous support of victims. Trish Gregory spoke acknowledging the Griffin School District as they mourn the loss of one of their teachers to cancer. She then spoke in support of domestic violence awareness and thanked the Board for inviting representatives from the Family Justice Center, Sheriff's office, Family Support Center of South Sound, and the Prosecuting Attorney's office to speak earlier that day at the Board of County Commissioners' meeting on behalf of Domestic Violence Awareness. She briefly discussed the effects and support for children that experience serious domestic violence. Natalie Skovrin addressed the Board discussing the Family Support Center's Annual Fall Breakfast held that morning where a presentation was given on the Pathways of HOPE and the launch of Washington State's first Camp HOPE American program. Camp Hope is a trauma informed, evidence-based camp proven to increase hope and resiliency among children who have been exposed to domestic violence and trauma. Ms. Skovrin then explained what the Camp consists of and shared a success story of one child's camp experience. She then noted the FSCSS 100 Men Who Care about Domestic Violence event will be held next week, October 17th. Ms. Skovrin explained she and Ms. Gregory, along with others, will be attending a training next week in San Diego on how to respond to non-fatal strangulation

and provided information on this type of domestic violence. She then thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and their support. Sarah Lloyd thanked the Board for their acknowledgment and leadership in domestic violence awareness. She commented on the challenge of what it will take as a community to help survivors to empower domestic violence victims to rebuild their lives. The Board expressed their support and acknowledgement of all those present and their efforts in stopping domestic violence. Vice Chair Hutchings read the proclamation proclaiming October as Thurston County Domestic Violence Awareness Month, encouraging all county residents to take action to end domestic violence in our community by learning about the impacts of domestic violence, creating policies in their workplaces, engaging in discussions with family and friends, supporting victim service providers, and those working to hold domestic violence offenders accountable. A photo was taken of all those present in support of the proclamation with the Board members.

3) Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board - none

DEPARTMENT ITEMS

4) Thurston Thrives Update – Housing Action Team, Incentivized Housing

Liz Davis gave a brief explanation of the topic and explained the Thurston Thrives Housing Action Team consists of three sub-committees – the Homeless Housing Hub, the Green & Healthy Affordable Rentals Group, and the Incentivized Housing Team. Ms. Davis introduced Zach Kosturos, the owner and president of Prime Locations, Inc. and a representative of the Incentivized Housing Team, also known as the Blue Team. Ms. Kosturos addressed the Board thanking them for the opportunity to speak. He shared what was discussed at the second Regional Housing Summit held in August and explained the purpose of the summit which was to bring individuals together to discuss collaborative efforts to create affordable housing in our community. Mr. Kosturos discussed the causes of Thurston County's housing problem: recent population growth equates to the need for over 2,000 new housing units per year; over the last six years there has been a shortage of an average 600 units per year county-wide; household size is getting smaller requiring more units than before; the shortage has led to vacancy rates below 3% for several years; too much demand with not enough housing causes increased housing prices; and new housing is expensive resulting in no lower cost housing development. He then discussed additional reasons why not enough affordable housing is being built and shared potential solutions such as incentivizing by making it possible for private market to build affordable units by expediting permitting, mitigating fees, and pursuing tax flexibility. Mr. Kosturos discussed challenges to move forward which include recognizing what we are doing isn't working and we must innovate and work together. He explained the Team has created a "Housing Affordability Model" that outlines how to incentivize more affordable housing. At Commissioner Edwards' request, Mr. Kosturos discussed the cost of hooking up to LOTT. At Vice Chair Hutchings request, he noted the Incentivized Housing Team does work together with other Thurston Thrives Housing Teams but need to meet more often. At Chair Blake's request Mr. Kosturos spoke on the changes taking place to the Condo Liability Laws and estimated time frames of when the changes would go into effect. The Board thanked Mr. Kosturos for the presentation and information.

5) **Set a Public Hearing on a proposed ordinance to amend the Environmental Health Division Fee Schedule**

Art Starry, PHSS Environmental Health Division Director, explained this topic was a request for the Board to set a public hearing on November 27, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. to receive public testimony regarding a proposed ordinance to amend Article I, Appendix A of the Sanitary Code for Thurston County, the Environmental Health Division Fee Schedule and then provided information regarding the proposed increases of the fees. He explained the Environmental Health permit volume and workloads have increased substantially and staffing levels have not kept pace. A proposal that increases Environmental Health fees by an average of 10% is being developed to provide sufficient revenue to pay for needed staff. Mr. Starry then described the purpose of Environmental Health Programs which are to meet core public health goals of safe food, clean water, proper waste management, and prevention and control of communicable disease; meet County, Thurston Thrives and PHSS mission and goals; and comply with state law. He then explained that permit volumes are up 30% since 2014, program costs have increased and fees have not kept pace; there is no longer sufficient revenue to meet current and projected growing demands; additional resources are critically needed to meet legal requirements, customer demands, and to keep our programs and services sustainable; and PHSS is looking for the least restrictive ways to serve customers with the most cost efficient staffing models. Mr. Starry then shared comparisons from 2014 through projected 2018 of the numbers of Landuse permits/applications, septic system applications, Time of Transfer; septic system operation certificates; water quality samples analyzed; and food service inspections. He then explained insufficient staffing levels are resulting in permit backlogs and adverse program impacts; and discussed the proposed three new staff positions to address these impacts. Mr. Starry then explained the proposal would improve customer service quality, reduce permit backlog times for customers, save public money by reducing overtime costs, complete deferred/delayed work for customers, and increase capacity for policy development and quality improvements that will benefit the community. He then discussed the fee proposal revenue and expenditures: cost increases such as inflation, benefits, and overhead are greater than revenue growth; approximately \$300,000 in additional revenue is needed to fund current and proposed staff; a 10% fee increase should provide needed additional revenue; and fees are the only viable, sustainable option for additional staff at present time. Mr. Starry then provided examples of the current fees and the proposed fees:

Water Samples – bacteriological or nitrate: current \$27; proposed fee \$28

Water Samples – bacteriological (complex): current \$27; proposed fee \$29

Time of Transfer: current \$220; proposed fee \$240

Septic system application, design review, installation – total combined fees: current \$1,340; proposed 1,470

Restaurant (high risk, 1,000 sf): current \$500; proposed fee \$550

Short plat or large lot subdivision: current \$1,265; proposed \$1,390

Mr. Starry provided an Environmental Health Fee Adjustment Chronology from 1996 through 2018. At Commissioner Edwards' request, he then provided clarification on what surface water is; surface water and drinking water sample testing; and described what an on-site septic system application fee pays for.

Vice Chair Hutchings moved to set a public hearing on November 27, 2018 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 280, Building 1, of the Thurston County Courthouse to receive public testimony regarding a proposed ordinance to amend Article I, Appendix A of the Sanitary Code for Thurston County, the Environmental Health Division Fee Schedule. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously. The motion carried.

6) **Board of Health Members' Health Related Activities** – no reports

7) **Director's Report**

Schelli Slaughter, PHSS Director, reported:

- Ms. Slaughter thanked and commended everyone present for their work in support of Domestic Violence *Action* and Awareness and Breast Cancer Awareness.
- Child, Family, and Community Wellness Division Update:
 - PHSS is the regional lead on tobacco and vaping product prevention; in September PHSS convened the other counties in the Cascade Pacific Accountable Community of Health region to discuss strategies and specific local actions for their work together this year; beginning now and continuing over the next couple of months there will be transit advertising on the buses of Lewis, Mason and Thurston County that put out the message: “Vaping. Not as harmless as you think.” For additional information go to:
www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/personalhealth/chronicdiseaseprevention/tobacco.html
 - A new oral health improvement Local Impact Network is getting started in Thurston County, with funding from the Arcora Foundation. PHSS is the lead agency for two projects, developing the strategies for school sealant programs and community education; October is National Dental Hygiene Month.
 - Safe & Active Routes to School projects - work continues with Rainier and Tenino on the projects; October 10th is National Walk to School Month.
- Disease Control and Prevention Division Update:
 - Syringe Services Program - through September 24th staff served 132 clients; 93,433 syringes were exchanged; staff are preparing for a community naloxone distribution event in partnership with the Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Organization (TMBHO) on September 27th at the Lilly Road Building.
- Environmental Health Division Update:
 - Lake Lawrence water testing resulted in a toxic algae bloom of Microcystin in late September; the lake was closed to all recreation and contact with the water.

At Commissioner Edwards' request, Ms. Slaughter provided an update on the discussion to make Opioid overdoses a Notifiable Condition which requires mandatory reporting to PHSS. She also responded to his question regarding data on the number of deaths caused by opioid overdoses, stating she will provide the information at the upcoming Board of County Commissioners' Briefing to be held on November 7th and noted an update will be provided at the November 6th Board of Health meeting.

8) **Health Officer's Report** –

Dr. Rachel Wood reported:

- Influenza Update: Flu mist vaccine is now available; she continues to recommend individuals get vaccinated; PHSS continues to work with the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) to provide flu shots to county employees.
- DOH Shelter Resource Request Exercise - Isolation and/or Quarantine – she will participate in the exercise being held later this month that will include a shelter system to provide an isolated housing

option for an active TB patient; along with Isolation Logistics Seminar and review/discuss logistical resources that may be required during a Tuberculosis (TB) case.

Vice Chair Hutchings commented on an article regarding a scientific discovery of a micropeptide molecule that can restore heart function in mice. Dr. Wood is not aware of this, but shared a website at www.clinicaltrials.org that provides clinical trial information. Commissioner Edwards questioned Dr. Wood regarding information on a type of mushroom that helps bees. Dr. Wood did not have any information on this topic.

Ms. Slaughter noted the next regular Board of Health meeting has been rescheduled to November 6, 2018, not November 13th.

- 9) **Adjournment** – Vice Chair Hutchings moved to adjourn the meeting of October 9, 2018. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously. The motion carried.

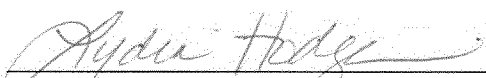
BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington


BUD BLAKE, Chair


JOHN HUTCHINGS, Vice Chair


GARY EDWARDS, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: December 11, 2018

Thurston Community Television (TCTV) - The Board of Health meetings are aired on TCTV each week on Sundays at 3:30 p.m., Mondays at 8:00 p.m., Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m., Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m., and Fridays at 6:30 a.m. and at 5:00 p.m.