



## **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 March 14, 2017**

#### **3:30 p.m.) Call Meeting to Order**

**Commissioner Blake called the meeting to order.**

**In Attendance:**

Bud Blake, Chair; John Hutchings, Vice Chair, Gary Edwards, Commissioner; Art Starry, Public Health and Social Services Department Interim Director; and Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health.

**Excused Absence:**

Dr. Rachel Wood, Health Officer

**Approval of the Board of Health Agenda:**

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

**Approval of the meetings minutes:**

Vice Chair Hutchings moved to approve the meeting minutes from the January 10, 2017 Board of health meeting. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **1) Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board - none**

### **DEPARTMENT ITEMS**

#### **2) Thurston Thrives Action Team Highlight – Economy Action Team**

Chris Hawkins the Public Health and Social Services Department (PHSS) Community Engagement, Evidence and Partnerships (CEEP) Program Manager addressed the Board introducing the topic and Liz Davis, Community Coordinator for Thurston Thrives.

Ms. Davis addressed the Board providing a brief description and history of the Economy Action Team and introduced Michael Cade the Executive Director of the Economic Development Council.

Mr. Cade addressed the Board to provide an overview of the work being done by the Thurston Community Economic Alliance (TCEA). He shared the TCEA Vision, discussed the purpose of the TCEA, shared the Economy Strategy Map and discussed the employment population trend lines in Thurston County. Mr. Cade thanked the Board for their support and addressed the Board members' questions regarding creation of entry level jobs, exit jobs and high level jobs. The Board thanked Mr. Cade and the Economic Development Council for their work.

### **3) Substance Use Prevention & Treatment in Thurston County**

Mr. Hawkins introduce the topic and the presenters - Mary Ann O'Garro, Epidemiologist with PHSS; Sara Ellsworth with Educational Services District 113; Johnna Knoerr, Program Director of TOGETHER!; and Joe Avalos, Social Services Program Specialist III with PHSS/Behavioral Health Organization (BHO).

Ms. O'Garro addressed the Board to provide information on Substance Use Prevention. She noted substance use is a public health issue being the leading actual cause of death and disability; and then shared effective evidence-based approaches. She provided and discussed percentages regarding that use of alcohol, marijuana, cigarettes and/or prescription abuse by 10<sup>th</sup> grade high school students and adults based on 2015 data. Ms. O'Garro then noted the 2016 Healthy Youth Survey information will be available tomorrow, March 15<sup>th</sup>. Vice Chair Hutchings questioned the status of a Bill proposed to raise the legal age to purchase tobacco to 21 years of age. Mr. Starry stated he will check on the status of the Bill.

Johnna Knoerr address the Board to speak on TOGETHER!'s Youth Marijuana Prevention and Education Program working in collaboration with PHSS. She explained that TOGETHER! also partners with the Cascade Pacific Action Alliance (CPAA) and CHOICE Regional Health Network. Ms. Knoerr then explained CHOICE is a regional nonprofit collaborate of health care leaders that supports the CPAA a seven-county Accountable Community of Health (ACH). The CPAA is the only ACH awarded a grant for this program. She then discussed the Washington State Department of Health and Initiative 502 helps to increase awareness about the associated risk and consequences of marijuana use by youth. Ms. Knoerr shared their focus areas and priority populations; provided a program overview; what events and changes are happening in Thurston County to educate students and families on marijuana use prevention; and shared long-term objectives of the program. She then discussed implementation of their policy, systems and environmental strategies. At Vice Chair Hutchings request Ms. Knoerr provided clarification on "The Art and Science of Community Organizing" project. She shared contact information for additional information and questions to: Matthew Shellhart, Program manager at (360)539-7576 ext107; [shellhartm@crhn.org](mailto:shellhartm@crhn.org). The Board thanked Ms. Knoerr for the presentation and information.

Sara Ellsworth addressed the Board to share ESD's work on Tobacco Prevention. Ms. Ellsworth explained that tobacco use is the #1 cause of preventable death and provided the statistics. She then shared Youth Tobacco Prevention Goals and discussed the Miss Washington Media Awareness Project. Ms. Ellsworth discussed the Jermaine Galloway "High in Plain Sight" trainings and the Thurston County Lock Boxes Project. She explained ESD 113 is working with the Thurston County PHSS department to convene a county-wide tobacco and Vapor Product Form for schools, community partners and policy makers. At Commissioner Edwards' request, Ms. Ellsworth and Ms. O'Garro provided clarification of information regarding 10% of all newborn deaths are related to tobacco use. At Vice Chair Hutchings request, she then provided additional information about the Thurston County Lock Box Project noting someone interested in obtaining a lock box may contact the Thurston County Nurse Family Partnership program by calling (360) 867- 2548 or going to: <http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/personalhealth/womenchildren/nfpthurstcounty.html>. The Board thanked Ms. Ellsworth for the presentation and information.

Joe Avalos addressed the Board speaking on Substance Use Disorder, Trends, and Treatment Resources. He discussed what a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) is and what are the causes. He then discussed Substance Use Trends according to the Healthy Youth Survey and what is happening now with substance

use according to SUD treatment agencies; explained since the passing of Initiative 502 on marijuana reform, trends also show an increase in “dabbing” and use of edibles. Mr. Avalos provided clarification on “dabbing” which is a concentrated form of marijuana with much higher THC (tetrahydrocannabinol) levels and according to hospital emergency services causes higher incidents of marijuana psychosis. He then discussed the nationwide opioid epidemic explaining opioids are drugs that reduce the transmission of pain signals through the body. Mr. Avalos then shared statistics regarding deaths across the nation related to opioid use, heroine and prescription opioids. He explained TMBHO administers mental health and substance use disorder services for publicly funded citizens of Thurston and Mason Counties since April 2016. Ms. Avalos then provided information and the number of Thurston County’s adult and youth that received SUD Outpatient Treatment and SUD Residential Treatment in 2015 and 2016. He provided names of Outpatient and Residential Substance Use Disorder Treatment Providers. Commissioner Edwards questioned what information is available regarding substance use and driving vehicles by our youth. Mr. Avalos stated the Washington State Patrol is looking at that information; and noted the Healthy Youth Survey results will be available the next day, March 15, 2017 which will provide this information also. He also stated the Healthy Youth Survey is completed every two years, the information he provided is based on the 2014 Healthy Youth Survey. Mr. Avalos provided the following resources for additional information about Substance Use Disorder:

[www.tmbho.org](http://www.tmbho.org)

[www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/personalhealth/chronicdiseaseprevention/marijuana.html](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/personalhealth/chronicdiseaseprevention/marijuana.html)

[www.stopoverdose.org](http://www.stopoverdose.org)

<http://adai.uw.edu/wastate/Thurston.htm>

[www.crisis-clinic.org](http://www.crisis-clinic.org)

For a copy of this presentation contact Joe Avalos at [avalosj@co.thurston.wa.us](mailto:avalosj@co.thurston.wa.us)

Chair Blake expressed the importance of this work in prevention of substance use to protect our youth and children. The Board thanked all presenters for attending and the information.

#### **4) Long Lake Aquatic Nuisance Weed Prescription**

Patrick Soderberg, a PHSS Hazardous Waste Specialist and Integrated Pest Management Program Coordinator, addressed the Board introducing the topic. He explained the Board of County Commissioners adopted the Thurston County Integrated Pesticide Management (IMP) Policy in 1989, adopted a revised Policy in 1993 and in 2014. These policies established a mandate for all county departments to set an example by implementing integrated pest and vegetation management programs that minimize the use of pesticides and are least disruptive to human health and the environment on properties owned or managed by the County but not privately owned properties. Mr. Soderberg explained any proposal to apply pesticides to any sensitive areas such as lakes and water bodies requires approval from the Board of Health. He explained the County Noxious Weed and Lakes Management Program has worked with the Long Lake Steering Committee, which is made up of homeowners that live around the Long Lake area, and is proposing a prescription describing how they intend to control nuisance vegetation within Long Lake. Mr. Soderberg explained the IMP Policy requires all prescriptions be reviewed by the Pest and Vegetation Advisory Committee (PVMAC) which is made up of citizens appointed by the Board. The PVMAC, along with staff from the Noxious Weed and Lakes Management Program, have assessed the pest and vegetation problem, reviewed the proposed prescription. They have determined control is necessary; noted pesticide controls that are not chemical will also be used; determine use of the pesticide is a necessary element of the prescription; risk to public health, ground water, and the environment is determined to be minimal; and recommends approval of the prescription. Mr. Soderberg introduced Tim

Wilson, Noxious Weed and Lake Management Manager. Mr. Wilson addressed the Board providing information about Long Lake's pest and vegetation problem; and provided clarification about the prescription and its use. At Vice Chair Hutchings request, Mr. Wilson and Mr. Soderberg provided information regarding the length of time prescriptions are tested to be determined effective, the last prescription has been used since 2009. Mr. Wilson also noted scientific experts are consulted when determining which pesticides to use. Mr. Doug Karman, a PVMAC member addressed the Board and spoke in favor of the prescription. **Vice Chair Hutchins moved to approve the Long Lake Aquatic Nuisance Weed Prescription. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**5) Set Public Hearing on Ordinance Repealing Rates and Charges on On-site Sewage Systems Imposed to Fund Implementation of the Thurston County On-site Sewage System Management Plan Update**

Mr. Starry explained the purpose of the Public Hearing. The Board of Health approved Resolution H-3-16 on December 16, 2016, imposing rates and charges on on-site sewage systems to fund implementation of the Thurston County On-site Sewage System Management Plan Update. In January of 2017, the three-member Board of Health gained two new members and the Board now desires to eliminate the rates and charges adopted by prior board members in late 2016, and reevaluate the Thurston County On-site Sewage System Management Plan Update adopted by Resolution H-2-2016 on November 8, 2016. Mr. Starry requested the Board set a public hearing on April 11, 2017 following the regular Board of Health meeting to receive public comments on an ordinance repealing Ordinance No. H-3-2016 that would repeal the rates and charges on on-site sewage systems imposed to fund implementation of the Thurston County On-site Sewage System Management Plan Update. At Commissioner Edwards request Mr. Starry clarified that the Nisqually Pines area is not included in the Ordinance. Chair Blake clarified stating the On-site Sewage System Management Plan was adopted last year and the April 11<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing does not affect the Plan. Mr. Starry stated this is correct, the ordinance is a repeal of the rates and charges on on-site sewage systems imposed to fund implementation of the Plan only. He further stated the Board has requested briefings to discuss the Plan and if any revisions or amendments are decided upon the public would be notified and a public hearing would be held. **Vice Chair Hutch moved to set a public hearing on April 11, 2017 at 5:30 p.m. or soon thereafter as the matter may be heard in Room 280, Building 1, of the Thurston County Courthouse to receive public comments on an ordinance repealing Ordinance No. H-3-2016, dated December 16, 2016, thereby *repealing the rates and charges on on-site sewage systems imposed to fund implementation of the Thurston County On-site Sewage System Management Plan Update.* Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**6) Board of Health Members' Health Related Activities (optional items) – none**

**7) Director's Report**

Interim Director Art Starry reported on the following:

- New PHSS Director, Schelli Slaughter, coming on board May 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Littlerock Elementary will be closed for a few days due to a water line leak in their water supply water line leak; the school took proper action to close the school and to have the line repaired.
- Soy nut butter recall – PHSS worked with local schools were aware to ensure the product was not used.

- At Vice Chair Hutchings request Mr. Starry spoke on the recent West Point Wastewater Treatment Plant sewage spill, a catastrophic failure due to a severe rain storm. Mr. Starry commented on LOTT's management and planning to minimize the chance of a sewage spill. He also noted they work closely with the cities to protect the interest of our citizens. The Board expressed their appreciation of LOTT's actions during the storm.

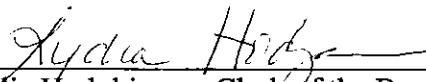
**8) Health Officer's Report - none**

- 9) **Adjournment** – Vice Chair Hutchings moved to adjourn the meeting of March 14, 2017. Commissioner Edwards seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
Thurston County, Washington

**ATTEST:**

  
BUD BLAKE, Chair

  
Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

  
JOHN HUTCHINGS, Vice Chair

Date: April 11, 2017

  
GARY EDWARDS, Commissioner

**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.