



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 July 11, 2017

1) Call Meeting to Order

Vice Chair Hutchings called the meeting to order.

In Attendance:

John Hutchings, Vice Chair, Gary Edwards, Commissioner; Ramiro Chavez, County Manager; Dr. Rachel Wood, Health Officer and Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health.

Excused absence:

Bud Blake, Chair; Schelli Slaughter, Public Health and Social Services Department Director

Approval of the Board of Health Agenda:

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

Approval of meeting minutes:

Commissioner Edwards moved to approve the May 9, 2017 meeting minutes. Vice Chair Hutchings seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Vice Chair Hutchings acknowledged Linda Loyle the Community Program Manager of the Veterans Assistance Fund Program at Public Health and Social Services Department. Ms. Loyle is retiring from public service with Thurston County on August 2nd after 39 years of committed and dedicated service to the residents and most importantly to veterans. The Board thanked Ms. Loyle for her amazing dedication and efforts to serve those in need; and wished her well in retirement. Ms. Loyle thanked the Board for their gratitude and stated she will miss working with the veterans. A picture was then taken of Ms. Loyle, Vice Chair Hutchings and Commissioner Edwards.

2) Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board – no public comment

DEPARTMENT ITEMS

3) Veterans Assistance Fund Program Overview

Linda Loyle, provided an overview of the Thurston County's Public Health and Social Services Department's (PHSS) Veteran's Assistance Fund (VAF) Program. She explained a VAF exists in every Washington State County and is authorized by a Veterans' Relief RCW. The purpose of the VAF is for the relief of indigent veterans, their families and the families of deceased indigent veterans. She explained each county must establish a veterans' advisory board to advise the legislative authority on needed and appropriate assistance programs. Ms. Loyle then explained funding of the program and described the

types of services provided to eligible veterans which include financial assistance, shelter services for homeless veterans and an incarcerated veterans program. She then provided additional information regarding the Veterans Advisory Board. For information regarding the VAF or the Advisory Board call (360) 867-2565. Ms. Loyle noted the Advisory Board membership is full at this time, but encourages anyone to apply as vacancies open up. The Board thanked Ms. Loyle for the presentation.

4) **Developmental Disabilities Program and Special Recreation Program Overviews**

Jennifer Popchockhakim, Supervisor of the PHSS Developmental Disabilities and Special Recreation Programs, addressed the Board introducing Margaret Huff the Special Recreation Program Manager. Ms. Popchockhakim provided an overview of the Developmental Disabilities (DD) Program explaining the components of the Program; service providers; revenue streams; Program Mission and Goals; and participants. She stated the Components of the Program include supported employment; community access; high school transition and community supports and services. She then shared the Service Providers for Millage Funded Contracts; State Funded Contracts; and Partnership. Ms. Popchockhakim described Revenue Streams: County Millage; Developmental Disabilities Administration Contract; and Division of Vocational Rehabilitation Contract. She then shared the Program's Goals and Mission: "To work with people with developmental disabilities, families, and the community to promote everyone's well-being, rights, choices and opportunities in living as valued, contributing and integrated members of our community." She explained the participants of the Program which include over 500 individuals served, high school transition, integrated employment and community inclusion. Ms. Popchockhakim also provided the Board Members with a DD Fact Sheet.

Ms. Huff presented an overview of the Specialized Recreation Program explaining the Infrastructure/Program Elements, who participates, components of the Program, Program Mission and Goals and Revenue Streams. She shared the elements of the program describing the staff and volunteers; activities offered weekends and occasional weeknights; equipment – a 12 and 15 passenger vans, games and craft supplies, Karaoke machine; history – 25 years serving County residents. Ms. Huff explained who participates in the Program: adults 21 and over; individuals with or without disabilities; and regional program includes individuals from Mason and Lewis Counties. She explained the Program includes weekly activities such as book club and bowling club; monthly activities such as themed dances, bingo, movie and pizza; and day trips such as South Sound Speedway, Thurston County Fair and Tacoma Rainiers. Ms. Huff shared the Program Goals and Mission: "To provide opportunities for learning and growth through the experience of recreation and leisure activities for people of all abilities." She then described the Revenue Streams: County Millage; Cities of Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater; Program Fees; and the PARC (Park Arts Recreation Culture) Foundation.

Ms. Huff introduced Anthony, a client of the Developmental Disabilities Supported Employment and the Special Recreation Program. Anthony addressed the Board sharing information and expressing his pleasure about his job through DD and his participation in the Special Recreation Program. The Board commended Anthony, expressing their appreciation of him and all individuals facing similar challenges. A photograph was taken of Anthony with the Board Members. The Board thanked Ms. Popchockhakim and Ms. Huff for the presentation.

5) Thurston Thrives Update – South Sound Food System Network

Chris Hawkins, Program Manager of the PHSS Community Engagement and Education Program (CEEP), introduced Liz Davis, Community Coordinator for Thurston Thrives. Ms. Davis introduced Katie Raines, Executive Director of GRuB and also one of the South Sound Food System Network (SSFSN) co-chairs. Ms. Davis commended the Network for taking full advantage of what Thurston Thrives has to offer as a fiscal agent through the Thurston County Chamber Foundation.

Ms. Raines introduced Aslan Meade of the Thurston Economic Development Council and Co-Chair of SSFSN; introduced Cathy Visser, Secretary of SSFSN; and acknowledged Lesley Price the Public Health Nutritionist with PHSS. Ms. Raines provided an overview of SSFSN explaining the Thurston Food System Council merged with the Thurston Thrives Food Action Team, and Thurston Asset Building Coalition Food Hub early in 2016, in order to streamline and align efforts around common interests relating to food. To reflect these changes as well as the addition of neighboring counties and a broader approach to food systems, they changed their name to the South Sound Food System Network. She then shared their mission: “Our mission is to grow a vibrant local food economy, ensure broad access to healthy foods, and steward the environment in the South Sound”. She then provided a history of SSFSN’s 2017 Priority, a Public Education & Engagement Campaign, and the Campaign’s Goals. Ms. Raines explained that to achieve one of the Goals more than 25 organizations, businesses and government agencies collectively crafted more than 100 Sound Food Messages, and working with Mary Ann O’Garro, an Epidemiologist with PHSS, whittled them down to 11 core messages, focusing on the environmental, social and economic benefits of local food. She commended Ms. O’Garro for her assistance determining the Sound Food Messages. She explained local media outlets are covering these messages over the summer. She then discussed their Short-Term and Long-Term Outcomes. Ms. Raines discussed the 2017 SSFSN Summit being held on October 20th and 21st; shared an overview of the Summit; invited the Board to attend; and noted sponsorships are still needed. She invited everyone to get involved with Sound Food, noting SSFSN meets the first Wednesday of each month from 9:30 – 11:30 am at the Thurston Regional Planning Council.

Aslan Meade addressed the Board noting a recent interview conducted with Vice Chair Hutchings regarding the Summit. He briefing discussed the Food Summit and invited all to attend. Ms. Raines noted the Board Members will receive a formal information later this summer. Vice Chair Hutchings noted the Olympia and Tumwater Farmer’s Market accept Washington State EBT cards for purchases; and noted the Tumwater Farmer’s Market has a match program which doubles EBT dollars up to \$10 per week. A similar match program is coming soon to the Olympia Farmer’s Market. Ms. Raines stated the match program is made possible by a grant from Kaiser Permanente. The Board thanked Ms. Raines for the presentation.

6) Thurston County Healthy Homes Program

Chris Hawkins introduced Elisa Sparkman, a CEEP Education and Outreach Specialist and the PHSS Healthy Homes Program Coordinator. Ms. Sparkman addressed the Board introducing Sonya Rombough, a Washington Service Corps/AmeriCorps Member and the Healthy Homes Project Lead. Ms. Sparkman gave an overview of the program which consists of free, voluntary, confidential Healthy Homes Visits; available to Thurston County residents and child care facilities; visits are conducted by staff, AmeriCorps member, and trained volunteers; visits are conducted in pairs; annual volunteer training is offered.

Ms. Rombough explained the process of a Healthy Home Visit which start with intake and scheduling; signing of a consent form by the resident; completion of a questionnaire, a visual survey of the home; recommendations and choosing actions to take to correct any issues; a two (2) week follow-up call; a six (6) week follow-up call; and ends with the visit information being entered into a database. Ms. Rombough was responsible for entering Home Visits information from five (5) previous years of the program. She then shared data, and pictures, of housing conditions observed on visits from 2012-2016 which included mold, water leaking in from outside, roof/gutter issues and drainage problems. Ms. Rombough then shared the number of visits conducted per year.

Ms. Sparkman acknowledged and discussed their partnership work in the Healthy Home Visit Program for the Washington Service Corps (AmeriCorps), South Puget Sound Habitat for Humanity, Thurston Energy Program (Economic Development Council), Green, Healthy & Affordable Rentals work group of the Thurston Thrives Housing Action Team, and Healthcare providers.

Ms. Sparkman noted Ms. Rombough's last day with the County is July 14, 2017, she has been with the Department for 10½ months. Ms. Sparkman commended her for her outstanding work in the Program. Ms. Rombough addressed the Board discussing briefly her upcoming plans. The Board thanked her for the work and wished her well. Dr. Rachel Wood commended the program for the impact it is able to make for children with asthma due to conditions in a home. The Board thanked Ms. Sparkman and Ms. Rombough for the presentation. For information on the Healthy Homes Visits Program contact: Elisa Sparkman by email at SparkmE@co.thurston.wa.us or by phone at (360) 867-2579.

7) Board of Health Members' Health Related Activities

Commissioner Edwards shared his personal commitment to wellness being his personal garden grown with no artificial fertilizers.

Vice Chair Hutchings shared his experience, and information learned, last Friday (July 7th) during the recording of a TCTV segment on the Olympia Farmers Market.

8) Director's Report

Dr. Rachel Wood, in Schelli Slaughter's absence, reported on the following:

- Noted Schelli Slaughter is attending a conference of the National Association of the City and County Health Officials (NACCO) in Pittsburg.
- She shared Ms. Slaughter appreciation to those individuals that presented at today's meeting and thanked Linda Loyle for her many years of service.
- Summit Lake Advisory – the advisory has been lifted as of June 29, 2017; staff continue to monitor the lake; and continue to work with the residents to come up with a long term solution.
- A Washington State Department of Health grant has been received to fund the Eld Inlet Septic Education Project which will provide enhanced education to homeowners and community members in Eld Inlet.
- The approved State budget includes 10 million dollars for the whole State of Washington to fund foundational public health services; distribution of this funding is to be determined.

- Extended congratulations to Providence St. Peter Hospital a recipient of a *Breastfeeding Friendly Washington* Hospital Bronze Award from the Washington State Department of Health, an initiative to improve practices supporting breastfeeding.

9) Health Officer's Report –

Dr. Rachel Wood reported on the following:

- Infectious diseases in Thurston County being looked into and considered over the last few weeks include: Summer Influenza, Measles, Legionella, E.coli, Meningitis and Hanta virus.
- Medical Reserve Corps update for this summer: providing First Aid services for the Seattle to Portland Bicycle event; Senior Games; and upcoming Immunizations Clinics in collaboration with multiple partners in the community.
- She has been working with Colleagues from other local health jurisdictions and the state to solidify duties and responsibilities for new Health Officers.

10) Adjournment – Commissioner Edwards moved to adjourn the meeting of July 11, 2017. Vice Chair Hutchings seconded the motion. The motion carried.

BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington

ATTEST:

excused absence
BUD BLAKE, Chair

Lydia Hodgkinson
Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

John Hutchings
JOHN HUTCHINGS, Vice Chair

Date: 9/12/17

Gary Edwards
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.