



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 January 13, 2015

1) 3:34 p.m. Call Meeting to Order

In Attendance: Sandra Romero, Chair; Bud Blake, Vice Chair; Cathy Wolfe, Commissioner; Don Sloma, Public Health & Social Services Department Director, Dr. Rachel Wood, Health Officer and Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health

Chair Romero called the meeting to order.

Vice Chair Blake moved to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

3) Department Item

Description: Review of Draft Law & Justice Strategy Map

Chair Romero introduced Jon Tunheim the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney and Daryl Rodrigues, Director of the Thurston County Office of Assigned Counsel, both of which were to present a draft of the Thurston County Law and Justice Strategic Map. Mr. Don Sloma, Public Health and Social Services Department Director, provided a background on the Thurston Thrives initiative explaining eighteen months ago the initiative was developed consisting of the Advisory Council and nine Action Teams. Since then the Action Teams met on many occasions and drafted individual strategy maps. Thurston Thrives is now moving into Phase II and on the verge of signing an agreement to create a Coordinating Council. Mr. Sloma explained that building on the success of Thurston Thrives a Law and Justice Workgroup was developed and has also drafted a Strategy Map. Mr. Tunheim addressed the Board providing additional background of the Workgroup's work. Mr. Rodrigues addressed the Board describing his "mental health" angle on the map. Mr. Tunheim explained the workgroup's Vision of "People are safe where they live, work and play in Thurston County; and People are held accountable for criminal conduct; and Legal rights and due process for all people are protected." He also described and discussed their Goals: Prevent entry into, or deeper involvement with the criminal justice system; strike the right balance between community safety, defendant rehabilitation and cost effectiveness, recognizing that offenders will receive the appropriate retribution regardless of cost; and reduce the number of offenders who return to the law and justice system. Mr. Rodrigues described their Strategies: Pre-arrest, prevention, treatment, intervention options; post-arrest diversion options; system and due process improvements; system interconnectedness; and re-entry/exit strategies. He then gave an example of the Lean Process Improvement: Arrest to arraignment and spoke on how this

workgroup's efforts fit into the Thurston Thrives initiative and the work completed by the other nine Action Teams. Discussion ensued as follows:

Commissioner Wolfe questioned where community corrections fits in, Mr. Tunheim briefly explained. Chair Romero recommended a future meeting be held to discuss community corrections specifically.

Commissioner Wolfe asked for clarification on status of pre-trial work. Barbara Burgener provided a status of the work plan and noted a work session is scheduled for the week of December 15th and an additional work session at the end of January. Ms. Burgener will provide the Board with specific dates and times of the scheduled meetings.

Commissioner Wolfe expressed concerns regarding the two workgroup names used in the presentation: "Law and Justice Strategy Map" and "Public Safety and Justice Strategy Map". Mr. Tunheim explained the many aspects to back up both names, but stated they are open to advice regarding which name is used.

Vice Chair Blake requested clarification regarding ties to community and interconnectedness; and requested a characterization of social support systems. Mr. Rodrigues and Mr. Tunheim provided clarification. Mark Freedman, Social Services Division Director also noted the Public Health and Social Services Department has been involved in the Lean process work and will continue to be involved.

Commissioner Romero commented on their work around why people offend and how it ties into ACES (Adverse Childhood Experiences). She questioned Mr. Rodrigues' comment regarding the jail is not a good place for the mentally ill to receive treatment. Mr. Rodrigues stated he was referencing "chronically" mentally ill individuals being placed in jail. He did state the new jail facility is a good place for mentally ill offenders to receive many forms of treatment upon release.

The Board thanked both Mr. Tunheim and Mr. Rodrigues for their presentation and the workgroup's work.

4) Department Item

Description: 2015 Public Health and Social Services Department Legislative and Policy Matters

Mr. Sloma Public explained the Public Health and Social Services (PHSS) staff participate in several groups such as the Association of Counties, professional associations and community groups that track state legislative and budget issues. Each year PHSS staff members are asked for the county's position on legislative issues and for assistance preparing for and responding to legislative requests. The Board was presented with a document listing 2015 Possible Bills and Legislative Issues, what the bill/issue would do, the public health risks or opportunities, status of the bill/issue and staff recommendations regarding communicable disease, healthy behaviors, environmental health issues, budget and social services. The list also noted issues that may emerge, but that may be of lower priority that the Board may wish staff to 'monitor'. Mr. Sloma noted when staff is requested to write or testify on budget or legislative matters, the Board and

County Manager will be informed, and direction will be requested, prior to responding. Any testimony or comments will be consistent with direction from the Thurston County Board of Health or the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Sloma and Mr. Starry identified and discussed a few bills and issues that may be of most interest to the county; and addressed questions and provided clarification for the Board.

5) **Board of Health Members' Health Related Activities and Accomplishments** – due to length of meeting, no reports were given.

6) **Director's Report** –

Mr. Don Sloma reported on:

- ◆ Thurston Thrives initiative was presented to the Thurston Regional Planning Council at one of their meetings; Commissioner Romero attended; Thurston Thrives Phase II financial partnership was discussed.
- ◆ Hardened Triage Facility - a tentative construction schedule has been set; if all goes well construction to be complete by early December 2015; Regional Support Network (RSN) staff have been working with Criminal Justice staff to define inclusion and exclusionary criteria regarding who the police can bring to the Triage Facility; it is agreed that mentally ill individuals, who commit a non-violent felony along with misdemeanors, can be brought to the facility.
- ◆ Caramel apples linked to Listeria outbreak - State and local media became interested when it was learned one Thurston County resident became ill; he noted the resident did recover. Another issue of ice cream contaminated with Listeria has been resolved
- ◆ Avian Influenza - in December, avian influenza was detected in wild birds in Whatcom County; backyard bird owners are urged to monitor their flock closely and report sick or dead birds to the WSDA Avian Health Program at 1-800-606-3056 or USDA at 1-866-536-7593; there is no immediate public health concern with either the H5N2 virus nor the H5N8 virus detected in Thurston County or Washington State.

7) **Health Officer's Report** –

Dr. Rachel Wood reported on the following:

- ◆ Ebola local update – low risk cases were monitored; expressed her appreciate of staff at the Washington State Department of Health.
- ◆ Influenza update – the season has begun; gave an update on influenza in the community; encouraged everyone to be vaccinated.
- ◆ Measles update – provided an update on measles reported in California; Thurston County is on alert; encouraged everyone to be vaccinated.

Commissioner Wolfe thanked Dr. Wood for her hard work and noted “Public Health” is “Public Safety” and is directly connected to the work of the Thurston Thrives initiative.

8) **Adjournment** – meeting was adjourned at 4:55 P.M.

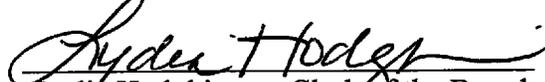
BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington


CATHY WOLFE, ~~Chair~~


BUD BLAKE, Vice Chair


SANDRA ROMERO, ~~Commissioner~~ Chair

ATTEST:


Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: March 10, 2015

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.