



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 June 9, 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 and Social Services Department Director, Dr. Rachel Wood, Health Officer; Cliff Moore, County Manager; 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.

Vice Chair Blake moved to approve the April 14, 2015 meeting minutes. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

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

DEPARTMENT ITEMS

3) Description: Board of Health Regular Meeting Schedule and Location

Don Sloma, Public Health and Social Services Department Director explained the ordinance under consideration establishes the Board of Health meeting schedule and location, including:

- Setting the second Tuesday of each month beginning at 3:30 PM for the transaction of any business required or permitted by law;
- Allowing Commissioners to participate in meetings by telephone or video conference provided there is equipment available at the location of the meeting which will allow all present at the meeting, including the public, to hear the member's voice and for the member participating to hear all that is stated at the meeting;
- Codifying in the Thurston County Code updates to the Open Public Meetings Act requiring the publishing of a daily calendar for all meetings at which two or more Commissioners will be present and the posting of an agenda for all scheduled meetings.

Vice Chair Blake moved to adopt an ordinance adding a Chapter 2.03 to the Thurston County Code relating to the regular meeting times and location of the Board of Health. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4) Description: Thurston Thrives Housing Action Team - Orange Team

Vice Chair Blake introduced the topic providing a background of the Housing Action Team (HAT) and the three subcommittees (Teams) – Blue, Orange and Red. Don Sloma briefly discussed the Housing for Health Strategy Map providing further explanation of the subcommittees' work. Mr. Ramsey Zimmerman a representative of the Housing Action Orange Team introduced Chris van Daalen and Graeme Sackrison, other Orange Team members who were present. Mr. Zimmerman then gave a presentation providing a snapshot of information about Thurston County residents' housing and unaffordable housing issues. He gave an overview of Thurston Thrives holistic approach to improving the health of the community. The HAT is one of the ten Thurston Thrives Action Teams. HAT's purpose is to make available affordable adequate and safe housing for all, housing that supports neighborhood stability, and people's health and well-being. Mr. Zimmerman described the three groups within the HAT: New Housing (Blue) Team; Housing for Homeless (Red) Team; and the Green and Healthy Affordable Rentals (Orange). He explained the Orange Team's Objectives: Empower renters and landlords with information, education and opportunities to make rentals more energy efficient and healthy; provide incentives to make existing homes more energy efficient, healthy and therefore more affordable to occupants; and create a system that designates rental properties as "Green & Healthy Rentals" so that potential renters can find them, and owners get credit for their improvement work. Mr. Zimmerman described existing on-going services being offered now by the following partners in the community: Homes First, Family Support Center; Thurston Energy, Thurston Economic Development Council (EDC), Northwest EcoBuilding Guild, Thurston Healthy Homes Program and the Community Action Council. He described the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative (GHHI) a national program focused on integration of health and energy related services. Mr. Zimmerman also explained a proposed voluntary system for owners of rental homes to receive the "Green & Healthy Rental" designation. This proposed system would be built from an existing Thurston Energy HomeProfile system with health features to be added. He explained Thurston EDC, Thurston Energy, is willing to take the lead on an embellished effort to look at seeking the Green and Healthy Home Initiative affiliation, incorporating the health aspects designation, by using the Thurston Thrives format. The idea is to have braided funding from diverse funding sources such as the Washington State University (WSU) Community Energy Efficiency Program (CEEP), GHHI foundations, and community foundations with Thurston County as the anchor funder. Mr. Zimmerman provided the elements of a two year program: on-boarding process to obtain the national GHHI affiliation and an education outreach campaign, including incentives to make improving energy and health of affordable rentals homes, establish "Green & Healthy Rental" designations and an online searchable registry. At Vice Chair Blake's request Mr. Zimmerman explained the challenges of encouraging landlords/owners to want to participate in the "Green & Healthy Rental" program for their rentals by offering incentives and in turn acknowledging their participation. Chris van Daalen shared a success example, from a symposium held recently, of a mother of two small children living in a rental home with moisture and mold issues. By working with the landlord who made improvements to the property a healthy living environment was provided for the family. At Vice Chair Blake's request Mr. Zimmerman provided additional information about the Green & Healthy Homes Initiative explaining their history; the application process to receive the GHHI designation; and described what the designation services consist of and the benefits. At Commissioner Wolfe's and Chair Romero's request he also provided additional clarification of Braided Funding, the mentioned 10% funding from Thurston County and the State Budget

funding. Discussion regarding the funding ensued. Vice Chair Romero questioned if other Action Teams will request funding. Mr. Sloma stated he was not aware of any potential requests for funding and provided additional clarification. Graeme Sackrison noted the Climate Action Team has been involved in home energy updates and feels the Orange Team's work presented today is a good fit; he noted funding for the PHSS's Healthy Homes Program activities already fits into this work; he supports the GHHI participation and feels more discussion around funding needs to and will be happening.

The Board commended the three Hubs of the Housing Action Team and all other Thurston Thrives Action Teams for their success in providing exactly what the Board was looking for with the Thurston Thrives Initiative. Mr. Zimmerman applauded the County for developing and supporting Thurston Thrives. He expressed his appreciation of the opportunity to be a part of Thurston Thrives and thanked the Board for their time.

5) Board of Health Members' Health Related Activities

Commissioner Wolfe reported on:

- ◆ 2015 Senior Games meeting
- ◆ Thurston Thrives Housing Action Team meeting
- ◆ Meetings regarding replacement of the retiring Public Health and Social Services Department Director
- ◆ Meeting with Winfried Danke, Choice Regional Health Network Director and Don Sloma, Public Health and Social Services Department Director
- ◆ ROOF fundraiser

Vice Chair Blake reported on:

- ◆ A conversation with Yelm citizens regarding the Lawrence Lake green blue algae infestation and their acknowledgement of the great work by the staff of Public Health and Social Services Department Environmental Health Division.

Chair Romero reported on:

- ◆ Thurston Council for Children and Youth, Thurston Thrives Childhood Resilience Action Team meetings
- ◆ LOTT meeting
- ◆ Nurse Family Partnership site visit
- ◆ Meeting with Diana Cockrell, Program Specialist with Public Health and Social Services Department – Thurston Thrives Childhood Resilience
- ◆ Puget Sound Salmon Council meeting
- ◆ Meeting with Dr. Scott Lindquist, Epidemiologist with the State of Washington Department of Health – discussion about Hepatitis C
- ◆ Community Investment Partnership meeting
- ◆ Thurston Thrives Coordinating Council meeting

6) Director's Report

Don Sloma reported on:

- ◆ PHSS social media update – due to a reorganization within the Department last year we now have the ability for targeted communication with the community. An example of the success of this communication was the recent presence of algae in Lake Lawrence reported by an area resident which enabled warning signs to be posted by staff at the lake within one (1) hour; he commended staff for their quick response and for developing the social media communication with residents around Thurston County lakes; staff routinely monitor water quality for 14 county lakes.
- ◆ Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) update – at the Board's direction the completion of an application for Thurston County to become a BHO will be submitted by the end of October due date; Joe Avalos has returned to County employment as a Social Services Program Specialist and is part of the effort to figure out the details of a BHO transition; Mr. Sloma shared the status of where discussions with Chemical Dependency service providers are in regards to the integration of clinical services for both chemical dependency and mental health services; the BHO operational target date is April 2016.
- ◆ Tobacco Prevention - Staff presented on Thurston County's Tobacco Free Policy to a committee of the Olympia City Council on May 20th. Council members are interested in options for tobacco free parks and asked if the County would also be moving in that direction.
- ◆ Emergency Preparedness – there has been an increase in funding from the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) for continuing Emergency Preparedness.
- ◆ Hepatitis C virus surveillance update –there is a possibility of additional resources from DOH to assist in their initiative of enhanced Hepatitis C surveillance; noted local providers do look to Public Health for community disease outbreaks information.
- ◆ A Typical Month of day to day work for PHSS – shared statistics for the following activities: birth certificates, death certificates, web hits, contracts managed and invoices processed by Fiscal, revenue payments processed, Nurse Family Partnership home visits, communicable/infectious diseases cases investigated, sexually transmitted cases investigated, restaurant inspections conducted, septic system pumper reports processed, drinking water samples tested and shelter provided to the homeless. Noted inspections are also completed for schools, swimming pool facilities; and temporary food service establishments.

7) Health Officer's Report

Dr. Rachel Wood reported on the following:

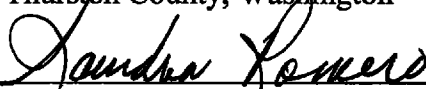
- ◆ She is preparing a talk on vaccines for preventable communicable diseases and vaccine hesitancy to share with her medical colleagues later in the week.
- ◆ Pertussis update – provided number and status of confirmed cases in Thurston County and statistics of previous years' cases; noted providers are testing for Pertussis and reporting cases to PHSS.
- ◆ Hepatitis C virus – provided an update of investigation and monitoring of numbers of individuals in the community that have been tested for Hepatitis C and positive cases; it is recommended individuals between the ages of 45 and 65 get tested; there is a concern for

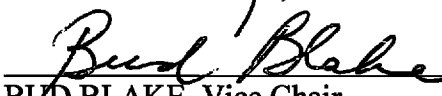
Syringe Exchange Program population that are the highest at risk for Hepatitis C and have a low access to care; in partnership with her clinical colleagues a plan is being developed to close the gap for populations at risk and those that are getting screened to get a handle on the rising tide of Hepatitis C infection.

- ◆ Emergency Preparedness update – there is additional State funding being provided to Thurston County for emergency preparedness; noted Thurston County is part of a region that has an emergency preparedness plan; DOH not only wants there to be a plan in place but also to be ready to respond in the event of an emergency; she noted more drills and exercises are being planned.
- ◆ Tuberculosis update – noted there are many resources nationally that are Centers of Excellence for individuals with TB; she attended a two day TB Intensive Training in Seattle on June 2nd and 3rd.

8) **Adjournment** – Vice Chair Blake moved to adjourn the meeting of June 9, 2015. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington


SANDRA ROMERO, Chair


BUD BLAKE, Vice Chair


CATHY WOLFE, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: August 11, 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.