



## **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 April 22, 2014**

#### **1) 3:34 p.m. Call Board of Health Meeting to Order**

**In Attendance:** Cathy Wolfe, Chair; Sandra Romero, Vice Chair; Cliff Moore, County Manager; Art Starry, Environmental Health Division Director; Dr. Rachel Wood, Health Officer and Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health

**Excused Absence:** Karen Valenzuela, Commissioner; Don Sloma, Department Director

Chair Wolfe called the Board of Health meeting to order.

- a. Vice Chair Romero moved to approve the April 22, 2014 agenda. Chair Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- b. Vice Chair Romero moved to approve the minutes for the February 11, 2014 and March 11, 2014 meetings. Chair Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **2) Approval of Resolution H-1-2014 Appointing additional Alternate 2014 Local Health Officers for Thurston County**

Dr. Rachel Wood, Health Officer summarized the approval request for Resolution H-1-2014. On December 10, 2013 the Board of Health approved Resolution No. H-3-2013 appointed Dr. Alan Melnick, Dr. James Edstam, Dr. John Bausher, Dr. Steve Standaert, and Dr. Scott Lindquist to act as alternate Health Officers for the year 2014 in the absence or incapacity of the primary appointed local health officer, Dr. Rachel Wood. This is a request to appoint Diana T. Yu, MD, MPH and Jennifer Vines, MD, MPH as two additional alternate local health officers for the year 2014. Dr. Yu was the Thurston County Local Health Officer from June 1, 1990 through December 2, 2013 and is currently the Mason County Local Health Officer. Dr. Vines is the Deputy Health Officer for Multnomah County and part time Health Officer for Cowlitz County.

**Vice Chair Romero moved to approve Resolution H-1-2014 appointing Diana T. Yu, MD, MPH and Jennifer Vines, MD, MPH as 2014 alternate health officers in addition to the alternate health officers appointed under H-3-2013, Alan Melnick, MD, MPH; James Edstam, MD, MPH; John Bausher, MD; Steve Standaert, MD, MPH; and Scott Lindquist, MD, MPH. Chair Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

#### **3) 2014 Hazardous Waste Plan**

Gerald Tousley, Hazardous Waste Specialist III and Supervisor of the Hazardous Waste Program, presented an update and overview of the Thurston County Hazardous Waste Plan 2014. He explained under Washington State law, all counties and cities must develop a plan for the management of community-generated hazardous waste. The Plan was last updated in 1998 and will cover 2014 – 2018. Several elements are mandated for inclusion in the plan. Although each

community is required to maintain a plan for solid and hazardous waste management, state law allows communities to develop plans jointly which historically, the cities and towns of Thurston County have exercised that option. In partnership with the Thurston County Public Works Department; Thurston County Solid Waste Advisory Committee; local cities and towns; the State Department of Ecology; other agencies such as LOTT, ORCAA, drinking water and surface water utilities; and citizens the Public Health and Social Services Department leads plan development and implementation. The Thurston County Board of County Commissioners adopts the plan and oversees implementation. The Plan describes current conditions and programs for hazardous waste management throughout the county; and presents a comprehensive framework for reducing hazardous materials use in homes and small businesses and increasing safe handling and disposal of hazardous waste. The Plan builds on collaboration between Thurston County's Hazardous Waste Program, other county departments, the State of Washington, and other local organizations addressing related human health and environmental issues. Mr. Tousley stated the County will continue to: lead plan implementation, work with local jurisdictions and implement core services listed in the 1998 plan. He then gave an overview, including estimated annual costs, of the core services and new core programs. Mr. Tousley explained the next steps: adoption by local cities and towns via resolution of memorandum of agreement which is in process; adoption by the Board via a resolution; submission to Ecology for review and acceptance; and then implementation. At Vice Chair Romero's request Mr. Tousley and Art Starry provided additional information regarding the Syringe collection and Disposal program and its funding. Mr. Tousley explained the funding for the Plan's core services programs has been stable since 1991 although Mr. Starry noted it was a challenge recently with State Legislature to ensure the funding. Vice Chair Romero requested yearly updates on all of the Hazardous Waste Plan programs which Mr. Starry and Mr. Tousley agreed to provide. The Board thanked staff for the presentation.

#### **4) 2013 Integrated Pest Management Annual Report**

Patrick Soderberg, Hazardous Waste Specialist II with the County Hazardous Waste Program provided a background of the Pesticide Use Policy. The Board of County Commissioners adopted the Thurston County Pesticide Use Policy in 1989 and the revised Pest and Vegetation Management Policy in 1993. The purpose of the policy is to provide guidelines for county personnel who are involved with operations and provide advice related to pests and vegetation management and to set an example in implementing integrated pest and vegetation management programs that minimize the use of pesticides. The Pest and Vegetation Management Policy applies only to County departments and use of pesticides on County property or land managed by the County. In 1990, the Thurston County Board of County Commissioners appointed nine citizens to the Pest and Vegetation Management Advisory Committee (PVMAC). The policy requires all county departments and programs that manage pests or vegetation to submit an annual report to the PVMAC; today the committee has seven members with two positions open. The Committee has been directed to assist in the implementation of the Pest and Vegetation Management Policy. This Policy emphasizes development and implementation of Integrated Pest Management (IMP) programs that provide effective pest and vegetation management with minimal environmental and public health impacts. The policy requires all county departments and programs that manage pests or vegetation to submit an annual report to the PVMAC. Mr. Soderberg introduced Jeff Britt long time member and Chair of the PVMAC. Mr. Britt explained the 2013 Integrated Pest Management Report details the management of pests and vegetation at County owned or managed facilities (buildings, parks, grounds, etc.). He then reviewed a memo from the PVMAC that summarized the Annual Report highlighting the successes of the Parks, Roads and Noxious Weed programs, the Committee's concerns and recommended actions. Mr. Britt discussed the two vacant committee

positions and noted they are always seeking new members. He then, on behalf of the Committee, expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to help improve IPM in Thurston County. The Board thanked Mr. Soderberg and Mr. Britt.

**5) Pampas grass, Yellow flag iris and Fragrant water lily Integrated Pest Management Prescriptions**

Patrick Soderberg provided a summary of the request to approve Integrated Pest Management Prescriptions for Pampas grass, Yellow flag and Fragrant water lily. He then gave a description of the Pampas grass prescription. Mr. Soderberg introduced Rick Johnson, County Noxious Weed Control Coordinator.

Mr. Johnson provided a background and information for Pampas grass in the County stating on October 9, 2013, Pampas grass was discovered escaped on a vacant property off West Bay Drive. Four hundred and eight four (484) escaped Pampas grass plants have been documented at the infestation site. Pampas grass is highly invasive due to its ability to tolerate a wide range of habitats and temperatures. Its prolific seed production, rapid growth and accumulation of above-ground and below-ground biomass allows it to acquire light, moisture, and nutrients that would be used by other plants. It can be damaging even at low densities because of the amount of cover it can occupy. Pampas grass creates a fire hazard with its excessive build up of dry leaves and flowering stalks. Pampas grass is also allergenic causing the following symptoms: sniffing, sneezing, coughing, itchy, watery eyes, etc. On October 29, 2013 the Thurston County Noxious Weed Control Board met and decided to request that the Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board list this species on the noxious weed control list at the earliest possible opportunity. The Integrated Pest Management (IPM) prescription is needed to advise the public and enforce control if owners fail to comply with the proposed listing. Mr. Johnson clarified the information and request includes ornamental pampas grass. **Vice Chair Romero moved to approve the Pampas grass Integrated Pest Management prescription to advise the public and enforce control through the end of 2015, at which time the prescription use will be revisited. Chair Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Mr. Soderberg described the Yellow flag iris prescription. Mr. Johnson provided a background and information about Yellow flag iris in the County. Yellow flag iris forms a dense mat that can move into and crowd out native vegetation, trap sediment, inhibit flow in streams and rivers, and jeopardize habitat for fish and wildlife. In 2012, Thurston County was awarded a grant by the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE) in cooperation with the Save Black Lake Coalition. Yellow flag iris and Fragrant water lily are two of the species targeted for control in the grant. Yellow flag iris has been identified at least 69 locations at Black Lake. One step in the grant awarded by DOE was obtaining approvals to implement control of Yellow flag iris. The IPM prescription is needed to implement those controls. **Vice Chair Romero moved to approve the Yellow flag iris Integrated Pest Management prescription. Chair Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Mr. Soderberg described the Fragrant water lily prescription and provided information about Fragrant water lily's presence on Black Lake. Mr. Johnson provided a background and additional information about Fragrant water lily which has been found at least 109 locations at Black Lake. He stated this water lily directly impacts and threatens the native water lily population in Black Lake. One step in the grant awarded by DOE was obtaining approvals to implement control of

Fragrant water lily on Black Lake. Vice Chair Romero requested the Committee consider pollinators in their reviews when they next meet. **Vice Chair Romero moved to approve the Fragrant water lily Integrated Pest Management prescription for the 2014 control season. Chair Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

**6) Report on Events for April 2014 Public Health Month**

Chris Hawkins, Thurston Thrives Coordinator and Healthy Environment and Action Team Supervisor, stated April is 2014 Public Health Month as proclaimed by the Board and marks the one year anniversary of Thurston Thrives, the Board of Health's initiative to boost the health of everyone in our community. Mr. Hawkins then provided a summary of work in the last month aimed at moving our community's health forward through Thurston Thrives. He explained a successful collective impact requires a backbone structure which is the organizing body for the effort which provides both scorekeeping and promotional functions. The backbone for this initiative, the "Thurston Thrives Core", requires infrastructure such as software, work space and staffing, for tracking progress across the actions areas, communicating among action teams and engaging the public. Stakeholders have recently been asked about their interest in participating in and contributing toward this Core to continue Thurston Thrives in the implementation phase. This Core is intended to be housed outside Thurston County government. Community groups such as businesses, non-profits, philanthropic, for example can contribute in a multitude of ways such as financial support or in support of action areas.

Mr. Hawkins then discussed the Community Investment Partnership (CIP) a joint effort between the United Way of Thurston County and local governments involved in the Health & Human Services Council who formed to align two closely related resources in the community. The CIP recently concluded a Request for Proposal (RFP) process which referenced Thurston Thrives Action Teams' strategy maps. The CIP is aligning activities with both community priorities and health improvement objectives through consistency with Thurston Thrives. A review panel has been formed to examine the proposals consisting of over fifty applications requesting over \$1.6 million for which \$.6 million is available.

Mr. Hawkins explained the Thurston County Public Health and Social Services (PHSS) management is identifying ways the Department's programs, projects and activities connect to and support the Thurston Thrives strategy maps. Several PHSS programs are identified in strategy maps. The strategy maps also guide the Department's pursuit of new resources. He gave an example of the Healthy Farms, Healthy People proposal PHSS submitted in March to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the Mobilization for Health grant. This grant would build support for actions identified in the Food and Economy strategies.

In regards to the CDC Mobilization for Health grant being pursued by the Department for a Healthy Farms, Healthy People project, Vice Chair Romero raised a question about who was involved in the grant application and did this connect with the efforts to foster local farms and agriculture that she has been working on. Mr. Hawkins stated the idea to submit a proposal started with the action team and its strategy, and that proposed project is about connecting farms to institutions, bringing more income to local farms. He stated efforts are being made looking for opportunities to build funds for the implementation of Thurston Thrives strategies even though the strategies are still works in progress and open to further community participation. In response to

Vice Chair Romero's expressed concerns, Mr. Hawkins stated it is understood no one wants to reinvent the wheel in how Thurston Thrives proceeds, to everyone's agreement.

Mr. Hawkins described an annual Thurston County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Volunteer Appreciation Event which took place on April 17<sup>th</sup> and was attended by approximately 40 people. Chair Wolfe and Vice Chair Romero attended the event, along with Director Don Sloma and PHSS staff, where they all expressed their appreciation of the volunteers and highlighted the MRC's 2013 accomplishments. In 2013, the MRC volunteers contributed over 1,700 volunteer hours to the community during vaccination clinics, medical screening stations, first aid events and education outreach stations. The volunteer hours valued at \$57,137, enabled the MRC to carry out its mission "to provide public health surge capacity in the event of a public health emergency in Thurston County. Mr. Hawkins noted in recognition of his contributions to the MRC Leadership Team, Dr. Britt Smith received the "Dr. Diana Yu MRC Volunteer of the Year" Award. Dr. Britt is now the MRC Volunteer Medical Director.

Mr. Hawkins provided information on the following upcoming Public Health events:

- Thurston Thrives Community Resilience Action Team will host a community summit on April 30<sup>th</sup> 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. to develop the strategy for building greater community cohesion and connection. Engaging in key activities identified in the Thurston Thrives strategy maps is one of the ways people can become more connected, improving not only the health of the community, but also the personal health of those people who volunteer.
- Junior League of Olympia hosting the second annual summit on child and family resilience on May 3<sup>rd</sup> 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. at the Capital Event Center of Educational Services District 113. This event will carry on some of the Child Youth Resiliency Action Team strategies.

In recognition of Earth Day and addressing health related environment efforts, Mr. Hawkins provided information on the following events:

- The Thurston Thrives Environment Action Team started their work developing strategies to address clean air, clean water and waste prevention all of which are very important aspects of community health now and in the future.
- Scatter Creek Aquifer Septic System Management Project continues working with the community regarding clean groundwater in southern Thurston County. They will hold their second annual community workshop on the evening of April 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Rochester middle school.
- Thurston Thrives Community Design strategies include changing the environment to make it easier for people to get around either walking or biking which reduces emissions that are harmful to health and promotes physical activity. The City of Lacey will host a community bicycle festival at Mountain View Elementary on May 3<sup>rd</sup> that will provide traffic safety skills and encourage bicycling to school. This event is similar to the Department's Safe Routes to School efforts.

Mr. Hawkins stated the Thurston Thrives Action Teams, the Board of Health and PHSS staff in support of this initiative will continue throughout 2014. He then provided a tentative schedule of upcoming meetings of the Board of Health and Thurston Thrives Advisory Council as follows:  
June 10<sup>th</sup> – Environment Action Team presents; preview of remaining work for Advisory Council  
July 8<sup>th</sup> – Community Resilience Action Team presents  
August 12<sup>th</sup> – Clinical/Emergency Care Action Team presents

September 9<sup>th</sup> – Food Action Team update; Review of all Action Team strategies and outcomes  
To be determined, likely early to mid November – Thurston Thrives Retreat, final meeting of the  
Advisory Council

Additional details and information about these meetings when available can be found at  
[www.thurstonthrives.org](http://www.thurstonthrives.org).

Chair Wolfe expressed her appreciation for the information and the progress of Thurston Thrives.

In regard to Thurston Thrives Core portion of the presentation, Vice Chair Romero questioned why the Community Investment Partnership (CIP) isn't the backbone for the organization. She feels CIP would be a good place for it and that we should not be creating a new organization. Mr. Hawkins responded stating it did not want to be presumed that the right home for the Core was known at this point. The focus has been more on what needs to be done rather than who is best to do it and everyone is open to ideas. Additional discussion ensued after which Chair Wolfe stated the intent of Thurston Thrives is to look for ways that this can be owned by the community and she felt that she had given approval to that approach.

**7) Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board of Health - none**

**8) Board of Health Members' Reports –**

◆ **Vice Chair Romero reported on:**

- WSU Energy Office meeting – disposal of animal and food waste for energy
- Nisqually River Council meeting - climate change affecting alpine plants
- Beekeepers meeting
- Meetings with Neighborhood Associations – handling extreme amounts of ground water runoff
- Viewed a movie at the Olympia Film Society – Honey Bees

◆ **Chair Wolfe reported on:**

- Olympian Editorial Board attended a meeting with PHSS Department Director Don Sloma – Thurston Thrives Initiative
- Solid Waste Advisory Committee – waste less food
- TCTV taping – Food Waste Program
- Tacoma City Council – heroine epidemic
- Mason County Board of Health - Cascade Pacific Action Alliance, formerly Regional Health Improvement Collaborative
- Winfred Danke, CHOICE Regional Health Network meeting – Cascade Pacific Action Alliance
- Hillsboro Oregon Community Correction Center visit – Prosecutor Jon Tunheim spoke on the benefits of the center
- Thurston Thrives Clinical and Emergency Care Action Team meeting
- Medical Reserve Corp Volunteer Appreciation event, attended with Vice Chair Romero
- Numerous meetings with Mr. Sloma

## **9) Director's Report –**

**Dr. Rachel Wood, on Don Sloma's behalf, reported on:**

◆ **Vehicle Vandalism at Lilly Road**

- Eight county vehicles were vandalized March 21 – March 24 at the Public Health and Social Services (PHSS) Department building on Lilly Road
- Vandals cut fuel lines and damaged fuel tanks to steal gasoline
- Department managers are working with Central Services to determine what is needed to protect vehicles and provide site security
- Tilley Shop was quick to respond and get the vehicles back in working order

◆ **Thurston Thrives**

- Presented to Leadership Thurston County class session on health with a panel of action team leads or key participants of six teams: Child & Youth Resilience, Clinical Care, Community Design, Community Resilience, Food and Housing

◆ **Special Recreation Successfully Transitioned to PHSS**

- The Thurston County Specialized Recreation Program has joined the PHSS Department
- Program staff, Margaret Huff and Linda Abel, moved to the Lilly Road building and are now part of the Developmental Disabilities program.
- It is great to have them with us

◆ **Developmental Disabilities**

- Thurston-Mason County Developmental Disabilities held its annual High School Transition and Resource Fair on March 18<sup>th</sup>.
- 225 people attended.
- Presentations were geared toward families.
  - Transitions that families experience, from birth through adulthood, as they care for their child with a disability.
  - Transition from school to work.

◆ **Burfoot Beach re-opened**

- The beach at Burfoot Park re-opened March 21st, after a two month closure.
- Beaches at Burfoot and the Seashore Villa mobile home park were closed January 24<sup>th</sup> when it was found that the sewage treatment plant was malfunctioning and discharging improperly treated sewage.
- The closure was lifted after Ecology confirmed the treatment plant was repaired and properly treating sewage.
- PHSS worked with Parks and Recreation and Ecology to post the beaches and monitor treatment plant repairs.

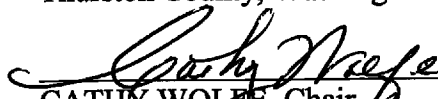
## **10) Health Officer's Report –**

Dr. Rachel Wood provided an update on measles cases in Thurston County. She encouraged the public to get vaccinated for measles and noted immunity against measles takes two weeks after vaccination.

**11) Adjournment**

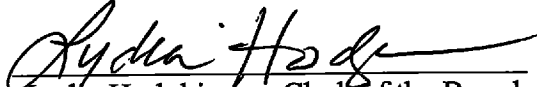
**Vice Chair Romero moved to adjourn the meeting of June 22, 2014. Chair Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

BOARD OF HEALTH  
Thurston County, Washington

  
CATHY WOLFE, Chair

  
SANDRA ROMERO, Vice Chair

ATTEST:

  
Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: June 10, 2014

excused absence  
KAREN VALENZUELA, 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.