



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 November 12, 2013

3:40 p.m.) Called Meeting to Order

In Attendance: Karen Valenzuela, Chair; Cathy Wolfe, Vice Chair; Sandra Romero, Commissioner; Dr. Diana Yu, Health Officer; Cliff Moore, County Manager; Don Sloma, Public Health & Social Services Department Director; and Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health

Chair Valenzuela called the meeting to order.

- ♦ **Approval of the Board of Health Agenda:** Vice Chair Wolfe moved to approve the agenda for November 12, 2013. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- ♦ **Approval of Board of Health meeting minutes:** Vice Chair Wolfe moved to approve the Board of Health meeting minutes from October 8, 2013. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. Motion carried.

1) Consent Item

Motion: Vice Chair Wolfe moved to approve the consent item. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Description: Appointment to the Pest and Vegetation Management Advisory Committee

Staff Contact: Danielle Westbrook, Commissioners Office

Recommended Action: Move to appoint Mark Emrich to the Pest and Vegetation Management Advisory Committee for the term beginning November 12, 2013.

Department Items

2) Set a Public Hearing to Amend Article I and Article III of the Thurston County Sanitary Code

Art Starry, Public Health & Social Services Department Environmental Health Division Director provided a background of the requested amendments to the Thurston County Sanitary Code Article I Appendix A – General Provisions and Environmental Health Fee Schedule and Article III - Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health Governing Water supplies. Mr. Starry explained recently amended Chapter 246-291WAC - Group B water systems, goes into effect January 1, 2014. Environmental Health Staff, along with the assistance of stakeholders, has drafted amendments to the Thurston County Group B water supply regulations, Article III, that are consistent with the new state law and maintain the annual permit and monitoring program for Group B water systems. Mr. Starry stated the proposed amendments to Article I add civil infractions and civil penalties for violations of Article III and amend generally applicable provisions and miscellaneous fees in the fee schedule and fees applicable to Article III. The proposed amendments to Article

III adopt chapters 246-290 and 246-291 WAC and amend the regulations governing one and two family residential connection water supplies and Group B water systems, including the provisions for water source protection and approval, well decommissioning, annual permit and monitoring requirements for Group B waters systems, review of water availability, plan preparation, and enforcement. The proposed ordinance reorganizes and revises Article III and removes provisions for bonding in lieu of water supply completion and provisions that are no longer necessary. On September 19, 2013 a community meeting was held to discuss the draft rules. To date, all stakeholders and meeting participants have supported the proposed amendments. Copies of the proposed ordinance will be available beginning November 15, 2013 at the Thurston County Permit Assistance Center, Public Health & Social Services (Health) Department and at the Environmental Health Division internet site at <http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/ehadm/index.html>.

Vice Chair Wolfe moved to set a public hearing on December 10, 2013 at 5:30 PM to receive testimony on the ordinance to amend Article I and Appendix A, and Article III, of the Rules and Regulations of the Thurston County Board of Health. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3) Board Members' Reports - Board Members reported on public health and social services involvement since the last Board of Health meeting:

♦ **Commissioner Romero reported on:**

- LOTT meeting
- Rampage at the Regional Activity Center (RAC)
- Participated in a "Drop, Cover and Hold" exercise
- Attended a Thurston Thrives luncheon/meeting with First Lady Inslee at Garden Raised Urban Bounty (GRUB)
- Meeting with the Director of Alliance for a Healthy South Sound
- Meeting with Thurston Council for Children and Youth

♦ **Vice Chair Wolfe reported on:**

- Dinner with Public Health & Social Services Director, Don Sloma
- Attended a Regional Health Improvement Collaborative (RHIC) meeting
- Law & Justice Meeting
- Emergency Preparedness at Tilly Road
- Attended Senior Services of South Sound meeting
- Attended an Area Agency on Aging Board meeting
- Attended a Thurston Thrives luncheon/meeting with First Lady Inslee at Garden Raised Urban Bounty (GRUB)

♦ **Chair Valenzuela reported on:**

- Attended a Thurston Thrives luncheon/meeting with First Lady Inslee at Garden Raised Urban Bounty (GRUB)
- Commented on Thurston County's adoption of a ban on plastic bags in un-incorporated county areas
- Thurston Thrives Housing Action Team meetings, as Lead Action Team Leader; Team preparing to present to the Advisory Board at the December 10th Board of Health meeting.
- Annual American Public Health Association meeting in Boston – attended public health related sessions

4) Director's Report - Don Sloma reported on the following items:

- ♦ **Thurston County's Tobacco Free Campus goes into effect January 1, 2014**

- Acknowledged Sherri McDonald, the previous Public Health & Social Services' Director, for setting the ground work for initiatives such as a Tobacco Free Campus
- Temporary signage is being posted around campus
- Tobacco cessation information has been distributed to county worksites
- ◆ Walk to School Day- Over 300 students from Lydia Hawk Elementary and Nisqually Middle Schools participated more than doubling previous years' participation
- ◆ Community Gardens
 - two garden beds were completed at the Lacey Senior Center
 - these will grow for meals served at the center, Meals on Wheels, the Thurston County Food Bank and seniors who help garden
- ◆ Thurston Thrives
 - Housing Action Team to report at December 10, 2013 Board of Health meeting
 - Along with local nonprofits, Thurston Thrives representatives hosted Washington First Lady Trudi Inslee on a site visit to our community; key aspects of the initiative were highlighted – positive outcomes are coming out of that meeting discussion
 - Mr. Sloma and Commissioner Valenzuela with State Auditor to thank him for their assistance with Thurston Thrives; he invited Thurston Thrives to request additional assistance for 2014; Staff is in process of submitting a letter of request
 - The Education, Health, Children's and Environmental Action Teams preparing to present to the Board of Health the first half of 2014
- ◆ Thurston Mason Regional Support Network (RSN)
 - Open Procurement for the RSN – contact has been made with Pierce County and hoping to hear in January about their experience
 - No recommendation for location on the approved Mental Health Triage Facility yet; more information to be presented at the Board Briefing January 8, 2013
- ◆ Drug Problems in County
 - Continuing to see heroine use and an uptake in methamphetamine and IV drug use
 - Documenting syringe exchange evidence during the Health Officer transition, from Dr. Yu to Dr. Wood
 - Two drop containers have been purchased and are ready to be placed, possible locations are being discussed
 - Good feedback from conversations with the Olympia Downtown Association
- ◆ Bat Season
 - Eight Thurston County residents received rabies vaccinations due to exposures with bats and other animals
 - Sixteen animal samples, of which ten were bats, were tested for rabies; none were positive for rabies Commissioner Romero requested the possibility of providing the public with information that bats also have good environmental qualities to avoid having to kill bats for testing. Dr. Diana Yu noted bats are only tested for rabies when human contact is made or is in question. She also noted a positive rabies result in bats is very rare.

5) Health Officer's Report – Dr. Diana Yu provided updates and information on the following :

- ◆ Immunization Clinic held at Olympia Union Gospel Mission
 - Joint effort between Thurston County Medical Reserve Corps and the Olympia Union Gospel Mission
 - 70 vaccinations were given

- ◆ Immunization Clinic held at the Syringe Exchange Program's Capitol Recovery Center site
 - 43 vaccinations were given
- ◆ E. coli case update
 - Increase number of E. coli cases
 - Our current case count is 18 Thurston residents, typically we have 5 each year
 - No one point source of exposure
 - No cases associated with any current food recalls
 - More info at www.co.thurston.wa.us/health
- ◆ Influenza in Thurston County
 - First case reported this year a few weeks ago; earlier than usual
 - This is the right time to get your flu shots now
 - It takes two weeks for vaccine to take full effect
 - Flu shots are available at almost all pharmacies, children's clinics
 - Vaccine clinic to be held in association with the Homeless Connect Project on December 7th - vaccinations to be provided at no cost
 - More information at www.co.thurston.wa.us/health

Presentation

6) Dr. Diana T. Yu send off by the Board of Health

Chair Valenzuela acknowledged this would be Dr. Yu's last report as Thurston County's Health Officer. Dr. Yu's employment as the Thurston County Health Officer ends effective December 2, 2013.

a) Chair Valenzuela presented Dr. Yu with a Certificate of Appreciation expressing the Board's appreciation and recognition of her service with the Public Health and Social Services Department and her commitment to protecting and promoting the health of the citizens of Thurston County which has made a positive difference in the well-being of our community.

b) A "Dr. Yu over the Years" slide show was presented. Emmie San Nicolas, Administrative Assistant with the Public Health & Social Services Department Administrative Services Division was commended for the outstanding slide show.

c) The following individuals expressed their appreciation of Dr. Yu's commitment to the community and shared highlights of events she has lead and/or participated in over her career:

- Britt Smith - the Medical Reserve Corps
- Jack O'Reilly – Senior Games
Mr. O'Reilly also presented Senior Game medals to Chair Valenzuela and Vice Chair Wolfe for their participation in the 2013 Bowling event
- Jenna Layton – Thurston Mason Medical Society for the Health Care Champions
- Cliff Moore – Samba OlyWa
- Chair Valenzuela
- Vice Chair Wolfe
- Commissioner Romero

d) The following Guest Speakers expressed their appreciation to Dr. Yu and shared their experiences as her fellow employees:

- Sherri McDonald - previous PHSS Department Director
- Don Sloma – current PHSS Department Director
- Patti Swanson, Art Starry, Val Casterline, Deborah Allen and Steve Petersen (Mark Freedman, not present) – current PHSS Department Management Team recited an original poem created by them

7) Public Comment

The following citizens expressed their appreciation of Dr. Yu:

- Shelly Willis – Executive Director Family Education and Support Services and Zumba participant
- Steve Romines – Director Thurston County Emergency Services; Mr. Romines presented Dr. Yu with a Medic One commemorative 40th Anniversary hat
- Medrice Coluccio – Chief Executive Providence Health and Services
- Dr. Rachel Wood – Lewis County Health Officer and soon to be Thurston County Health Officer

Dr. Yu expressed her appreciate of the outstanding slide show; thanked everyone for their kind words and their support over the last 20+ years; and their commitments to Thurston County.

- Sharon Patricia Williams – a long time resident of Thurston County and representative of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 1199NW provided information and handouts regarding the SEIU's website to help people sign up for health care as required by the Affordable Care Act

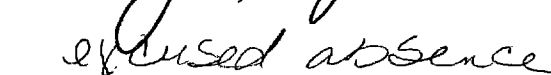
ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Wolfe moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Romero seconded the motion. The motion carried.

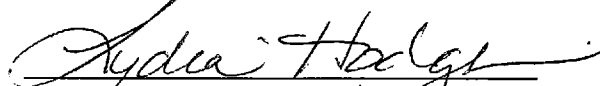
BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington


KAREN VALENZUELA, Chair


CATHY WOLFE, Vice Chair


SANDRA ROMERO, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: December 10, 2013

