



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 August 13, 2013

1) 3:40 p.m. Call Board of Health Meeting to Order

In Attendance: Karen Valenzuela, Chair; Cathy Wolfe, Vice Chair; Cliff Moore, Interim County Manager, Don Sloma, Public Health & Social Services Department Director and Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health

Excused Absence: Sandra Romero, Commissioner

Chair Valenzuela called the Board of Health meeting to order. Chair Valenzuela acknowledged Shelly Willis, the Executive Director of Family Education & Support Services for a Community Impact Award presented to her by United Way of Thurston County for her community outreach related to family support. Ms. Willis thanked the Board and also expressed her gratitude to Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney Jon Tunheim who presented her with a coin related to following the mission of the Prosecutor's office.

- ♦ **Approval of the Board of Health Agenda:** Vice Chair Wolfe moved to approve the agenda for August 13, 2013. Chair Valenzuela 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 July 9, 2013. Chair Valenzuela seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2) Thurston Thrives Advisory Council Meeting

Chair Valenzuela opened the Thurston Thrives Advisory Council meeting.

a) **Introductions** - Advisory Council Members introduced themselves.

In attendance: Nicole Hill, Lisa Smith, Curt Andino, Lon Wyrick, Shelly Willis, Barbara Clarkson, Denise Mahar, Kevin Haughton, MD, Raj Manhas, Michael Cade, and Cole Mason, MD

Absent: Mariella Cummings and Jay Mason, MD

In attendance for Public Health and Social Services Department (PHSS) staff: Don Sloma, Director; Mary Ann O'Garro, Epidemiologist and Chris Hawkins, Active Healthy Communities Coordinator.

Chair Valenzuela introduced Economy Action Team Lead Michael Cade, Executive Director of the Thurston Economic Development Council (EDC). Mr. Cade then introduced Action Team Members present in the audience: Lisa Smith, Enterprise for Equity (Action Team Co-lead), Nancie Payne, Payne & Associates and EDC Board Member (Action Team Co-lead); Ross Irwin, Cabinets of Trivonni; and Cheryl Fambles, Pacific Mountain workforce Development Council. He then named other Action Team Members not present: Cheryl Heywood, Timberland Regional Library; Pat Raines, Washington State Department of Social and Health Services; George Sharp, Visitor and Convention Bureau; Rodney Youckton, Chehalis Tribe; Nancy McKinney, South Puget Sound Community College; David Schaffert, Thurston County Chamber of Commerce; Marge Price, Tumwater Chamber of Commerce; and Dr. Riley Moore, St. Martin's University.

b) Topic Area Definition and Health Implications

Mary Ann O'Garro, Public Health and Social Services Department (PHSS) Epidemiologist, gave a presentation that provided a summary of economy and health implications and community data that also included information on how the economy impacts our health and what we know locally based on the data collected within our community by the Thurston Thrives Economy Action Team.

c) Community Data/Assessment and Risks

Ms. O'Garro, PHSS Epidemiologist, provided a data snapshot report of the most current local data that supports the work of the Thurston Thrives Economy Action Team emphasizing community health issues associated with income, employment and workforce development. The purpose of the report is to provide support to those examining the connections between the economy and health.

d) Community Analysis of Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats

Michael Cade gave a presentation focusing on Income/Economy Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats (SWOT) to the community. Board of Health Members and members of the Advisory Council commented on the importance of the environment to the health of the community and finding a balance between increasing jobs and maintaining environmental quality. There was discussion of public and private cooperation, particularly around infrastructure, including telecommunications. Other comments, questions and discussion followed.

e) Recommended Strategic Map and Plan

Mr. Cade presented the Economy Action Team's Recommended Strategy which included Dimensions/Implications/Objectives and Overarching Outcome; Priority Activities and Lead Actors; Measures; and a Logic Model. The Logic Model included activities, objectives, goals and a vision. Mr. Cade invited all to join the community dialogue about the economy and health at www.ThurstonThrivesEconomy.blogspot.com. Advisory council members mentioned the ease of finding services ("no wrong door") and a clear path being more important the single point of entry for employees seeking support and the importance of government employment as part of the strategy. Other comments, questions and discussion followed.

f) Other Action Team Comments

Members provided comments and input in regard to the Strategy and Logic Model.

g) Questions and Answers – Board and Advisors

Members were given the opportunity to express their concerns and share information in regards to the presentation – no additional questions or comments were shared.

h) Opportunity for Public Comments from Community Members

Dr. Rachel Wood recommended the Action Team include educating employers to provide employees with incentives to stay healthy such as eat well, exercise on their breaks and eat breakfast.

i) Discussion – Board, Advisors and Action Team – no additional discussion.

j) Closing – next Thurston Thrives Meeting

Don Sloma, Department Director, stated the next Thurston Thrives meeting will be at the next Board of Health meeting on Tuesday, September 10, 2013 from 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Thurston County Courthouse, room 152. The Community Design Action Team, lead by Chris Hawkins along with the Thurston Regional Planning Council, is scheduled to present. A Thurston Thrives handout was distributed which provided an overview of the initiative and listed information on the Advisory Council Members, Action Teams and Members, and a timeline of Thurston Thrives Phases. Mr. Sloma commended the Leaders of the Food Action Team and the Economy Action Team for their outstanding work in such a short time frame. Mr. Sloma then gave a brief overview of where Thurston Thrives is now, the Phases of Thurston Thrives and a timeline.

Vice-Chair Wolfe commended Michael Cade for his early recognition, back when he first came to Thurston County, regarding the importance of including the non-profit sector in economic development. She also commended Don Sloma for speaking out and making the connection of economic development and health.

3) Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board of Health - None

4) Appoint a New Thurston County Health Officer

Chair Valenzuela stated after twenty three years, Dr. Diana Yu, the current Thurston County Health Officer, is retiring effective December 2, 2013. Rachel Wood, MD, MPH has been selected as the new Thurston County Health Officer. Dr. Wood has served as Health Officer for Lewis County since 2007 and has filled in for Dr. Yu on numerous occasions. **Vice-Chair Wolfe moved to appoint Rachel Wood, MD, MPH as the Thurston County Health Officer effective December 3, 2013. Chair Valenzuela seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

5) Board of Health Members' Reports – Board of Health Members reported on recent public health and social services involvements.

♦ Vice Chair Wolfe reported on:

- Regional Health Improvement Council (RHIC) – gave a brief overview of the Council; they have been meeting for approximately a year and a half; several projects going on; progress is being made; Council meets every two weeks.

◆ **Chair Valenzuela reported on:**

- Thurston Chamber of Commerce meeting – Herself, Don Sloma and Michael Cade spoke about Thurston Thrives on July 10, 2013
- Thurston Thrives Community Design Action Team – she is now participating as a member of the Action Team
- HOME Consortium meeting – represents the County; gave a brief overview of the Consortium
- Senior Games – Herself and Vice-Chair Wolfe opened the 2013 Senior Games and participated in the bowling event
- Tenino Oregon Trail Days
- Scatter Creek Aquifer Groundwater Quality Committee Meeting in Rochester – task force update; attended with Vice-Chair Wolfe
- Noted – earlier that day the Board of County Commissioners approved funding to a group of community providers to connect people with housing

6) Director's Report - Don Sloma reported on:

◆ **Shellfish Harvesting**

- Currently Budd Inlet is closed due to Diuretic Shellfish Poisoning.
- Beaches can also be closed because of Red Tide and bacterial pollution.
- Cooking and cleaning does not remove or deactivate toxins, so it's important to make sure you're harvesting from a safe location.

◆ **Algae Blooms**

- Algae blooms form on many Thurston County lakes during the summer and fall.
- No lakes currently closed.
- Algae can produce toxin that can make people, pets and other animals ill.
- Environmental Health Staff monitors several lakes for algae blooms.

◆ **Scatter Creek Septic System Management Project:**

- Community workshops are happening regarding the project and work being done to evaluate the risks septic systems pose to the aquifer.
- The first of three community workshops was held - workshops will inform the public about the project and recommendations being developed by the Citizen Advisory committee.
- Project activities include groundwater monitoring, groundwater modeling, and meeting regularly with a Citizen Advisory Committee to determine the best course of action to protect drinking water now and in the future.

◆ **E.coli (Shiga Toxin):**

- 11 Shiga toxin-producing E.coli cases were investigated.
- Investigation has been closed.
- A common food source has not been identified. Staff are investigating possible environmental factors.

◆ **Thurston Thrives:**

- The second action team, Economy, was just presented

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- The third Action Team, Community Design, will be presented at the September 10th Board of Health/Thurston Thrives Advisory Council Meeting.
- The next Action Team, Housing, will not be heard until December, 2013. This Housing Action Team's work is separate from the Public Health and Social Services Department Housing Program.
- There will be no Thurston Thrives Advisory Council meetings held during October and November.
- Economy Action Team presentation can be viewed and commented on at www.ThurstonThrives-Economy.blogspot.com.
- Behind the scenes of Thurston Thrives there are other active groups meeting around the community such as Child Development and Youth Resilience; Regional Health Improvement Collaborative (RHIC); and a group on education.

◆ Community Gardens:

- The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd will be home to the second garden supported by Community Transformation Grant.

Lon Wyrick noted the Thurston Regional Planning Council has released and posted the draft Thurston Regional Sustainability Plan which can be viewed at their website (www.trpc.org). Public comments are encouraged and will be forwarded to the Task Force.


Shelly Willis invited everyone to free Family Zumba at the Family Education & Support Services every Wednesday at 6:30 pm.

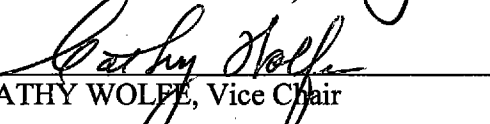
Lisa Smith invited everyone to view a project in Mason County called "A Bridge to Prosperity". She will provide additional information to the Board. Ms. Smith also invited everyone to an Enterprise for Equity event called "Homegrown" being held next Wednesday, August 21st from 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. at Common Ground.

7) **Adjournment**

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

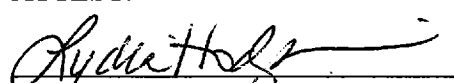
BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington


KAREN VALENZUELA, Chair


CATHY WOLFE, Vice Chair

Excused absence
SANDRA ROMERO, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board of Health

Date: September 10, 2013