



## **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 of January 10, 2012**

#### **1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

**Attendance:** Chair Wolfe, Vice Chair Romero, Commissioner Valenzuela, County Manager Don Krupp, Health Officer Diana Yu, Department Director Sherri McDonald, Environmental Health Division Director Art Starry and Clerk of the Board of Health Lydia Hodgkinson.

Chair Wolfe called the meeting to order.

##### **a) Election of Board of Health Chair and Vice Chair for 2012:**

Commissioner Wolfe moved to elect Commissioner Romero to Chair of the Board of Health for 2012. Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion. The motion carried. Commissioner Wolfe noted she looks forward to working with Chair Romero in 2012 and hopes to merge her own Regional Health Improvement Collaborative priorities and Commissioner Romero's Prevention priorities.

Commissioner Romero moved to elect Commissioner Valenzuela to Vice Chair of the Board of Health for 2012. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

##### **b) Approval of Board of Health Agenda –** Chair Romero moved to approve the agenda of January 10, 2012. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

##### **b) Approval of minutes –** Chair Romero moved to approve the Board of Health meeting minutes of December 6, 2011. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### **2) UPDATE ON CITIZEN ISSUES - none**

#### **3) OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD - none**

#### **4) CONSENT ITEMS**

- a)** Approval of Mason County Contract for 2012 Health Officer services - Move to approve the Mason County Contract for Health Officer Services for the time period of January 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 for a maximum total compensation of \$51,859.

**Vice Chair Valenzuela moved to approve consent agenda item “a”. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

## **5) THURSTON COUNTY SURFACE WATER QUALITY PROGRAM UPDATE**

Environmental Health Division Director, Art Starry introduced Sue Davis, Supervisor for the Resource Protection Program for over 20 years. Ms. Davis described activities the Surface Water Quality Section conducts to protect public health and help preserve the beneficial uses of surface water in Thurston County. The activities fall into three major categories: 1) Responding to problems and emerging issues; 2) Program Planning and Implementation and 3) Surface water monitoring which was the focus of Ms. Davis' presentation. In 2011, Environmental Health staff monitored 39 streams and rivers and 10 lakes. Monitoring took place in all eight major watersheds, including public access and recreation areas and a drinking water lake. Ms. Davis reviewed stream and lake, blue green algae, marine, and Paralytic Shellfish Poison (Red Tide) monitoring activities completed by the Environmental Health Division. She also provided history, specific information and answered the Board's questions about milfoil, blue green algae and Red Tide (Paralytic Shellfish Poison) in Thurston County. Ms. Davis stressed the dangers of eating shellfish harvested during a red tide, noting the toxins present in the shellfish cannot be "cooked out". For information regarding beach closures call the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) Biotoxin Hotline at 1-800-562-5632 or visit the Marine Biotoxin Website at [www.doh.wa.gov/shellfishsafety.htm](http://www.doh.wa.gov/shellfishsafety.htm). Chair Romero questioned if funding will continue for the Beach Environmental Assessment, Communication and Health (BEACH) Program. Ms. Davis stated funding will continue through 2012. She also addressed Vice Chair Valenzuela's questions regarding the drinking water source for Summit Lake residents providing an explanation of where the water comes from and noting the county is not liable if the water source is no longer available.

Chair Romero questioned if the private laboratories that test the surface water samples also have the capacity to test for drugs. Ms. Davis did not know, but offered to research the information. Chair Romero will provide Ms. Davis with more specific information regarding her question.

## **6) COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION GRANT UPDATE**

Sherri McDonald presented a background and an update for the Community Transformation Grant (CTG). The Grant is designed to support state and community projects proven to reduce chronic diseases in three priority areas: tobacco-free living; active living and healthy eating; and clinical preventive services — primarily those that help prevent or control high blood pressure and high cholesterol and screen for tobacco use and cancer. Thurston County is part of the Washington State Community Transformation project, and is part of the regional "Hub" with Grays Harbor as the lead. Ms. McDonald submitted a list of Thurston County's proposed intervention activities that will be supported by the CTG in Thurston County and our "Hub". Ms. McDonald described the proposed activities, the activity category that would be met for the grant, the objective with proposed time frame, the measures needed to complete the activity and the key Partners that would need to be involved. The activities include a Thurston County Tobacco and Smoke Free Campus Policy, Three community gardens in areas where gardens are not available and implement two Safe Routes to Schools. Chair Romero suggested the Tanglewilde community as a garden location noting there is water available that

is not useable as drinking water. Ms. McDonald stated she will make sure this suggestion is included in discussion. She stated the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) is now reviewing the developed Action Plan. Commissioner Wolfe questioned if the “Food Summit” could be included in the grant work. Ms. McDonald stated due to the amount of funding received by Thurston County and the constraints placed on the grant by DOH, and in turn the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), she did not believe the Food Summit could be included but she would look into the possibility. Ms. McDonald noted a Board Briefing has been scheduled for later in the week.

Discussion ensued regarding the Farm to Market project for which the 2011 participating store owner does not want to participate in 2012. In 2011 the store owner allowed a local farmer to sell produce in the store and parking lot. The Farm to Market Project, in coordination with the Washington State Department of Health, involves increasing access to healthier foods at local convenience stores in Thurston County low-income neighborhoods.

## **7) REGIONAL HEALTH IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE**

Sherri McDonald gave a background and update on the Regional Health Improvement Collaborative. She explained the Collaborative consists of the five Counties - Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific, and Thurston, including representatives from government, hospitals, medical and behavioral health providers have been working to plan, coordinate and implement strategies that provide appropriate, cost-effective and outcome based health care. These Counties have a long history of collaborative efforts to meet similar challenges. The five counties are closely associated in the health care market and are currently sharing expertise and population responsibilities. The ultimate goal is to effectively improve the health status in our region. Such collaboration is aimed at developing a comprehensive and workable plan, coordinating and integrating services and approaches, ensuring an appropriate role for the local safety net, preventing unnecessary use of emergency rooms or jails and achieve better personal and community health status through a functional healthcare delivery system. Ms. McDonald shared a draft structure for the Regional Health Improvement Collaborative. She also explained the process for selecting a “project” that the Collaborative will select and implement. The draft Paper included descriptions of a vision, membership, background, purpose and the proposed organization of the work. She stressed the paper was very draft and much of the wording may be revised. Ms. McDonald stated a survey of jail staff, qualified health centers and mental health providers has been completed but she needs to compile the survey results. She will share this information upon completion. Commissioner Wolfe noted a full briefing on this topic is scheduled on January 25<sup>th</sup>. She also noted that technically there is not an actual “collaborative” yet, it is a planning group at this point. The next meeting of the Group is January 27<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Wolfe explained the Group Members would like to hold a five county joint Board of Health meeting in Satsop. She requested that Sherri McDonald and/or Vicki Kirkpatrick from Mason County present the Regional Health Improvement Collaborative topic at the meeting. Chair Romero suggested that other topics could also be discussed. Ms. McDonald will coordinate a joint meeting with the goal of holding it prior to the end of February.

**8) DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Sherri McDonald shared 2010 Revenue Data for all Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) of Washington State. The information was reviewed and discussed. Ms. McDonald will research the following information and provide to the Board: 1) is revenue for Environmental Health programs included in data where public health agencies do not directly control Environmental Health; 2) what is the source of King County's funds; and 3) what is the source of Clark County's \$20 fee.

**9) HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT**

Dr. Diana Yu informed the Board about the following:


- A substance abuse nationwide survey will be conducted soon that will affect approximately 900 Washington State Residents.
- Cases of Influenza A, which is contained in the current vaccine, have been reported in Thurston County. A new virus H3N2 has been detected which is not included in the current vaccine, but does not appear to make those infected very sick.
- TB cases still on an increase in Thurston County.
- She will be out of the country beginning next week. Dr. Rachel Woods will cover Health Officer duties for her.


**10) ADJOURNMENT**

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

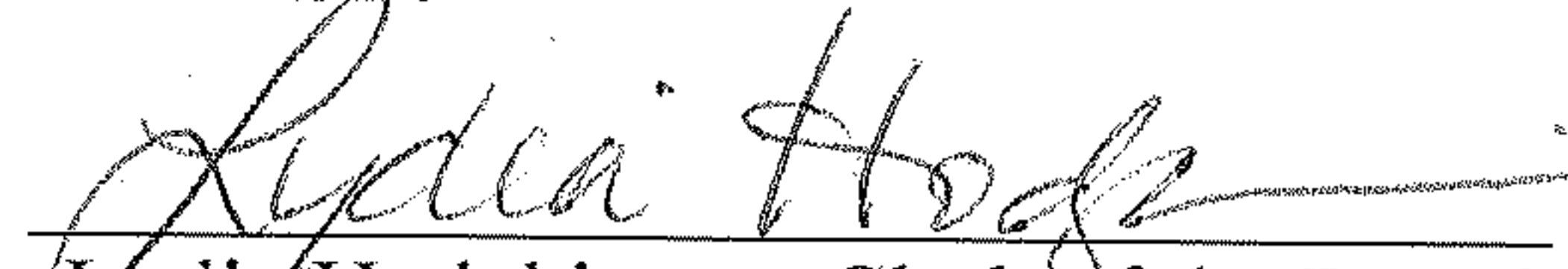
**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Thurston County, Washington**

  
SANDRA ROMERO, Chair

  
KAREN VALENZUELA, Vice Chair

  
CATHY WOLFE, Commissioner

**ATTEST:**

  
Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: February 14, 2012