



# BOARD OF HEALTH

## Minutes of March 22, 2011

### Special Meeting

#### 1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

**Attendance:** Chair Wolfe, Vice-Chair Romero, Commissioner Valenzuela, County Manager Don Krupp, Environmental Health Division Director Art Starry, Clerk of the Board of Health La Bonita Bowmar

Chair Wolfe called the meeting to order.

#### 2) PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE TESTIMONY REGARDING AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE IV OF THE THURSTON COUNTY SANITARY CODE RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH

Chair Cathy Wolfe opened the public hearing explaining the purpose of the hearing is to receive testimony on a proposed ordinance to amend the sewer connection requirements that appear in Section 6 and Appendix A in Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code – our county septic system regulations. She stated Art Starry, Director of the Environmental Health Division will give a brief presentation regarding the proposed changes. After his presentation, testimony will be taken on the proposed changes to Article IV. Chair Wolfe explained another amendment corrects a typographical error to help assure that the correct types of septic systems are installed within sensitive aquifer recharge areas.

Art Starry Environmental Health Division (EH) Director gave a presentation of the proposed changes to Article IV Sections 6 and 11 of the Thurston County Sanitary Code. Mr. Starry explained the Code includes provisions for the Thurston County Health Officer and the Thurston County Board of Health to require septic systems to connect to sanitary sewer. The proposed amendments give the Health Officer authority to require properties to connect to a sewer system if the property line is within 200 feet of a sewer line and (1) the septic system is failing; or (2) the septic system has a reduced horizontal separation allowed by Table VI and connection is necessary to protect public health; or (3) connection is necessary to protect surface water, ground water or otherwise protect public health based on aquifer vulnerability, water quality correction and water contamination prevention information. The amendments also allow the Board of Health to require sewer connections within the Henderson Watershed Protection Area when certain public health criteria are met, regardless of the size of the lot where the on-site sewage system is located. Mr. Starry provided additional details and background on the proposed amendments.

Mr. Starry stated he received one citizen question regarding how the revisions will affect her property in the County.

Chair Wolfe asked if anyone wanted to provide testimony. No testimony was given.



**Vice-Chair Romero moved to adopt Ordinance No. H-2-2011 amending Section 6, 11 and Appendix A of Article IV of the Sanitary Code. Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion. Commissioner Valenzuela thanked Mr. Starry for the additional information. Motion carried.**

**3) APPROVE IMP PRESCRIPTION FOR CONTROL OF INVASIVE PLANTS AT GLACIAL HERITAGE**

Mr. Starry explained this item is continued from the March 8, 2011 Thurston County Board of Health meeting. At that meeting the Board was requested to approve an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) prescription for control of invasive plants at Glacial Heritage Park. The Board requested an evaluation of the risk posed to nearby wells and the aquifer by the proposed pesticide application. In response, Patrick Soderberg a EH Hazardous Waste Specialist and Integrated Pest Management Program Coordinator and Nadine Romero, the Hydrogeologist from the Resource Stewardship Department reviewed the prescription more carefully along with the characteristics of the property. Mr. Soderberg and Ms. Romero will provide the results from their evaluations.

Mr. Soderberg described the proposed prescription and submitted a preliminary report and data results of the work completed to conduct the analysis. Ms. Romero described the analysis which included conducting a preliminary ground water analyses on four proposed herbicide spray applications to be given over the course of two years at the Glacial Heritage Preserve on Mima Prairie. The preliminary analyses included the construction of a draft contaminant fate and transport numerical model (CFT) to integrate observed and theoretical ground water conditions with the spraying of herbicide fluazifop-P-butyl (FZP). The CFT model provided an opportunity to examine the impacts of a nearby pumping well, contaminant plume shapes, dilution effects and the overall distribution of fluazifop in the ground water environment over time. Other work performed for the analysis included the construction of a draft geologic cross-section using well logs file with the Washington State Department of Ecology for nearby wells; a preliminary geologic reconnaissance of the site including a site visit, exploratory test pits and map research; and preparation of estimates of ground water contamination associated with the use of the pesticide. Ms. Romero provided the findings including details of model results, well pumpage and hand calculations. Her recommendation based on this preliminary analysis: It appears there will be very little effects to a nearby drinking water well from four spray applications of FZP over the course of two years. Ms. Romero indicated the CFT models the worse-case scenario for pesticide use and that the impacts of the actual pesticide applications should be much less. Due to the persistence of the chemical she does not recommend applications for more than the proposed two years unless further detailed ground water modeling is performed. The Board thanked Ms. Romero for the review and explanation. At Commissioner Valenzuela's request Ms. Romero provided additional clarification regarding the "persistence" of the chemical by referencing the submitted data. She also noted a grant was recently received to construct numerical models for Scatter Creek Aquifer with the support of Environmental Health. The draft model constructed for this review can now be used to review future proposed prescriptions. Ms. Romero provided Vice-Chair Romero additional explanation of the chemical dilution in the ground water system. Mr. Starry noted the intent behind the prescription is that it does not get through the soil into the aquifer thus preventing the worse-case scenario used in the model.



Vice-Chair Romero moved to approve the IPM prescription for Control of Invasive Plants at Glacial Heritage subject to the following conditions:

1. Workers will be required to wear protective gear to prevent dermal exposure.
2. The site must be closed to public and volunteers for 24-hours after treatment.
3. Fusilade DX may be used as described in the prescription for up to two applications over the next two years. If the Nature Conservancy wishes to extend this prescription beyond two years, it must first test the soil within the application area for the parent compound and its metabolite to determine whether there is downward movement in the soil that could eventually reach groundwater. If sampling indicates that either compound is leaching into the soil, use of the active ingredient fluazifop-P-butyl will be discontinued. The soil sampling plan must be pre-approved by the County.

Commissioner Valenzuela requested the first sentence in number three of the motion be corrected to read "Fusilade DX may be used as described in the prescription for up to two applications *per year* over the next two years." Chair Wolfe and Vice-Chair Romero agreed to amend the motion.

**Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion as amended. The motion carried.**


Vice-Chair Romero asked for verification that water production for the average single family well serving a family of four is 500 gallons per day. Mr. Starry verified this information.

The Board thanked Mr. Soderberg and Ms. Romero for the hard work and presentation.

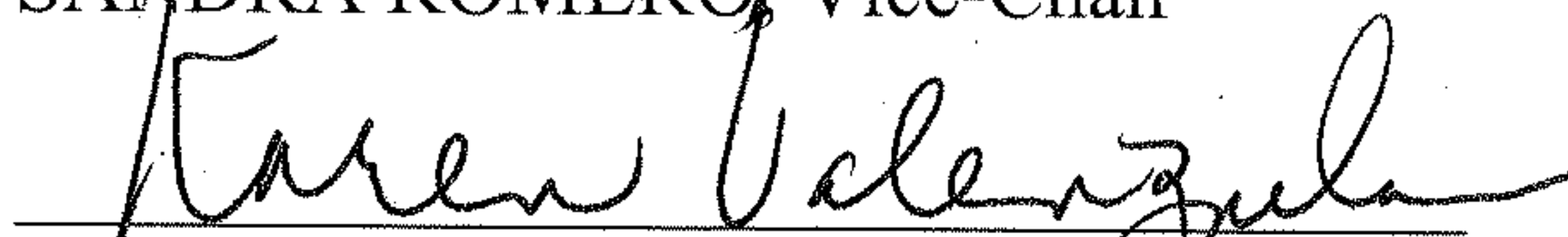
#### 4) ADJOURNMENT

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

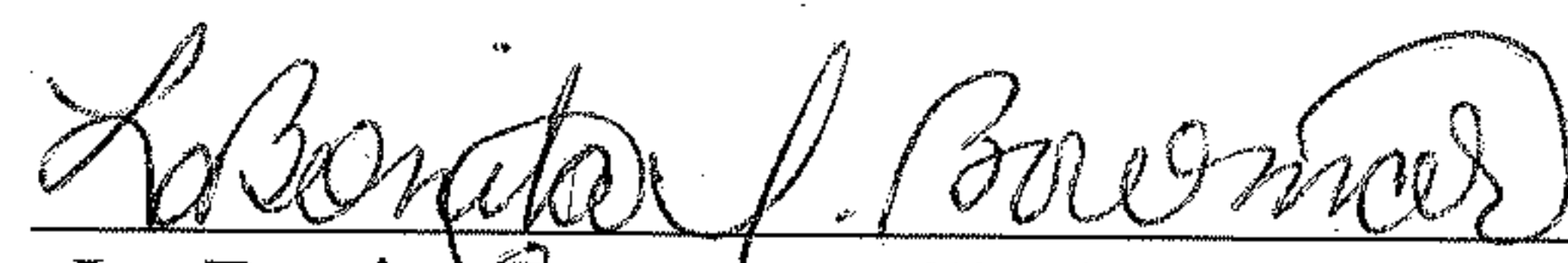
**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
Thurston County, Washington

  
CATHY WOLFE, Chair

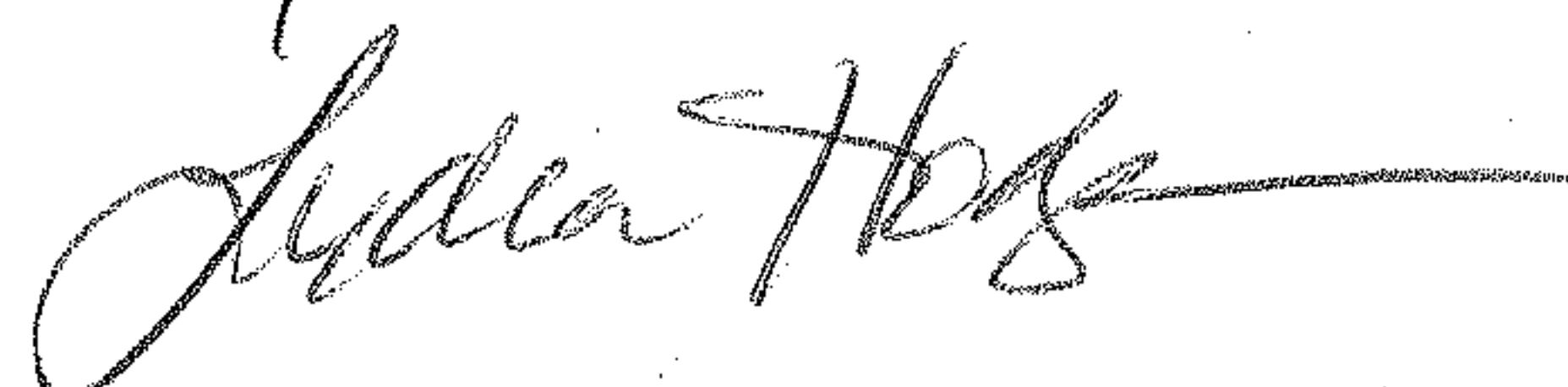
  
SANDRA ROMERO, Vice-Chair

  
KAREN VALENZUELA, Commissioner

**ATTEST:**

  
La Bonita Bowmar, Clerk of the Board

Date: March 22, 2011

  
May 10, 2011