



## 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 August 9, 2011

#### 1) CALL MEETING TO ORDER

**Attendance:** Chair Wolfe, Vice Chair Romero, Commissioner Valenzuela, County Manager Don Krupp, Department Director Sherri McDonald and Clerk of the Board of Health Lydia Hodgkinson.

**Excused Absence:** Health Officer Diana Yu

Chair Wolfe called the meeting to order.

- a) **Approval of Board of Health Agenda** – Vice-Chair Romero moved to approve the agenda of August 9, 2011. Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion. The motion carried.

#### 2) PRESENTATION

**Item Description:** Providence St. Peter Hospital AHA NOVA Award Recognition and CHOICE Regional Health Network Regence Foundation Grant Award Recognition

**Presenter:** Sherri McDonald

Sherri McDonald gave a background of the Providence St. Peter Hospital American Hospital Association (AHA) NOVA Award and the CHOICE Regional Health Network Regence Foundation Grant Award. Ms. McDonald recognized the employees and leadership of the Providence St. Peter Hospital, Emergency Department Consistent Care Program, for the AHA NOVA Award. The award recognizes hospital and health systems for their collaborative efforts toward improving community health. Ms. McDonald also recognized CHOICE Regional Health Network for the award of a Regence Foundation Grant to improve non-emergency care. Ms. McDonald explained that both programs work towards improving patient care, improve the quality of life and reduce costs. Jackie Brown from Providence St Peter Hospital gave an overview of the Emergency Department Consistent Care Program and described the collaborative efforts between Providence and CHOICE Regional Health Network. Kristen West from CHOICE explained how the grant funds are to be used and described the project. Chair Wolfe expressed her gratitude to Ms. Brown and Ms. West for their collaborative efforts throughout the community.

**Item Description:** “World Breastfeeding Week” August 1 – 7, 2011; Supporting Breastfeeding in Healthcare, Childcare, and Work sites

**Presenter:** Sherri McDonald

Ms. McDonald recognized August 1 through 7, 2011 as “World Breastfeeding Week”. Ms. McDonald introduced Kateri Wimsett with the Public Health & Social Services Department’s Chronic Disease Prevention Program and a representative of the South Sound Breastfeeding Network (SSBN). SSBN is a nonprofit organization focused on encouraging and promoting breastfeeding by working with employers, educating health professionals and business owners to accommodate breastfeeding

mothers. Ms. Wimsett explained the many benefits of breastfeeding; one being for every month of breastfeeding potential obesity is decreased. Commissioner Valenzuela asked what other ways does Thurston County promote breastfeeding. Ms. Wimsett stated the PHSS Nurse Family Partnership County program also promotes breastfeeding. Ms. McDonald commented that Diana Townsend the Director of Thurston County Human Resources is very helpful regarding accommodations for County employees who breastfeed.

3) **UPDATE ON CITIZEN ISSUES** - none

4) **OPPORTUNITY FOR THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE BOARD** - none

5) **SET A PUBLIC HEARING TO RECEIVE TESTIMONY ON A RESOLUTION REQUIRING CONNECTION TO PUBLIC SEWER AND A RESOLUTION ADOPTING A MORATORIUM ON PERMITS FOR ON-SITE SEWAGE SYSTEMS FOR PROPERTIES IN THE WOODLAND CREEK ESTATES AND COVINGTON NEIGHBORHOODS**

Art Starry gave an overview of the request to set a public hearing on September 27, 2011 to receive testimony on a Resolution declaring that the connection of all residences, buildings and other properties discharging sewage within the Woodland Creek Estates and Covington subdivisions to the public sewer system is necessary to protect surface water, ground water, and to protect public health; ordering their connection to public sewer; ordering all on-site sewage systems in the Woodland Creek Estates and Covington subdivisions to be abandoned upon availability of public sewer connections in accordance with a schedule established by the Health Officer; and exempting the affected on-site sewage systems from certain requirements of Article IV, section 16.8. At the September 27<sup>th</sup> public hearing the Board will also receive testimony on an additional Resolution adopting a moratorium on accepting permit applications, and the issuance of permits, for the repair, expansion or installation of on-site sewage systems on properties in the Covington and Woodland Creek Estates subdivisions ordered to connect to public sewer, except as authorized by the health officer to address a significant threat to public health or safety. Mr. Starry noted a Woodland Creek Community meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup>. Meeting notices will go out to community residents informing them of the meeting at which questions can be asked. At Vice Chair Romero's request, Mr. Starry provided additional clarification regarding the two separate resolutions. Commissioner Valenzuela asked the status of Public Works department's staff obtaining property access waivers from residents. Mr. Starry stated he believed they were getting close to obtaining access to all properties. He also explained that upon approval of both Resolutions by the Board easements will be obtained. **Vice Chair Romero moved to set a Public Hearing on September 27, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. at the Thurston County Courthouse to receive testimony on a resolution requiring connection to public sewer and a resolution adopting a moratorium on permits for on-site sewage systems in the Woodland Creek Estates and Covington neighborhoods. Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

## **6) THURSTON COALITION FOR WOMEN'S HEALTH STRATEGIES FOR ACTION PLAN 2011-2016**

Chris Hawkins, Supervisor of the Public Health & Social Services Department (PHSS) Healthy Environment and Action Team, provided a copy of and gave an overview of the Thurston Coalition for Women's Health Strategies for Action Plan 2011-2016. The Action Plan is a fulfillment of Phase I of the Coalition for a Healthier Community Cooperative Agreement with the US Department of Health and Human Services Office on Women's Health (OWH). The Coalition identified prevention of violence against women as the highest priority for women's health issues in our community. Mr. Hawkins explained the coalition formed in August 2010 and provided membership information. He introduced Deborah Allen the PHSS Personal Health Division Director and the Coalition Principal Investigator; Kateri Wimsett the PHSS Women's Health Coordinator and Coalition Co-Chair; and Mary Ann O'Garro the PHSS Epidemiologist and Coalition Evaluator. He also acknowledged other PHSS staff involved in the Coalition: Joe Avalos, Jane Mountjoy-Venning and Lesley Wigen. Mr. Hawkins stated the Department has applied for an additional OWH grant of \$300,000 per year for a period of 5 years to implement the Strategies for Action 2011-2016 Plan which would potentially provide funding for a Phase 2 proposal. The proposed project is a primary prevention intervention for violence against women called the "Girls Circle" Program. If awarded the grant funding, implementation of the Girls Circle program would be a collaborative effort with Coalition Members, TOGETHER! and the YWCA of Olympia. Mr. Hawkins explained the program provides guidance to girls between 9 and 18 years of age to reduce stress and anxiety, build healthy relationships with adults and improve self-esteem and self-efficacy. Vice Chair Romero commended staff and Coalition for their important work and for applying for additional funding. Commissioner Valenzuela asked what the effect the Girls Circle program would have on unintended pregnancies. Deborah Allen stated the program teaches adolescent girls to make better decisions and be more in charge of their lives therefore providing earlier prevention of unintended pregnancies. Ms. Allen also noted that a high percentage of clients of the Nurse Family Partnership program are victims of violence and become pregnant. Chair Wolfe asked where the Community Health Assessment data in the presentation was obtained from. Ms. McDonald stated the source was the Healthy Youth Survey 2010.

## **7) HEALTHY YOUTH SURVEY**

Mary Ann O'Garro the PHSS Epidemiologist provided a presentation and described the Healthy Youth Survey. She explained the Healthy Youth Survey is a voluntary paper survey administered by school districts statewide to middle and high school students (6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> grade) every two years. Students are given one class period to complete the survey. The survey produces county and statewide data that describes the health of adolescents on a wide range of topics. PHSS and numerous local agencies use data from this survey to monitor progress of programs, identify emerging needs of youth, and develop plans to address priority issues facing adolescents. The data from the 2010 survey was released this year. Ms. O'Garro presented key findings to describe local health patterns and areas of concern for Thurston County adolescents. She described examples of requests received by PHSS for survey results such as United Way requesting family support data, Community Youth Services requesting homeless/on own data, Environmental Health requesting data on asthma and the

Prosecuting Attorney's office requesting data on drinking and driving. Chair Wolfe asked if the Board is allowed to suggest questions to be added to the survey. Ms. O'Garro stated she serves on the survey board and can submit any questions the Board would like to submit. Commissioner Valenzuela questioned, and Ms. O'Garro provided an explanation, of the differences between the Healthy Youth Survey and the Behavioral Health Risk Factors Survey. Additional information regarding the Healthy Youth Survey can be found at the County website at [www.co.thurston.wa.us/health](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health) and the State website at [www.askhys.net](http://www.askhys.net).

**8) DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Sherri McDonald stated the Thurston Mason Regional Support Network (TMRSN) has completed their Annual Report summarizing revenue and expenditures, programs and services, populations served, and various other statistics and activities showing data and information from the RSN 2010 calendar year. The Report will be available by August 1, 2011 and can be accessed at <http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health/ssrsn>. Ms. McDonald will provide the Board with a copy of the Report.

**9) HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT**

Sherri McDonald informed the Board that Dr. Diana Yu, the Health Officer, is attending the final meeting for the Advanced Practice Grant in San Francisco and will return on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

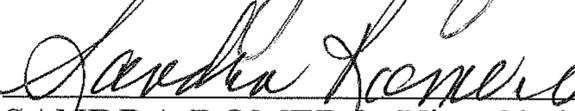
Vice Chair Romero asked if a Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) display located in Building One of the Courthouse has helped MRC recruitment. Ms. McDonald stated the display has helped recruitment and she will research the information and supply recruitment numbers to the Board. Chair Wolfe stated that everyone is welcome to volunteer not just those with medical backgrounds. Administrative and clerical volunteers are always needed. Additional MRC volunteer information can be obtained from the Public Health & Social Services Department or at [www.co.thurston.wa.us/health](http://www.co.thurston.wa.us/health).

**10) ADJOURNMENT**

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

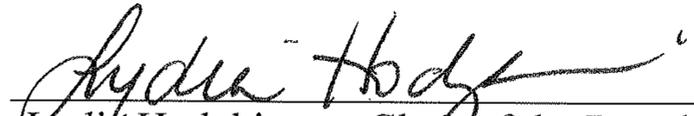
**BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Thurston County, Washington**

  
CATHY WOLFE, Chair

  
SANDRA ROMERO, Vice Chair

  
KAREN VALENZUELA, Commissioner

ATTEST:

  
Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: November 8, 2011