



## 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 September 13, 2011

#### 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. Chair Wolfe requested discussion be shared from the Regional Health Collaborative meeting held earlier in the day under the Director's Report.

- a) **Approval of Board of Health Agenda** – Chair Wolfe moved to approve the agenda of September 13, 2011. Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- b) **Approval of minutes** – Vice Chair Romero moved to approve the Board of Health meeting minutes of July 12, 2011. Commissioner Valenzuela seconded the motion. The motion carried.
- c) **Correspondence** – The Office of the Governor has re-appointed Dr. Diana T. Yu to the State Board of Health for another three year term. Chair Wolfe congratulated Dr. Yu on her re-appointment.

#### 2) PRESENTATION

**Item Description:** Thurston County Housing Authority National Award for Excellence in Design for Energy Efficient Project Recognition

**Presenter:** Sherri McDonald

Sherri McDonald recognized the Housing Authority of Thurston County's (HATC) for their 2011 National Award of Excellence in Project Design for the Olympia Crest Phase II Project from the National Association of Housing Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). The award was earned in part for the projects energy-efficient and the green-built design. Ms. McDonald introduced Chris Lowell, HATC Executive Director and Bob Ricks, Deputy Director and Housing Development Manager. Ms. Lowell addressed the Board and described the Olympia Crest II project which features two- and three-bedroom units and joins the existing Olympia Crest I, a 140-unit community which also serves low-income residents. This project provides the first green built multi-family community in Thurston County. Families of the new building share recreational facilities with Olympia Crest I, including a community center and access to the Chehalis Western Trail. Olympia Crest II received funding from The Washington State Housing Trust Fund, The City of Olympia, The Thurston County HOME Consortium, and Heritage Bank. Mr. Ricks addressed the Board describing the energy-efficient, water saving features and the green-built design of the housing facilities. Ms. Lowell and Mr. Ricks noted HATC was featured on the CBS Evening News for their use of stimulus funds, in partnership with Community Action Council Weatherization Program, to weatherize properties in Thurston County - Surrey Lane, Olympia Crest and Shadow Wood. The weatherization included full window replacement, ventilation, energy efficient retrofitting and new insulation. Mr. Lowell explained the stimulus funds provided employment opportunities and saved residents to date up to 20% savings on utility bills. The new weatherization keeps the units cooler in summer and warmer in winter and also



provides sound proofing. The Board congratulated HATC on this award and commended them for their wonderful contributions to the community.

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

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

5) **SET A PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE TO AMEND ARTICLE IV OF THE THURSTON COUNTY SANITARY CODE**

Art Starry Environmental Health Division Director requested to set a public hearing on October 13, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. to receive testimony on an ordinance to amend article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code. Mr. Starry stated to implement the on-site sewage system operation and maintenance program recommended by stakeholders for the Nisqually Shellfish Protection District, it is necessary for the Board of Health to adopt an ordinance that establishes the area where special on-site sewage system management requirements are needed and to specify those requirements. A community meeting was held on January 25, 2011 and the Board of Health and Board of County Commissioners have been briefed on the proposed amendments. Mr. Starry described the proposed amendments to Article IV and explained the operation and maintenance program will be funded through rates and charges imposed in a portion of the Nisqually Reach Shellfish Protection District as proposed for adoption in a separate ordinance. This companion ordinance regarding amendments to the Nisqually Reach Shellfish Protection District will also be considered by the Board of County Commissioners at the October 13, 2011 public hearing. **Vice Chair Romero moved to set a public hearing for October 13, 2011 at 6:30 p.m. in the Expo Center at the Thurston County Fairgrounds to receive testimony and consider an ordinance to amend Article IV of the Thurston County Sanitary Code.**

6) **HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES CHAPTER**

Sherri McDonald and Scott Clark the Planning Department Director gave a presentation providing background and process of adding a Health and Human Services Chapter as a Comprehensive Plan Amendment for 2011. A draft of the Health and Human Services Chapter of the Thurston County Comprehensive Plan was provided to the Board. Mr. Clark explained the County Comprehensive Plan is a guiding policy document which addresses many aspects of community such as land use, natural resources, housing, transportation, capital facilities, utilities, economic development, natural environment development, natural environment and historic resources. He then explained the steps for adoption of the new Chapter: review by Planning Commission staff by mid to late November; several work sessions with Planning Commission and Board of County Commissioners (BoCC); holding a public hearing and receiving public comment by Planning Commission and BoCC; Recommendation from Planning Commission to BoCC; and final adoption by BoCC. Ms. McDonald explained the Board of Health priorities which include Access to Health Care; Environmental Public Health; Nutrition, Physical activity and Obesity; and Tobacco and Secondhand Smoke. She also described the Community Health Indicators which include Access to Care; chronic health conditions; groundwater quality; surface water quality; solid and hazardous waste; nutrition and physical activity; and tobacco use and secondhand smoke. Ms. McDonald discussed specifics of the Goals, Objectives and Policies of the chapter which include access to care; environmental public health; nutrition; physical activity



and tobacco. Chair Wolfe requested and Mr. Clark provided an explanation of how the Chapter ties into the Comprehensive Plan. Chair Wolfe stated the addition of the Chapter into the Comprehensive Plan is perfect timing to tie into all of the regional health collaborative efforts going on in the community to make our County healthier. Mr. Clark requested the Board exercise their authority as the Board of Health to encourage and influence local jurisdictions to adopt Health and Human Services Chapters into their own comprehensive plans. The Board is to review the draft Chapter and submit their comments and recommendations to the Planning Commission. Vice Chair Romero requested stronger language be used in portions of the Chapter regarding critical goals that are to be met by the County, she commented on goals that pertain to city jurisdiction versus county and requested an explanation of the label of "final draft" on the document. Ms. McDonald noted the referenced document is a final draft for staff only and is now ready for review and comment by the Planning Commission and the BoCC. Chair Wolfe requested a more thorough Board Briefing be scheduled before the document is presented to the Planning Commission. Mr. Clark agreed to schedule a Briefing. Ms. McDonald acknowledged staff that worked on the Chapter. The Board thanked staff for their hard work and thanked Ms. McDonald and Mr. Clark for their presentation. The Board Members were provided with a copy of Health and Human Services Panel's White Paper Final Draft #5.

## **7) DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Sherri McDonald informed the Board that the Department has submitted a registration to participate in the Let's Move Initiative which was started by First Lady Michelle Obama with the goal to solve the problem of childhood obesity. Participation requires that Thurston County commit to making at least one change in each of the following four pillars: Giving parents and caregivers the tools they need to make healthy choices in early childhood; improve nutrition in schools; increase physical activity opportunities; and make healthy food affordable and accessible. Ms. McDonald described changes that Thurston County has already made over the last year addressing several of these pillars. She will update the Board with additional information once a reply and further guidance is received about the program. Dr. Yu showed a Beyonce You Tube video called "Everybody Use Your Body". She also suggested a "Zumba Exhibition" be created for a future TC Connection episode.

Ms. McDonald informed the Board that on September 1<sup>st</sup> the Public Health & Social Services Department (PHSS) was awarded Phase 2 funding through the Coalition for a Healthier Community project of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office on Women's Health. The final grant amount has not been announced, but the amount of \$300,000 per year for up to 5 years was requested. Thurston County is one of only 10 sites nationally selected for this continued funding to implement the Strategies for Action Plan 2011-2016 that was developed during Phase 1. Chris Hawkins, Supervisor of the Healthy Environment and Action Team, explained the grant will sustain the Thurston Coalition for Women's Health whose mission is to improve the health outcomes for women in our community with a focus of intervening early to prevent abuse and violence against women and girls. Partnering with the YWCA of Olympia and TOGETHER! this grant will fund a project called "Girls Circle" a program that helps girls connect better with adults and improves their self-efficacy. Vice Chair Romero questioned if this program will connect with girls County-wide including South County. Mr. Hawkins stated all areas of the County and local jurisdictions will be included and offered to provide the Board with names of organizations in South County that will be contacted to participate.



Ms. McDonald discussed a Regional Health Collaborative meeting called by CHOICE Regional Health Network held earlier in the day. Attendance included representatives from Providence St. Peter Hospital, Capital Medical Center, Behavioral Health Resources, Provider Organization, Sea Mar Community Health Center and Thurston County's Public Health and Social Services Department. The group met to talk about how we as Thurston County may join with our four surrounding counties, Grays Harbor, Lewis, Pacific and Mason to look at intervention in the medical service delivery as well as the governmental public health side so we can both experience better health outcomes, decrease money spent on health care delivery and stop practices that cause overuse of resources such as the hospital emergency departments for the whole five county area. Ms. McDonald explained that the way the health care delivery system works in our area Thurston County becomes the referral hub for medical care in the whole five county areas. Dr. Yu stated an important role for Thurston County to bring all counties together to work collaboratively to improve the health care delivery. She was impressed with the enthusiasm by those at the meeting when discussing these efforts. Chair Wolfe stated that she also was impressed with the group and how the regional collaboration has caught on.

Commissioner Valenzuela asked if any news has been received regarding the Transformation Grant. Ms. McDonald stated we will not receive any notification on the Grant until the end of September at the earliest.

**8) HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT**

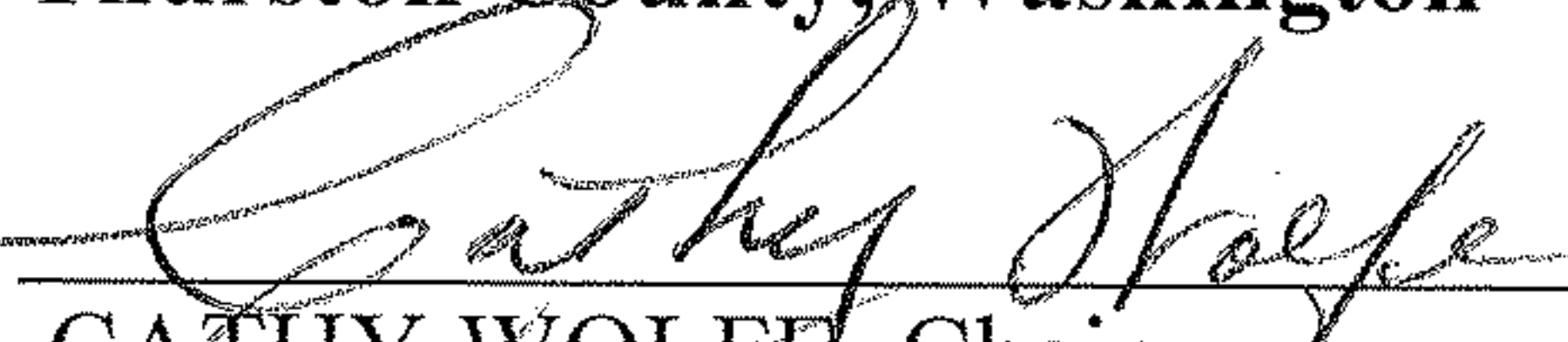
Dr. Diana Yu discussed the Back to School Immunization Free Clinic being held at Group Health in Olympia on Saturday, September 17, 2011 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The Clinic is a collaborative effort with Group Health, the Medical Reserve Corp and the Department. Only immunizations that are required for children to enter public school are being offered to children entering pre-school age thru 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**9) ADJOURNMENT**


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

**BOARD OF HEALTH**

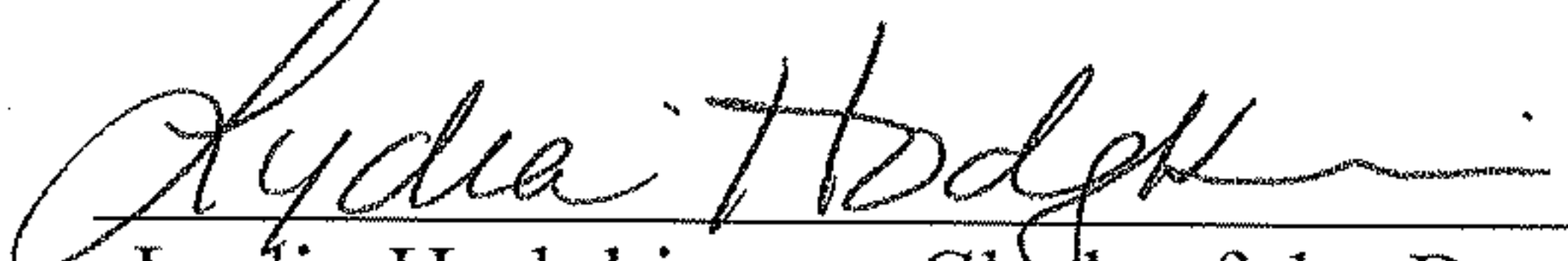
**Thurston County, Washington**

  
CATHY WOLFE, Chair

  
SANDRA ROMERO, Vice Chair

  
KAREN VALENZUELA, Commissioner

**ATTEST:**

  
Lydia Hodgkinson, Clerk of the Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

12/6/11 *SLH*