

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
JUNE 23, 2010, 10:00 A.M

The Board convened in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 6th Floor, Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, Washington. Board members Steve Stuart, Tom Mielke, and Marc Boldt, Chair, present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commissioners led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Savenia Falquist, Aunt of Ronan Wilson, commented about policies and procedures in place regarding e-coli. *Stuart* inquired if she was able to speak with the public health staff this morning and she replied yes. He expressed his condolences to her and the family. *Marni Storey* stated public health would be happy to meet her and also expressed condolences for her loss.

CONSENT AGENDA

There being no public comment, moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Consent Agenda items 1 -6. Board members Stuart, Mielke, and Boldt voted aye. Motion carried.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE 1 - STRENGTHENING PH INFRASTRUCTURE

Staff Contact: John Wiesman, Public Health

Staff Summary / Discussion:

Wiesman presented on the 2011-12 Budget Planning, he stated last month he reported that the department was \$4 million short as it prepares its 2011-12 budget proposal. Since that time, he has been working with the leadership team and the management group on some options. Those options look both at the revenue side of their budget and the expenditure side. He stated he will be working with Bill Barron and the Board within the next two weeks to go over their input. This is all in preparation for them submitting a proposal to the budget office in early August. He stated he briefed the PHAC about the budget situation at their meeting last week. They are extremely concerned about the unsustainability of public health budget and the ongoing nature of cuts to services. He stated it his intention to share with the advisory council a draft budget plan at their meeting in July 20th meeting so they can obtain their input before they submit our proposal to the budget office.

Stuart commented about expectations they might have in regards to the state budget and how it relates to our budget. *Wiesman* agreed and stated they are taking a very conservative approach. *Stuart* asked if they were going out to the other regional jurisdictions such as their city partners since public health is a regional service. *Wiesman* stated he will discuss that in their one on ones. *Mielke* inquired about high priority grants. *Wiesman* responded. Further discussion ensued.

**MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
JUNE 23, 2010, 10:00 A.M**

Boldt stated he has concerns with some of our authority being taken away and stated we need to be more assertive on keeping that. *Wiesman* responded.

Wiesman spoke about the Federal Prevention and Public Health Fund. He stated the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius, has been appointed to identify how those funds will be allocated. He stated last week she made two announcements for the \$500 million allocation for fiscal year 2010. He stated the first, while important, was disappointing to him. The secretary is using one-half of that allocation (\$250 million) to increase the number of primary care providers. While the shortage of primary care providers is an important issue, his disappointment is that these funds are being used to pay for this rather than other funds.

- Create 500 new primary care physicians by 2015 (\$168 M)
- Development of 600 new physician assistants (\$32 M)
- Train an additional 600 nurse practitioners (\$30 M)
- Establish 10 nurse-managed health clinics (\$15 M)
- \$5 million to states of plan and implement strategies to expand primary care workforce by 10-25% over 10 years.

Stuart inquired if they were changing the reimbursement rate. *Wiesman* stated no, not at this time. *Boldt* inquired if there are incentives built in for rural areas or spots that they need them. *Wiesman* stated he wasn't sure of the incentives built in based on location, but would look into it. *Stuart* commented about rural areas being more vibrant in relation to healthcare clinics. *Wiesman* commented that shortage areas being in North County, Central Vancouver, and East County.

He stated the Association of Medical Colleges estimates a shortage of 21,000 primary care physicians in 2015. He stated on the public health system side, the Secretary announced that the \$250 Million allocation will be distributed as follows:

- \$126 million to Community and Clinical Prevention, including integration of primary care services into publicly funded community-based behavioral health settings, obesity prevention and fitness, and tobacco cessation
- \$70 million for PH infrastructure to build capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to infectious outbreaks
- \$31 million for research and tracking—in part to support Community Guide's best practices work
- \$23 million for PH workforce training

Wiesman presented on the State Work Group on Public Health. He stated earlier this year, Secretary Selecky asked her Assistant Secretary for Environmental Public Health, Gregg Grunenfelder and himself to co-chair a working group to give her recommendation on where governmental public health should be heading in Washington State. He stated they will be presenting their work to her in early July. He stated the product called "Reshaping Governmental Public Health in Washington State" attempts to do two things. It outlines what they feel should be public health priorities and the changes they need to make in their system to meet those priorities.

**MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
JUNE 23, 2010, 10:00 A.M**

He stated starting in July, that document will be shared for input from the rest of the governmental public health system, the state Board of Health, tribes and others. He stated he would like to bring that document to the Board in July for their comments. He stated the WSALPHO Board of Directors will be meeting at the end of July to review this work and prepare strategic thinking for the state organization, as the new WSALPHO managing director comes on board. He stated this comes down to the issue they have been attempting to address since I-696 passed. Public health does not have a sustainable funding source. He stated they need to really engage their local boards of health in this discussion. *Mielke* stated his concerns on the transition phase and stated he sees our health department playing a different role than what it plays today. Further discussion ensued about framing and different models in partnering with community partners. *Stuart* stated in addition to seeing the budget information he would also like to see the performance evaluation of SeaMar. *Weisman* discussed further negotiations topics.

STRATEGIC INITIATIVE 5 – SUPPORT GOOD HEALTH AT EVERY AGE

• **UPDATE ON NUTRITION AND FAMILY WELLNESS**

Staff Contact: Marni Storey, Tricia Mortell, Public Health

Staff Summary / Discussion:

Storey introduced staff. *Mortell* presented on nutrition and family wellness. She spoke about community garden programs, the Growing Groceries Mentor Program, and the partners in the Fruit Valley neighborhood. **(See master file for handouts presented)** *Boldt* commented he thinks it is important to work with the Vancouver School board on this program. *Mortell* agreed. *Boldt* talked about getting the harvest to the food bank. *Mortell* stated they are working with Leadership Clark County in making sure all networks are working towards the common goal. *Mielke* inquired on what SNAP is. *Mortell* stated it states for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), it is the new name for food stamps. *Stuart* talked about the training of the program and stated it was nice to see the partnership evolve.

• **UPDATE ON ORAL HEALTH**

Staff Contact: Melody Scheer, Public Health

Staff Summary / Discussion:

Scheer presented on Oral Health and presented a PowerPoint Presentation. **(See master file for printed version of PowerPoint Presentation)** *Storey* commented the New Day Community Dental Clinic was a non-profit organization not a county funded program. *Mielke* commented about providing those services for the veterans and homeless to assist with getting employed. *Mielke* inquired if our state health care provides dental care. *Scheer* stated Medicaid provides limited coverage for adults and good coverage for children. *Stuart* stated he is looking forward to seeing more information available to the community about this clinic and stated one of them would be at the grand opening.

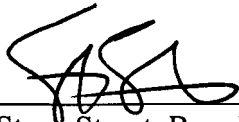
MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
JUNE 23, 2010, 10:00 A.M

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

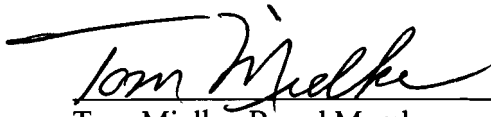
Stuart commented on how they appreciated John Wiesman for not only his County work but also his work on the state level and recognized him for his earned elected position serving as Vice President to the National Association of County and City Health Officials.

Hearing adjourned

BOARD OF HEALTH



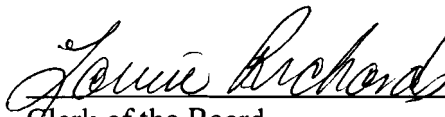
Steve Stuart, Board Member



Tom Mielke, Board Member

Marc Boldt, Board Member

ATTEST:



Clerk of the Board

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Please Note: The Board of Commissioners' minutes are action minutes. Digital recordings can be provided upon request. In addition, the Commissioners' hearings are broadcast live on CVTV, cable channels 21 and 23, and are also videotaped and repeated several times (www.cvtv.org)