

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, September 27, 2012 was called to order by Councilmember Amber Waldref, Chair, at 12:30 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

#### **PRESENT**

Commissioner Mark Richard  
Councilmember Ben Stuckart (departed at 2:50 p.m.)  
Councilmember Jon Snyder (departed at 3:00 p.m.)  
Councilmember Amber Waldref, Chair  
Councilmember Chuck Hafner (departed at 3:00 p.m.)  
Mayor Tom Towey (departed at 3:00 p.m.)  
Board Member Michael Fisk, DC (arrived 12:35 p.m. and departed at 2:50 p.m.)  
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH (departed at 3:00 p.m.)  
Board Member Susan Norwood, EdD, RN (departed at 3:00 p.m.)

#### **ABSENT**

Commissioner Al French  
Commissioner Todd Mielke, Vice Chair  
Mayor Tom Trulove

#### **CITIZEN INPUT**

- Rose Marie Waldrem, Spokane County, WA spoke on the waste incinerator and the fluorine compounds it releases, fluoridation of Portland, Oregon water and presented a handout to the Board on aspartame.

#### **CHAIR REPORT – Councilmember Waldref**

Board Members needing to leave the meeting early should ask for the executive session to be moved up on the agenda.

The Budget and Finance Committee met regarding the proposed fund balance transfer requested that will be presented today on Resolution #12-09. The committee supports the balance transfer. The committee will meet on Monday to review the draft budget, which will be heard at the October 25, 2012 meeting.

The Board of Health Education Committee will address educational efforts in conjunction with the recently revised SRHD Strategic Planning Goals.

Updated emergency contact lists are included in Board Member packets.

#### **HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Joel McCullough, MD, MPH, MS**

##### Pertussis Update

The number of Pertussis cases continued to increase throughout the summer despite schools being out of session. The number is currently decreasing statewide with 203 cases in Spokane County. There were 8 cases at this time last year. There have been 11 cases hospitalized from the disease including 7 infants, 1 child and 3 adults. There are 4100 cases at the state level compared to 710 cases this time last year.

##### Flu Update

The flu season has started circulating at low levels. Vaccines are available locally. There is a new flu strain called H3N2 variant discovered last year. This strain is predominately caught by children that have been exposed to pigs. There have been 300 cases in the U.S. this year mostly in children. There has been

limited human-to-human transmission with no community transmission. The CDC recommends increased surveillance in childcare settings to determine mutation and need for vaccine production.

#### Coal Train Transportation Update

The scoping process for coal trains has been announced. The process started September 24<sup>th</sup> and will end January 21, 2013. Lead agencies will determine what to analyze in the impact statement. There will be 7 meetings with one held at the Spokane County Fair Grounds on December 7<sup>th</sup> from 4-7 p.m. Public comment will be taken at those meetings. Comments will also be accepted by email, website and letter. Comment opportunities will continue until 2014.

#### Washington State Auditor's Report

The Washington State Auditors held an exit conference at the agency on August 20<sup>th</sup>. The report was posted in early September with one finding against the agency regarding inadequate internal controls that assure compliance with federal suspension and debarment requirements. There was no penalty associated with the finding and corrective action has been made.

#### Drug Take-Back Update

Two drug take-back events will take place on September 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the previous site on East Sprague and at the North Spokane Library location on 44 E. Hawthorne Road. The event is sponsored by the Spokane Valley Police Department and the Spokane County Sheriff's office. At the last event, 10 boxes and over 400 lbs. of medications were dropped off.

#### Health Inequity Update

There have been over 50 Health Equity presentations to community partners with significant media attention. The health district's strategic plan includes determining how public health will play a role in addressing social determinants in the community. Five community dialogue meetings are scheduled to understand the community's knowledge and thoughts regarding health inequity.

Councilmember Waldref mentioned the articles in the Spokesman and the recent Council Connection she hosted where Kim Papich, Public Information Officer, and Rowena Pineda, Neighborhoods Matter Program Manager, both participated and discussed the efforts in Spokane's East Central neighborhood.

#### National Preparedness Month

Dr. McCullough introduced Susan Sjoberg, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Program Manager, who spoke about National Preparedness Month. The theme for 2012 is "communication." Each week in September the public is encouraged to prepare for emergencies. An interview was given recently to KXLY, videos promoting emergency preparedness were shown in the health district's public area, and informational packets will be distributed to the Board Members.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Consists of items considered routine which are approved as a group. Any member of the Board may request to remove an item from the Consent Agenda to be considered separately.

Meeting Minutes: July 26, 2012

2012 Vouchers paid: July 1-31, 2012 and August 1-31, 2012

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Voucher Numbers:	#221432 - #B&OJUN12		\$ 581,527.99
Payroll Warrants:	#765750 - #765773	Advice Numbers: #DD17197 - #DD17391	607,285.86
Payroll Warrants:	#766943 - #766968	Advice Numbers: #DD17392 - #DD17589	594,288.78
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,783,102.64</b>

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Voucher Numbers:	#221767 - #B&OJULY12		\$ 478,119.43
Payroll Warrants:	#768990 - #769016	Advice Numbers: #DD17590 - #DD17782	617,054.72
Payroll Warrants:	#770626 - #771169	Advice Numbers: #DD17783 - #DD17978	590,342.09
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,685,516.24</b>

***Motion: To approve the consent agenda including meeting minutes and vouchers as presented.***  
***Motion/Second: Stuckart/Hafner***  
***Approved: Unanimously***

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Resolution #12-09 Authorizing a Transfer of Committed Fund Balance to Unassigned Fund Balance – Mike Riley/Torney Smith**

Torney Smith, Administrator, presented the resolution requesting a fund balance transfer to pay for building work resulting from the removal of steam heat by Spokane County. With help from Spokane County, grants and rebates were secured on a \$1.3 million dollar project that puts 3 independent boilers into the building for heat, replaces lighting in the building basement, and heat box distributors in the bathrooms. The agency's commitment towards the project is \$250,000. The return savings on the purchase will take 7-10 years.

Councilmember Stuckart stated the Executive Committee of the Board of Health recommended approval as well as the BOH Budget and Finance Committee.

Commissioner Richard made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Councilmember Hafner seconded the motion.

***Motion: To approve Resolution #12-09 Authorizing a Transfer of Committed Fund Balance to Unassigned Fund Balance***  
***Motion/Second: Richard/Hafner***  
***Approved: Unanimously***

## **REPORTS**

### **Tobacco Update and Future – Cindy Green and Joy Gilroy, WSALPHO**

Cindy Green, Healthy Communities Program Manager, referenced a Community Transformation Grant document in the Board packets and introduced those who would be presenting the update on tobacco.

Krista Panerio, Health Program Specialist in the Healthy Communities Program, spoke on the achievements for the Tobacco and Control program for Spokane County. Tobacco ordinances have been completed in Spokane, Spokane County, City of Spokane Valley, Cheney, Liberty Lake, Airway Heights and Millwood. Deer Park, Latah, Fairfield, Rockford, Spangle and Medical Lake are expected to adopt ordinances by December of 2012. Washington State University-River Point Campus, Spokane County campus, and Spokane Transit have gone tobacco free. Retail rates for selling cigarettes to minors have reached an all-time high in Washington State with retailers selling to minors at a rate of 15.6%.

Commissioner Richard requested information on e-cigarette hazards be sent to Board members as it becomes available. Ms. Panerio commented that testing by Washington State University reported exhale vapor from e-cigarettes are positive with carcinogens and nicotine. The report is not detailed enough to make an informed choice about hazards to the public from e-cigarettes. Stronger research on the subject from the FDA is needed to be able to proceed.

Joy Gilroy, WSALPHO Project Manager, reported on the Washington Communities for Tobacco Prevention project. The goal of the project is to educate the 35 health departments in the state on tobacco preemption. Tobacco prevention funding has been eliminated with a loss of \$26 million dollars a year. The rate of youth smokers is not dropping and youth are beginning to use new products such as small cigars and hookahs. An example of tobacco products were distributed to Board Members. The benefits of allowing local control include: tailoring of policies to fit a community's needs, fostering accountability, encouraging innovation and progress.

Councilmember Stuckart made a motion to have an updated draft resolution regarding tobacco preemption added to the agenda for voting purposes next month. Board Member Fisk seconded the motion.

Councilmember Waldref requested the Neighborhoods Matter presentation from high school youth who reported on health issues in the East Central neighborhood be presented to the Board of Health. The report included marketing comparisons of alcohol and tobacco use of different neighborhoods in Spokane.

***Motion: To update a draft local control tobacco preemption resolution for consideration at the next Board of Health meeting.***

***Motion/Second: Stuckart/Fisk***

***Approved: Unanimously***

#### Summers Project Update – Chris Blodgett, EWU

Elaine Conley, Community and Family Services Director, introduced Chris Blodgett, PhD, Director of the Area Health Education Center at EWU. Dr. Blodgett designed a randomized study called “Summers Project” for the Nurse Family Partnership grant and served as the principal investigator. Summer’s Project is ending September 28<sup>th</sup>, but funding is in place to continue the Nurse Family Partnership program (NFP) at a reduced level.

Research shows that intervention at the earliest levels for low-income families, particularly low-income mothers, is one of the best investments that can be made to address the issue of education attainment and reduce the issues of child maltreatment, neglect, and physical and sexual abuse. NFP increases the chance that children in the program, compared to their peers, will graduate from high school and enter the workforce effectively. The federal government has agreed with the significance of early intervention and has moved to increase funding for the next 5 years. Because of the program in Spokane there is an increased likelihood of receiving federal funds to continue intervention.

#### **BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN**

##### Smoking in Cars – Board Member Fisk

Board Member Fisk referenced research provided by the Tobacco Program regarding smoking in cars with children. Board Member Fisk distributed the notebook and requested a presentation at the next Board meeting.

Councilmember Waldref reminded the Board that the budget is scheduled for next month’s meeting. She requested the topic be considered before the Executive Committee before placement on the agenda.

Dr. McCullough requested a point of clarification whether a presentation or resolution is being requested at the next meeting. Dr. Fisk clarified that he would like a presentation at the next meeting.

Councilmember Waldref reminded the Board that a temporary food establishment fee permit presentation was also requested by the Board could be presented at the combined November/December meeting.

Water Fluoridation – Councilmember Stuckart

Multnomah County, which includes Portland, recently voted to fluoridate its water. Councilmember Stuckart made a motion to remove the table on fluoridation in order for discussion at the January 2013 meeting. Councilmember Snyder seconded the motion.

Michelle Fossum recalled that in 2001 or 2002 the topic was tabled. There was later discussion that the Board would not take a position on the topic. In order for the topic to come before the Board, a motion is appropriate.

Board Member Fisk requested experts in the field and on both sides of the issue present to the Board on the topic.

Councilmember Stuckart stated the Executive Committee will bring forward a plan on how best to present the topic at the December meeting.

*Motion: To remove tabling of fluoridation and have the Board start conversations on the topic in January 2013 with the Executive Committee developing a balanced plan for topic presentation prior to the January meeting.*

*Motion/Second: Stuckart/Snyder*

*Approved: Unanimously*

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Councilmember Waldref announced the Board would adjourn to Executive Session in Room 311 for 20 minutes to discuss the health officer evaluation.

At 2:27 p.m., an additional 10 minute extension was requested. At 2:45 p.m., an additional 15 minute extension was requested.

**MEETING RECONVENED**

The meeting reconvened at 3:02 p.m. with no resulting action taken.

**NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on October 25, 2012.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

APPROVED:         Amber Waldref Fisk         Date:         10/25/12          
Board Member Name and Title

        C. Rose          
Recording Secretary

