

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **March 28, 2013** was called to order by Councilmember Chuck Hafner, Vice Chair, at 12:30 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Commissioner Todd Mielke, Chair (arrived at 1:00 p.m.)
Councilmember Ben Stuckart (departed at 2:09 p.m.)
Councilmember Jon Snyder
Councilmember Amber Waldref
Councilmember Chuck Hafner, Vice Chair
Mayor Tom Towey
Mayor Tom Trulove (arrived at 12:38 p.m.)
Board Member Susan Norwood, EdD, RN

ABSENT

Commissioner Al French
Commissioner Shelly O'Quinn
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH

CITIZEN INPUT

- Martin Howser, Spokane County, WA – spoke on Resolution #13-02 Calling on Lawmakers to Take Meaningful Action to Address Gun-Related Injuries and the effects that psychotropic drugs have on children siting the majority of shooting incidents since 1989 have been due to children on those drugs.
- Shirley Rademacher, Spokane, WA – spoke on the increase of cancer and thyroid problems due to the fluoridation of water supplies as written by David Brownstein, MD, in the newsletter, “Natural Way to Health.”
- Robin Ball, Owner of Sharp Shooting Indoor Range and Gun Shop, Spokane, WA – spoke on Resolution #13-02 and the lack of resources to mandate safe storage proposed in the resolution. She recommended education and better enforcement of current laws as the means of solving gun related injuries.
- Caroline Pickett, Spokane, WA –spoke on the maltreatment of children and asked the Board what is being done to protect the children.
- Rose Marie Waldrem-Larsen, Green Acres, WA – spoke on gun control and how laws remove self-control, which is a right under the constitution, and noted the fact that all school shootings and postal shootings were in cities that were fluoridated.

CHAIR REPORT – Commissioner Todd Mielke Conversations with Greater Spokane Incorporated (GSI)

Several members of the Board have met with the GSI small business advisory group and SRHD staff regarding restaurant and predevelopment issues. The City of Spokane helped resolve the predevelopment issue. There were several restaurant issues including the distribution of the new food regulations to restaurant owners. GSI will assist in the distribution using their database which the agency can access to send notifications to restaurant owners. Discussions will continue about SRHD possibly producing a periodic newsletter and GSI developing an educational video for restaurant owners, which SRHD will post on its website.

Dr. McCullough recommended continuing within the existing process of working with the Food Advisory Committee in notifying the food industry of changes to food regulations.

Councilmember Waldref questioned whether minutes from the Food Advisory Committee could be made available on the agency website for the food industry.

Ray Byrne, Food Safety Program Manager, stated there were legal issues regarding the sharing of email. Research is ongoing on ability to collect and share emails. GSI agreed to distribute a brochure which shows the food code changes along with a press release to its email lists.

The Board directed staff to continue working with GSI and report back at the next Board meeting.

WSALPHO Conference Calls

WSALPHO is holding conference calls every other Friday from 2-3pm open to BOH members around the state with discussions about impacts to public health from legislative decisions. There is an informational handout included in the Board packet.

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

Public Health Funding Resolution

The public health funding resolution passed at the last Board meeting calling on state legislators to maintain the current level of funding for the public health system was sent to all legislators in the state. In addition, 30 other local health jurisdictions (LHJs) have passed similar resolutions.

State Budget

The Senate budget will be released this week. Governor Inslee will release his budget today. There are no current details, but an update will be given to the Board when it has been released.

Sequester Impacts

There has been limited information regarding how the sequester impacts will affect public health. It appears the Women's Infants and Children (WIC) program will not be cut as previously thought.

Secretary of Health

Governor Inslee has appointed John Weismann as the new Secretary of Health. Mr. Weismann was the administrator for the Clark County Public Health Department. He will replace Mary Selecky who has been the Secretary of Health for over 15 years.

Drug Take-Back Program Update

In Spokane, there is a significant prescription drug abuse problem. It is estimated that approximately 6 million people abuse prescription drugs nationally. About 70% who abuse prescription drugs receive them through friends or relatives, which also include individuals who raid medicine cabinets. In Spokane, there is no permanent site for disposal of controlled substances.

Under the control substances act passed in the 1970's there was an option to dispose of medications by flushing, destroying or giving the items to law enforcement. The Secure Disposal Drug Act was passed in 2010. With its passage, Congress expanded options for collecting and disposing of controlled substances. In December of 2012, there were promulgated proposed regulations for disposal.

The DEA proposed law enforcement continue drug take-back programs and allows mail-back programs. Among the expanded options, authorized manufacturers, distributors, reverse distributors and authorized pharmacies can also voluntarily administer mail back programs and maintain collection sites at pharmacies. Retail pharmacies will be able to voluntarily maintain collection at long term care facilities. There was a 60 day comment period for those rules that ended in February 2013. Final rules are expected soon with Spokane being in a good position to work with community partners to develop a system for adequate drug take back.

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: February 28, 2013
2013 Vouchers paid: February 1-28, 2013

Voucher Numbers: #230063 - #B&OJAN13		\$ 673,607.22
Payroll Warrants: #791027 - #791053	Advice Numbers: #DD19951 - #DD20144	624,527.63
Payroll Warrants: #792588 - #792616	Advice Numbers: #DD20145 - #DD20335	587,298.16
	TOTAL	\$1,885,433.01

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

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution #13-02 Calling on Lawmakers to Take Meaningful Action to Address Gun-Related Injuries – Dr. McCullough

Dr. McCullough, SRHD Health Officer, presented the resolution asking for support.

Mayor Towey expressed concern over the vagueness of the resolution and requested the resolution include more specifics to the Board’s position.

Commissioner Mielke expressed concern about the current legislative session where public health funding is very limited and the legislature has decided not to move forward any bill this session related to gun issues. For the Board to take a position after the legislature’s decision damages the agency’s credibility in obtaining the bigger priority of public health funding. He also questioned whether there were bigger causes of injuries than the gun issue and recommended the Board wait until the issue is in full debate with the legislature before approving and sending a resolution.

Commissioner Mielke made a motion that the resolution be tabled until the next legislative session where the Board would then reconsider the resolution. Mayor Towey seconded the motion.

Councilmember Stuckart recommended changing the resolution to call only on federal lawmakers to take meaningful action and then approve the resolution.

Councilmember Snyder requested more specificity in the resolution to include closing the gun show loophole and to bring back mental health funding to the 2005 levels or approving the resolution as it is presented.

Board Member Norwood made a motion to amend the resolution removing “and state” from the wording under Section A. Councilmember Snyder seconded the motion.

Motion: To remove “and State” from Section A of Resolution #13-02 Calling on Lawmakers to Take Meaningful Action to Address Gun-Related Injuries.
Motion/Second: Norwood/Snyder
Approved: 6 yes/2 no (Mielke/Towey)

Motion: To table Resolution #13-02 Calling on Lawmakers to Take Meaningful Action to Address Gun-Related Injuries until the next state legislative session.

Motion: Mielke/Towey

Rejected: 2 yes (Mielke/Towey)/6 no

Councilmember Stuckart made a motion to approve the resolution as amended. Councilmember Snyder seconded the motion.

Motion: To approve Resolution #13-02 Calling on Lawmakers to Take Meaningful Action to Address Gun-Related Injuries as amended.

Motion: Stuckart/Snyder

Approved: 6 yes/2 no (Mielke/Towey)

Resolution #13-03 Adopting the Washington State Revised Food Code and Repeal of Resolution #05-04 – Ray Byrne

Ray Byrne, Food Safety Program Manager, requested adoption of the resolution. The resolution will adopt the current food code language and will enact a double fee for applications submitted less than 2 weeks and an option to decline applications if submitted less than 3 days.

Councilmember Waldref made a motion to approve the resolution. Councilmember Norwood seconded motion.

Motion: To approve Resolution #13-03 Adopting the Washington State Revised Food Code and Repeal of Resolution #05-04

Motion/Second: Waldref/Norwood

Approved: Unanimously

Resolution #13-04 Approval to Adopt A Labor Contract for Employees of SRHD Who Are Members of the Professional and Technical Employees Local 17 – B. Lorang

Barb Lorang, Human Resources Program Manager, presented the resolution and requested its adoption.

Mayor Towey expressed concern approving the contract having not read the contract and Councilmember Snyder requested a summary of changes to the contract. Barb Lorang shared the summary of changes with Board members.

Councilmember Stuckart made a motion to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Mielke seconded the motion.

Councilmember Snyder and Commissioner Mielke directed staff to have summary documents on future agreements.

Motion: To adopt Resolution #13-04 Approval to Adopt A Labor Contract for Employees of SRHD Who Are Members of the Professional and Technical Employees Local 17.

Motion/Second: Snyder/Mielke

Approved: Unanimously

REPORTS

Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) Accreditation Report – Torney Smith

Torney Smith, Administrator, reported on agency efforts towards accreditation. The agency began testing itself against standards in 2003 and every 3 years thereafter. In the last review process of the Washington State Standards, SRHD completed the entire PHAB BETA version standards. Currently, there are 2800 health departments in the U.S. Of those, 11 have become accredited with SRHD being one.

The PHAB reviewers report states: SRHD has done an exemplary job of building strong relationships with a wide range of partners and stakeholders; the district's leadership in policy development, community dialogue and action addressing social determinants of health and health equity is a model for best practice; and the agency's culture of continuous quality improvement is evident on all levels of the organization including governance and the active engagement of by the governing board and the agency's comprehensive performance improvement strategy including a focus on the governing body's performance is another best practice.

The three greatest opportunities for improvement cited by the PHAB report include: facing declining financial resources and the new role of public health nationally; the ability to manage the role/transition and the related issues that arise over the long term. Recommendations are to engage and support staff through the transition; to review the workforce development and succession plan, and to review the current strategic plan and organizational structure.

The SRHD Accreditation Team was recognized for their efforts helping the agency obtain accreditation. Members include: Stacy Wenzl, Cindy Green, Joyce Fox, Julie Awbrey, Julie Albright, Kyle Unland, Gwen Dutt, Patricia Rhoades and Torney Smith.

SRHD is the only health department that has scored 100% fully demonstrates every PHAB measure.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

SRHD PHAB Accreditation Efforts - Commissioner Mielke

Commissioner Mielke congratulated agency staff on obtaining accreditation citing the difficulty in scoring 100%.

SRHD PHAB Accreditation Efforts – Mayor Trulove

Mayor Trulove congratulated SRHD on its achievement noting that former Secretary of Health, Mary Selecky, had mentioned to him that SRHD was the best health department in the state with the proof now in accreditation.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING


The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on April 25, 2013.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 2:12 p.m.

APPROVED: 
Board Member Name and Title

Date: 4/25/13


Recording Secretary

