

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **May 26, 2016** was called to order by Mayor Kevin Freeman, Chair, at 12:31 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

**PRESENT**

Mayor Kevin Freeman, Chair  
Commissioner Shelly O'Quinn, Vice Chair (arrived 1:05pm)  
Councilmember Lori Kinnear  
Commissioner Al French (arrived 12:40pm)  
Councilmember Breean Beggs (arrived 12:51pm)  
Councilmember Amber Waldref (arrived 12:35pm)  
Board Member Susan Boysen, EdD, RN  
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH

**ABSENT**

Board Member Keith Baldwin, MHA  
Commissioner Nancy McLaughlin

**CITIZEN INPUT**

There was no citizen input.

**CHAIR REPORT** – Mayor Kevin Freeman

Opioid Treatment Program Office Remodel

There will be a tour of the recently remodeled Opioid Treatment offices immediately following the meeting.

Youth Marijuana Prevention Efforts

Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) staff from the Healthy Communities program is seeking to interview elected leaders, citizens, retailers, law enforcement and community businesses in order to effectively plan youth marijuana intervention approaches for Spokane County. Staff will conduct 20-30 minute interviews with each elected Board of Health (BOH) member during June. Staff will report results to the BOH and present youth data regarding marijuana.

Councilmembers Kinnear and Beggs have met with the Lady of Our Lourdes Catholic Church members about concerns over marijuana shops. Councilmember Kinnear encouraged SRHD staff to reach out to churches that may have youth programs.

Health Officer Search

The BOH Health Officer Selection Committee is considering adjustments to the health officer job description and determining if the role of director should be a part of the health officer or administrator's position. The committee is seeking input from other health districts in Washington and has already spoken to Kitsap and will speak with Tacoma-Pierce in the near future. Recommendations will be brought to the BOH.

BOH Vacancies

The BOH currently has two Spokane Valley City Council representative vacancies. Spokane Valley City Council is hoping to appoint members at its next meeting. Their council currently has three vacancies.

SRHD Communication Audit

Prior to the health officer leaving, a communication audit was held for the health district. Mayor Freeman encouraged BOH members to review the audit. The Executive Leadership Team has reviewed the results

and is discussing outcomes. At a future date, the administrator will provide a BOH presentation on the audit and share steps taken to address findings.

BOH Policy Committee

The committee will meet June 2 and will have a report at the next meeting.

**HEALTH OFFICER REPORT**

Epidemiology Update

Influenza activity continues to wane with five reported hospitalizations in May compared to 59 in April and 92 in March. This year’s season has been half Influenza A and half Influenza B. The masking recommendation for unvaccinated healthcare workers has been dropped.

Zika Update

There have been 12 Zika cases submitted for testing, which includes 8 pregnant women. Two results are still pending. There have been four cases confirmed in Washington State residents. All have been returning travelers. A backlog for testing continues at the Centers for Disease Control (CDC); however, there has been a commercial test kit developed that providers can order for individuals who have developed symptoms. The test can be used within 7 days of symptom onset. There have been 591 cases identified in the United States including 168 pregnant women. There has been no vector borne transmissions in the United States; although, Puerto Rico is reporting cases.

SRHD Communication Audit

The agency’s Executive Leadership Team (ELT) has been reviewing the communication audit determining themes that need to be addressed. Results of the audit have confirmed outcomes found in the agency’s strategic planning work. An executive summary and the full audit report will be given to staff in a few weeks.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of Health and Assistant Surgeon General Spokane Visit

Dr. Karen DeSalvo, U.S. Assistant Secretary of Health, and Dr. Patrick O’Carroll, U.S. Assistant Surgeon General, will be visiting Spokane on July 11. They are visiting five cities across the U.S. that have been demonstrating Public Health 3.0. BOH members are encouraged to attend.

**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: April 28, 2016  
2016 Vouchers paid: April 1-30, 2016

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Voucher Numbers:	#239625 - #239849 & EFT B&O Mar2016	\$ 712,757.54
Payroll Warrants:	#921388 - #921410 #921611 -#921618	
	Advice Numbers: #DD34333 - #DD34524	693,414.60
Payroll Warrants:	#922738 - #933760 #923474 - #923479	
	Advice Numbers: #DD34525 - #DD34718	666,200.93
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,072,373.07</b>

***Motion: To approve the consent agenda including meeting minutes and vouchers as presented.***

***Motion/Second: Waldref/Kinnear***

***Approved: Unanimously***

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Resolution #16-02 1) Encouraging Schools with Grades 6 through 12 in Spokane County to Participate in the Healthy Youth Survey Every Two Years; 2) Encouraging Schools to Use the Most Comprehensive Form of the Healthy Youth Survey that includes All Optional questions Related to Sexual Behavior, Sexual Abuse and Sexual Orientation for 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students; and 3) Requesting School Districts in Spokane County to Adopt Policies Requiring Mandatory Participation of Schools Using the Most Comprehensive Form of the Healthy Youth Survey – Linda Graham, Health Policy Specialist and Communications Manager

The resolution encourages participation in the Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) of all schools in Spokane County. The survey also provides important information to the health district, other entities, and schools. The survey provides information on risk behaviors such as alcohol and tobacco use and environments in which children live (i.e., school, home and community). The information helps design intervention and prevention programs to help students. The survey information was critical to legislation passed this year on tobacco, vaping and marijuana and assisted with justification for the recent BOH smoking in public places (SIPP) action.

Priority Spokane work on attendance was recently affected by middle schools not participating in the survey. The lack of information hampered ability to assess trends and to target interventions based on behaviors in the schools.

Commissioner O'Quinn and Data Center Manager, Stacy Wenzl, recently met with the Greater Spokane Incorporated (GSI) School Superintendents. Schools had concerns surrounding the sexual behavior questions and feedback from parental groups and whether data was reliable. Superintendents were reminded that parents can opt their children out of the survey and that the data was the most reliable for that age group. SRHD will be providing the schools with technical assistance and attending parental meetings.

Councilmember Waldref made a motion to approve Resolution #16-02. Councilmember Beggs seconded the motion.

***Motion: To approve Resolution #16-02 as presented.***

***Motion/Second: Waldref/Beggs***

***Approved: Unanimously***

## **REPORTS**

Administration Division Overview – Torney Smith

Administration managers were introduced: Sue Winters, Human Resources Manager; Mike Riley, Comptroller; Linda Graham, Health Policy Specialist and Communications Manager; Todd Miller, Information Systems Manager; Brad Woods, Building Maintenance Manager; Patricia Rhoades, HIPAA Coordinator, Records Management and Standards and Accreditation; Paula Maxwell, Financial Services Manager; and Kim Kramarz, Finance Manager.

Administration oversees the agency's strategic plan with four main goals: 1) working environment, 2) communications, 2) reducing inequities, and 4) the strategic health agenda. Work is tracked on a Gantt chart and all goals are currently on track.

Opioid Treatment Services and TB Program Overview – Julie Albright

Katie Dickeson, Tuberculosis (TB) Program Coordinator, spoke about the TB Program. The program works with Class B refugees in Spokane who are required to go through an intensive medical evaluation in order

to immigrate to the U.S. The program partners with local clinics and medical facilities regarding TB education, consultation for screening, and treatment. There are monthly and annual meetings with the Department of Health (DOH) regarding cases in each jurisdiction within the state. Medications are ordered through the state pharmacy in King County.

The TB program monitors for drug resistance and side effects to medications. Typical treatments last from 6 to 12 months to a year with in-person monitoring of medication dispensement, which curtails drug resistance. The program performs contact investigations for TB and education at local clinics.

There has been an increase in cases in the state. Challenges to the program are language barriers to communicating and educating the population. Most cases in the state are individuals who have latent TB infection (LTBI). The state has had only four multi-drug resistance (MDR) cases and there are concerns about increased MDR cases as refugees come to the U.S.

To assist the program, the BOH can hire a health officer who is knowledgeable in public health policy, aware of the local health disparities, and current with TB screening and treatment practices based on state and national guidelines.

There is one case of TB in Spokane County currently. Previously there were five. The most Spokane has had over the last five years were seven. The CDC cost per TB infection case is approximately \$700, for TB disease it ranges from \$17,000 to \$44,000 per individual. For MDR cases, the cost is \$150,000 to \$282,000 per individual. Funding for the TB program is requested yearly from Spokane County.

Julie Albright, Opioid Treatment Program (OTP) Manager, gave an overview on the Treatment Services Program. The program works with populations with substance use disorders with the primary drug of choice being opioids. Per the WAC, a person must have an opioid disorder for at least a year to be on the program. The clinic services 737 individuals. In January 2016, the Spokane County Commissioners raised the OTP census to 1,000.

Individuals follow a protocol for signing up for the program. Those who test positive for illicit benzodiazepines (anti-anxiety drugs) are not allowed in the program because methadone and benzodiazepines can be lethal. Those who are on prescription benzodiazepines will be monitored while on the program. All clients are enrolled in the EDIE system used by all hospitals, which notifies the program when an individual visits an emergency department. This allows monitoring of reasons for emergency department visits and what prescriptions were given.

Some clients stay on methadone for life while others are able to quit. This is due to changes in the receptors in the brain caused by drug use. The program has partnered with Washington State University (WSU) to have a psychiatrist work with its clients.

Challenges to the program are changes in the funding system, how to provide access to buprenorphine at the clinic and receive Medicaid funding, and obtaining a mental health license. BOH members can provide support by understanding the work the program accomplishes and having leadership understand substance abuse and mental health disorders.

Board Member Boysen invited BOH members to participate in the Gonzaga class session in the fall where Julie Albright teaches about the program.

Julie Albright distributed books on buprenorphine and drug take-back.

**BOARD CHECK-IN**

Oil Trains – Councilmember Beggs

Councilmember Beggs is receiving many requests from constituents on oil trains. He requested information on issues with drinking water if there was a disaster in the river.

**NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on June 30, 2016.

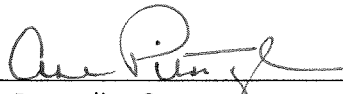
**ADJOURNMENT**

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There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

APPROVED:   
Board Member Name and Title

Date: 6/30/2016

  
Recording Secretary

