

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **February 22, 2018** was called to order by Board Member Chuck Hafner, Chair, at 12:33 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Board Member Chuck Hafner, Chair
Councilmember Breean Beggs, Vice Chair (arrived at 12:43 p.m.)
Commissioner Al French (arrived at 12:34 p.m.)
Commissioner Josh Kerns (arrived at 12:34 p.m.)
Commissioner Mary Kuney
Councilmember Kate Burke
Councilmember Linda Thompson
Councilmember Arne Woodard
Mayor Kevin Freeman
Board Member Donald Condon, MD

ABSENT

Councilmember Karen Stratton

CHAIR REPORT – Board Member Hafner

New Board of Health (BOH) Member Introduction

New board member, Andrea Frostad, was introduced by Commissioner French and recognized by the board. Her first meeting will be next month.

Moment of Silence

The Chair held a moment of silence to remember the recent school shooting in Florida.

Board of Health Committees

The Chair spoke on the importance of serving on BOH committees and encourage board members to volunteer.

Visits to SRHD Divisions

Board members were encouraged to visit SRHD divisions and with staff to gain a better knowledge of the agency.

Citizen Input

The Chair reviewed the need for changes to citizen input and outlined the new procedure.

CITIZEN INPUT

- Elizabeth Grafos, WA -- Spoke on her support for the board's work and her concerns about the harmful, political viewpoints in recent years.
- Carly Howarth, Spokane, WA – Spoke on her letter to the board requesting the legislative agenda be reworded and letters sent by other citizens requesting the same.
- Kim Stadler, Spokane Valley, WA – Spoke on her concerns about limiting immunizations and the letters sent to the board, which were included in the BOH agenda packets.
- Kim Helm, Spokane Valley, WA – Spoke on vaccine injuries and her concerns regarding limiting exemptions. She encouraged the board to remove or clarify wording on the 2018 BOH legislative agenda.

- Stefanie Preugschat, Spokane County, WA – Spoke about her son’s adverse reaction to vaccinations, her support of parental rights to choose exemptions and she encouraged the board to preserve those rights.
- Nicole Riley, Deer Park, WA – Spoke about her move from California to Washington due to vaccination requirements in the state. She asked the board to maintain her right to choose.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT – Robert Lutz, MD, MPH, Health Officer

Influenza Update

As of today, there have been close to 500 hospitalizations most being Influenza A. There is a recent uptick in Influenza B, but most infections have been the H3N2 strain. Hospitalizations have been primarily related to Influenza A and in people over 50 years of age. The CDC estimates the vaccine is 36% effective overall. Effectiveness in all populations is 25%, but 59% in youth. Strains of H3N2 tend to mutate, which lowers effectiveness when it is the predominant strain.

Locally, there have been 29 influenza-related deaths. Confirmed vaccination in the deaths has been 20%. All have been over the age of 50 and had additional co-morbidities. Spokane rates of influenza are lower than what have been seen throughout the country. There has been a decline in frequency of the illness.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – Linda Graham, Health Policy Specialist

The agency held a press event with Senator Cantwell yesterday to introduce her legislation on opioid medication availability. Panel speakers included: SRHD, Volunteers of America (VOA), sheriff, police chief, and fire chief. The event was attended by all three media stations, The Spokesman Review, and the Pacific Northwest Inlander. SRHD Opioid Treatment Services clients met and shared their stories with Senator Cantwell and the media.

Legislative bills have moved to the opposite house. The next cutoff is tomorrow and the fiscal cutoff is Monday. There are two weeks left in the legislative session. The House Bill regarding opioid medications at educational institutions is in the Senate, but has not been scheduled for a hearing. The Tobacco 21 bills have not made it out of the House of Origin, but are necessary to implement the state budget due to their fiscal impact, so they are still considered active. HB1047--Medication Disposal System is still needing committee action completed. Lead-Based Paint Certification Fees is in Appropriations and has until Monday to have a hearing.

AGENCY REPORT – Torney Smith, Administrator

Human Impact Partners Health Equity Training

SRHD has contracted with Human Impact Partners to provide a half-day, health equity training to staff in March. A full-day training will be held later. Board members interested in health equity were encouraged to attend.

SRHD Compensation Project

The agency will be working through a compensation project this year. The last compensation project was completed 2004-2006. Criteria for the project is being established and then a contractor will be sought to assist with the project. Position descriptions and classifications will be revised. A team comprised of SRHD staff throughout the organization will be used to guide the project. The project is anticipated to start in the second quarter of 2018.

Spokane Counts

The newest version of Spokane Counts is available on the SRHD website. The publication now uses Tableau software for data visualizations. BOH was encouraged to review the publication.

Avista Grant

SRHD was awarded a Nissan Leaf electric car with its award of the Avista grant. The car will be used to transport clients, particularly in the HIV/AIDS program.

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: January 25, 2018

2017 Vouchers paid: January 1-31, 2018

Voucher Numbers: #245135 - #245471		\$ 1,140,622.11
Payroll Warrants: #993066 (paper check)	Advice Numbers: #DD43181 - #DD43413	\$797,624.86
Payroll Warrants: #994393 - #994403	Advice Numbers: #DD43414- #DD43650	\$819,163.71
	TOTAL	\$1,616,788.57

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

Motion/Second: French/Burke

Approved: Unanimously

ACTION ITEMS

Adopt 2018 Board of Health Committee Membership – Board Member Hafner

The Chair reviewed the BOH committee memberships:

Policy Committee

- Councilmember Breean Beggs, Chair
- Councilmember Kate Burke
- Mayor Kevin Freeman
- Councilmember Arne Woodard
- Commissioner Josh Kerns

Budget & Finance Committee

- Commissioner Mary Kuney, Chair
- Councilmember Linda Thompson
- Board Member Donald Condon
- Board Member Chuck Hafner

Education and Communications Committee

- Councilmember Karen Stratton, Chair
- Councilmember Linda Thompson
- Board Member Donald Condon

Executive Committee of the Board

- Board Member Chuck Hafner, Chair
- Councilmember Breean Beggs
- Mayor Kevin Freeman
- Commissioner Mary Kuney
- Councilmember Karen Stratton

SRHD Strategic Planning Committee

Councilmember Kate Burke

Motion: To adopt 2018 Board of Health Committee Membership.

Motion/Second: Beggs/Kuney

Approved: Unanimously

Resolution #18-02 Amending the SRHD Board of Health Bylaws to Allow Appointed Citizens to Serve Until a New Appointment to the Position Has Been Made; to Specify When New Appointments to the Board will be Made Yearly; to Clarify How Long the Vice Chair is Permitted to Serve; to Clarify When the BOH will Meet; and to Clarify business of Regular Meetings – Board Member Hafner

BOH attorney, Michelle Fossum, noted the resolution must be approved by two-thirds vote to be passed at today's meeting. Mayor Freeman made a motion to approve Resolution #18-02 as presented. Councilmember Woodard seconded the motion.

There was no discussion on the resolution.

Motion: To approve Resolution #18-02 amending the SRHD Board of Health bylaws to allow appointed citizens to serve until a new appointment to the position has been made; to specify when new appointments to the Board will be made yearly; to clarify how long the vice chair is permitted to serve; to clarify when the BOH will meet; and to clarify business of regular meetings

Motion/Second: Freeman/Woodard

Approved: Unanimously

REPORTS

Essentials and Core Functions of Public Health and Foundational Public Health Services – Robert Lutz, MD, MPH, Health Officer and Torney Smith, SRHD Administrator

Assessment, policy and assurance are the three core functions of public health. SRHD assesses the health needs of the community, investigating potential diseases and analyzing identified needs. SRHD provides a health assurance to the community, which includes responsibility for enforcement defined by RCWs and statutes. The agency is also expected to implement programs that serve the health of the community and evaluate programs that are recommended. Information and education are a part of policy and development and a foundational work that SRHD provides. SRHD works with partners and collaborators to complete this work. SRHD is research driven, but must be sensitive to emerging issues that may not have adequate data to guide decisions in the moment.

Over the last five years, public health has been trying to identify the core or foundational services that need to exist everywhere for public health to be effective. These foundational services must exist in counties with departments of five people (Lincoln County) as much as it does in a county with a department of 250 working staff (Spokane County). The services include: communicable disease control, chronic disease and injury prevention, environmental public health, maternal child and family health, access to clinical care and vital records.

For public health to be successful in these services, it must complete assessment, emergency preparedness and response, communications, policy development and support, business competency. These are recognized as state-level services.

There is regional foundational public health services funding this year and SRHD is assisting neighboring counties with work. A request from the legislature for additional funding is expected next year.

Urban Cultural Trail – Heleen Dewey, Health Program Specialist, SRHD and Julie Sinisterra, Economic Development Manager, Downtown Spokane Partnership

The Urban Cultural Trail is a partnership between SRHD and economic development that promotes economic development, health and culture. This trail is seen to increase safety, sense of community and physical activity. The trail idea came from other cities that have trails –Indianapolis and Washington D.C.

Together, SRHD and Downtown Spokane Partnership contracted with Berger Partnership using funding from the DOH, Prevention First 1422 to conduct a feasibility study and stakeholder input sessions. The project compliments Spokane Regional Transportation Council’s Horizon 2040 Long Range Transportation plan, the Downtown Plan and others.

The chosen corridor already exists in the community. Riverside Avenue was chosen because it is the most intuitive to navigate and has the fewest hard turns. The pathway would connect Browne’s Addition MAC area to the University District Downtown.

The project is only proposing light infrastructure such as benches, bikes and signages. There will be branding such as medallions or footprints in the pavers or sidewalks. Navigation can be done through a smartphone or paintings on the trail. There will be story-telling venues as well.

This project will be presented throughout the community and will present to the MAC board and Spokane City Council in the next couple of weeks. There will be meetings with Spokane City staff about the scope of work for Riverside Avenue. There will be updates within the next year to the Downtown Spokane Plan.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

Spokane City Council Work on Violence/Mental Health and Spokane Valley Youth Voice-Councilmember Thompson

Councilmember Thompson shared her appreciation for the moment of silence for the children in Florida. Spokane Valley City Council is trying to determine how it can support the Association of Washington Cities legislative policy on mental health or how to help cities and counties deal with issues of violence and mental health. She requested SRHD provide any help it could on the issue.

Spokane Valley Youth Voice is recruiting teenagers to discuss what they’d like to see in the community at an event on March 12.

Vaccinations and Suicide Prevention – Councilmember Beggs

Councilmember Beggs noted there was a suicide last week from a Lewis and Clark High School alumni. There have been several youth suicides recently and there is much work to be done on the issue.

Councilmember Beggs stated in his tenure on the board, the board has not advocated for limiting exemptions. This legislative session is almost over, but this next fall the Policy Committee will address confusing language regarding exemptions. He noted Washington’s constitution has been interpreted to provide individual control of bodily integrity. The legislature is limited on what it could pass regarding immunization exemptions.

Senator Cantwell Visit – Commissioner Kuney

Commissioner Kuney noted the late notice for Senator Cantwell’s visit and asked if there was advanced noticed. Torney Smith responded the agency received a late notice as well, but it is the agency’s intent to keep the board informed.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on March 29, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

APPROVED: Charles E. Haf
Board Member Name and Title

Date: 3/29/18

A. P. [Signature]
Recording Secretary