

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, February 23, 2012 was called to order by Councilmember Amber Waldref, Chair, at 12:35 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Commissioner Al French
Commissioner Todd Mielke (arrived 12:38 p.m.) (departed 1:57 p.m.)
Commissioner Mark Richard (arrived 12:40 p.m.)
Councilmember Jon Snyder
Councilmember Ben Stuckart
Councilmember Amber Waldref
Councilmember Chuck Hafner
Mayor Tom Towey (departed 1:50 p.m.)
Mayor Tom Trulove
Board Member Michael Fisk, DC
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH
Board Member Susan Norwood, EdD, RN

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

CHAIR REPORT – Councilmember Waldref

Mayor Trulove was welcomed as an interim Board member representing small cities serving until a permanent appointment is made, which is expected in March.

An updated Emergency Contact list of health district staff was included in Board members' packets along with NALBOH information packets. Board members were encouraged to sign up for NALBOH email alerts. Board of Health Orientation manuals were distributed to Board members. Old Manuals are to be returned to the recording secretary, Ann Pitsnogle.

Resolution #12-04 was removed from the agenda. The corresponding Senate Bill was not passed by the Senate.

The April BOH meeting conflicts with a planned GSI trip. Board members were asked to inform the recording secretary if they would not be able to attend the April meeting.

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

Legislative Updates

A letter of support was sent electronically to members of the Senate on the Drug Take-Back bill. The bill was not passed by the Senate and will not be heard again this legislative session. The agency will continue its participation in the twice a year drug take-back program sponsored by the Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA) and will work with law enforcement to find resource solutions to a permanent drug take-back location for controlled substances.

House Bill 2370 to include health in the state transportation system policy goals, sponsored by Representative Andy Billig, has passed the House and will be heard by the Senate Transportation Committee on February 27th.

Budget Update

A proposed House bill calls for the complete elimination of state flexible funding to local public health jurisdictions with a redirection of the liquor excise tax (distributed to cities and counties) to public health. The redirect would take place January 1, 2013. The House is considering proposing expanding local taxing options for funding at the local level. WSALPHO, WSPHA, Public Health Roundtable and other

organizations are testifying to the committees in Olympia about the cuts. The Senate budget proposal will be made next week. If this budget is passed as proposed, there will be a \$9 to \$11 million dollar loss in funds to state public health resulting in an approximate \$600,000 loss to the agency.

Commissioner Mielke asked for information on the cuts proposed to local drug treatment funding and the impact to local health jurisdictions.

Actions the Board can take include informing constituents that public health funding is a shared responsibility between the state and local communities asking for the continued funding at a state level.

Commissioner Richard shared his concern with county and local municipal funding gained by the liquor excise tax being redirected to fund public health believing it would create a deficit in local budgets which would result in a need to raise taxes. This will result in a disparity among local health agencies because of dependency upon local funding passage by either councilmanic or voted new taxes.

Councilmember Mielke noted that the state message is harsh, but it less than previously proposed. Of the proposed liquor tax funds to be sent to public health, 20% is county revenue and 80% is cities revenue.

Agency Strategic Plan Goals

Staff and management have agreed that the time is appropriate to reevaluate the agency strategic plan. Board members will be invited to participate in the planning process.

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 26, 2012

Vouchers paid: January 1-31, 2012 and 2011 vouchers January 1-31, 2012.

Voucher Numbers: #213412 - #B&ODEC11			\$ 452,410.88
		TOTAL	\$452,410.88
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Voucher Numbers: #220001 - #220058			\$ 224,896.71
Payroll Warrants: #743732 - #743763	Advice Numbers: #DD14792 - #DD14995		669,209.75
Payroll Warrants: #745376 - #745406	Advice Numbers: #DD14996 - #DD15197		639,646.33
		TOTAL	\$1,533,752.79

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

Motion/Second: Mielke/Hafner

Approved: Unanimously

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution #12-02 Adoption of Board of Health Committee Descriptions and Operating Guidelines – Councilmember Waldref

The Chair, Councilmember Amber Waldref, presented the resolution defining the Board’s committee descriptions and operating guidelines. Board Member Fisk volunteered to serve on the Budget and Finance Committee. The Executive Committee of the Board of Health will include the Chair, Vice Chair, and chairs of the remaining 2 committees. Since the bylaws don’t include the former Chair of the Board serving on the Executive Committee, Commissioner Richard requested a change be made to include the former Chair on the committee. Councilmember Waldref recommended revising the bylaws to allow the Chair of the Board to also chair the Executive Committee.

Commissioner Mielke made a motion to defer the resolution and make discussed changes to be approved at the next regular Board meeting. Commissioner Richard seconded the motion. Commissioner Richard requested a “friendly” amendment to the motion to ask staff to include more detail of the committee’s responsibility to understand and bring forward budget recommendation to the Board under Section 2: Descriptions of Committees, Item B: Budget and Finance Committee, item ii. Commissioner Mielke accepted the amendment and Commissioner Richard seconded.

Councilmember Hafner requested Commissioner Richard provide the language recommended in the amendment to the Chair.

Motion: To defer for further consideration Resolution #12-02 until the next regular meeting and ask staff and legal counsel to present a revised resolution, as discussed, to the Executive and Budget and Finance Committees’ descriptions with a draft bylaws change that would incorporate the same changes.

Motion/Second: Mielke/Richard

Approved: Unanimously

Resolution #12-03 Adopting a Board of Health Performance Expectations – Councilmember Waldref
Councilmember Waldref, Chair, presented Resolution #12-03 reviewing the proposed Board of Health performance expectations.

Motion: To approve Resolution #12-03 adopting a Board of Health Member Expectation Policy.

Motion/Second: Norwood/Hafner

Approved: Unanimously

Appointment of 2012 Committees

Councilmember Waldref, Chair, sought volunteers for Board of Health committees.

The Board Education and Communications Committee will consist of Board Member Norwood, Councilmember Snyder, Commissioner French and Board Member Lutz who will serve as Chair.

The Budget and Finance Committee will consist of Board Member Fisk, Councilmember Hafner, Commissioner Richard and Councilmember Stuckart who will serve as Chair.

The Executive Committee will consist of Commissioner Mielke, Board Member Lutz, Councilmember Stuckart and Councilmember Waldref who will Chair the committee.

Membership for committees will remain open until next month’s meeting for any other members who desire to volunteer. Councilmember Waldref requested the recording secretary inform the Executive Committee members of meeting days and times, and asked Councilmember Stuckart to work with the agency comptroller to coordinate the Budget and Finance Committee meetings. Councilmember Waldref also asked Board Member Lutz to coordinate the Board Education and Communications Committee meetings days and times with the recording secretary’s assistance.

REPORTS

Health Equity Report – Adrian Dominguez

Board Member Lutz introduced the Health Equity Report, which will be fully presented over the course of 4 Board of Health meetings. He concluded that by viewing health as a resource, contrary to the traditional view of health as the absence of disease, it will be seen as an asset that will allow individuals to achieve their full potential. This viewpoint will give health providers a new framework on how to best work with people. He encouraged Board members to consider the social determinants that have significant impact on health (social economics, educational attainment, race ethnicity, and where people live) because members have the ability to enact policies that can impact those determinants.

Adrian Dominguez, Epidemiologist in the Disease Prevention and Response Division, stated the purpose of the report is to create awareness of social inequities with legislators, policy makers, local entities, and community partners. The 4 reports will address health inequities caused by differences in education, income, ethnicity, and where a person lives with today's report focused on education. Statistics in the report demonstrate the impacts to health based upon level of education.

Councilmember Waldref commented that education statistics direct the focus of the Priority Spokane effort, among others in the community, to increase the high school graduation rate in the area. Councilmember Richard asked staff to help identify and prioritize the highest issues and promote discussion on how to address those.

Solid Waste Facilities Fee Proposal – David Swink, Steve Holderby, Michelle Fossum

Steve Holderby, Environmental Resources Program Manager, presented the proposal for a 100% cost recovery for the Solid Waste Program by implementing a tipping fee surcharge on income collected by permitted solid waste facilities. The surcharge will be collected to offset the amount of general fund used to balance the solid waste program budget. Steve Holderby gave a brief overview of the solid waste program that regulates 14 solid waste facilities including landfills, a waste-energy facility and transfer stations. There are also 3 pending applications for solid waste facilities involving composting and material recovery. The program receives over 140 complaints a year. Some complaints require extended staff time and resources. Total expenditure for the 2012 solid waste program is budgeted at \$240,612. Less than 2 full time staff is used for the program. This figure involves program oversight by Mr. Holderby. It also involves a partial FTE technical advisor and 2 partial FTE field staff that inspect solid waste facilities and investigate illegal dumping, and a partial FTE administrative staff for clerical support. The role of the program protects ground water, controls movement of landfill gases, and curtails the activity of illegal dumping throughout the county.

David Swink, Environmental Public Health Division Director, discussed detailed financial information of the Solid Waste program. The program uses \$141,272 in general funds. The goal is meet the fee policy and free the general funds for other health district needs. After reviewing several sources of cost recovery, a 0.4% fee of solid waste facility's income from tipping fees was recommended. A base amount of \$700 per facility would be proposed with collection on the largest of \$700 or 0.4% tipping fee. Fees already charged in 2012 will be credited to the outstanding bill.

Discussion on the proposal followed regarding the amount of funds the increase would equal. Swink responded the amount raised would equal \$185,000 which includes the permit fees with no profit made. Larger facilities pay more because of the time and resources spent with those facilities. Commissioner Richard noted that the proposed fee would apply to anyone who drops solid waste to the regional system including the commercial haulers and the City of Spokane. Commissioner Richard requested information on efforts made to reduce program costs before the fee increase was recommended. Swink commented that the proposed \$700 fee for smaller facilities will result in a savings from the current fee permits cost.

Michelle Fossum, Spokane Regional Health District contracted attorney, explained the steps to proceed for approval of the proposed fee increase. Stakeholders would be notified in writing of the proposal and a public hearing would be held at the next Board meeting. If approved, written notice would be sent to the Solid Waste Advisory Committee as well. The Board would vote after the hearing. If approved, written notices of changes would be sent in April and May with implementation in June. Councilmember Waldref requested the PowerPoint presentation be sent to all Board members by email for their further review. The Board decided to proceed with the public hearing in March.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

There was no Board Member check-ins.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on March 22, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

APPROVED: Amber Waldref
Councilmember Amber Waldref, Chair

Date: 3/22/12

Carly Pusey
Recording Secretary