

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **January 30, 2014** was called to order by Councilmember Chuck Hafner, at 12:32 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

### **PRESENT**

Commissioner Todd Mielke (arrived at 12:39 p.m.)  
Commissioner Shelly O'Quinn (arrived at 12:39 p.m.)  
Councilmember Mike Fagan (departed at 2:12p.m.)  
Councilmember Jon Snyder (departed at 2:12 p.m.)  
Councilmember Amber Waldref (departed at 2:12 p.m.)  
Councilmember Chuck Hafner, Chair  
Councilmember Ed Pace  
Board Member Susan Norwood, EdD, RN  
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH  
Board Member Keith Baldwin, MHA

### **ABSENT**

Commissioner Al French  
Mayor Tom Trulove

### **CITIZEN INPUT**

- Brandon Kennedy, Spokane WA – offered his services for a paid internship to assist the agency in performing its public safety duties specifically related to food safety. Councilmember Hafner requested he meet with agency staff about internship possibilities.

### **CHAIR REPORT** – Councilmember Chuck Hafner

Councilmember Hafner introduced new members, Councilmember Ed Pace from the City of Spokane Valley and Councilmember Mike Fagan from the City of Spokane.

Councilmember Hafner reminded board members of meeting dates and asked members to make meeting attendance a priority.

Outgoing board member, Councilmember Stuckart, was recognized for his work on the Board of Health (BOH).

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

#### Flu Update

The State of Washington has had 24 flu deaths (7 in Spokane County) the worst outbreak in 3 years. There have been 163 hospitalizations most from Influenza A and 8 confirmed from Influenza B. The predominate strain in Spokane County is H1N1 first introduced in 2009. With this pandemic strain, there is an increase of hospitalizations among 18 to 64 year olds. SRHD has continued urging the public to receive flu shots for anyone over 6 months old and with underlying health issues. The agency will notify the Board, mobilize staff, and work with partners to perform additional outreach and to vaccinate citizens if an epidemic is determined. Currently, there is a sufficient amount of flu vaccine available in the community.

#### Gonorrhea Epidemic Update

In 2013, there have been a total of 322 cases of Gonorrhea reported in Spokane County which represents a 77% increase from 2012. Of the total, 177 were female and 145 were males. Most cases were in the young to middle age population diagnosed in emergency rooms and urgent care facilities. SRHD has

been able to perform STD interviews for most of the cases reported with approximately 16% of the cases not located and 6% refusing to be interviewed.

In order to declare an outbreak status, there must be a 50% increase in the current quarter from the previous 3 quarters. Benton-Franklin, Kitsap, Snohomish and Yakima Counties have also declared outbreak status.

The agency's response has been to communicate to community providers and provide educational material on appropriate screening and treatment. Press releases and media interviews have been completed. Staff has been placing a greater emphasis on accomplishing interviews on cases and monitoring data to determine if intervention methods have been successful.

Demographic statistics will be available in the next couple of weeks. There hasn't been an increase in drug resistant strains. Currently, there has been no determination why the outbreak has happened.

#### Strategic Planning Reminder

The agency's strategic planning cycle will end in April 2014. Goal groups 2, 3 and 4 recommendations have been submitted and accepted by the Executive Leadership Team. Goal 2 created processes for developing policy priorities for communicating with legislators on a ongoing basis. Goal 3 made recommendations to support previous public health preparedness efforts and to support the priorities process as developed. Goal 4 recommended continued training on social determinants of health, continuing health equity reports and supported agency activities surrounding social determinants of health. All recommendations will be posted in full form on the BOH website for Board member review and comments.

The agency will use the National Association of County and City Health Officials' (NACCHO) guide for developing its new strategic plans. This guide is specific for local public health agencies. The guide requires BOH participation and is also a public health accreditation requirement. The process outline will be presented at upcoming Board meetings.

#### Legislative update

Linda Graham, Health Policy Specialist at the health district, gave an overview of her position, updated the Board on state legislative priorities, and reported on marijuana use and its community impacts previously requested by Councilmember Snyder.

This year, the agency is joining community partners (WSALPHO, Public Health Roundtable and Department of Health) and focusing on the following legislative agenda:

- Tobacco settlement funds. Two million dollars in the Governor's budget is slated to be used for prevention efforts with public health lobbying to receive more than that amount. If the public health doesn't receive the funding, it will be placed in the state's general fund budget.
- Healthiest Next Generation. This is an initiative from the Governor's office trying to develop public and private partnerships and workgroups focused on youth obesity. The bill is supported by public health.
- Public Health Nursing Medication Dispensing. This bill is requesting codification for nurses to dispense medications. It failed in the past and has some current opposition, but public health is trying to develop support for the legislation.
- Marijuana Education Funding. There is money in the Governor's budget for the effort. Under Initiative 502 that legalized marijuana, there is a requirement for DOH to receive funding to provide education, outreach and prevention focused on youth. Those revenues will not be

received until the retail market begins and DOH will not receive funds first. The request is for a one-time funding for DOH marijuana-related services to begin.

- Miscellaneous Bills There are approximately 30 bills the agency is monitoring. Some are related to environmental public health, marijuana, and medical marijuana.

Councilmember Snyder commented that he appreciated the agency's legislative agenda and requested that forthcoming agendas be available to the Board in December each year.

Board Member Baldwin requested detailed information on the healthcare innovation plan be made available to the BOH. He also requested more education on legislative initiatives for members with recommendation on how to support work.

Commissioner Mielke requested Board involvement in the legislation of the distribution of marijuana proceeds.

Linda will discuss Board member involvement with legislative activities as part of the BOH Survey Results report.

#### Marijuana Use and Impacts Report

The BOH reviewed marijuana data resulting from the Healthy Youth Survey, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) work. More than ¼ quarter of high school students have used marijuana in the past 30 days both statewide and in Spokane County. Marijuana use in Washington State among 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders is twice the level of cigarette smoking. Marijuana use is lower than alcohol use.

Trends in alcohol and cigarette use are declining while trends in marijuana use are increasing. By 12<sup>th</sup> grade, half of all Washington State students have tried marijuana and 20% of students report being drunk or high at school. Marijuana use is the number one reason youth go into substance abuse treatment. For students, perceived risk of harm of marijuana decreases with age, which is opposite of students perceiving harm due to tobacco. The perception of harm from marijuana has also decreased over time falling from 65% in 2000 to 46% in 2012 and currently is 42%. Historically, when perception of harm goes down use will increase.

There is higher risk of teen suicide with any drug use. Other risky behaviors (such as unprotected sex) increase and school performance decreases with drug use. There are concerns of accidental exposure with legalization. There was an increase of accidental exposure after medical marijuana was passed. SRHD has encouraged the liquor control board to increase packaging requirements for marijuana infused products.

Adult marijuana use is increasing. Most common use is smoking. Statewide 4% of adults report using marijuana over the last 30 days. Use decreases with age and is higher in urban areas.

Councilmember Snyder gave an open invitation for Board members to attend the City of Spokane Marijuana Policy subcommittee meetings. The subcommittee will discuss marijuana policy within Spokane County and meets every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 9:30 a.m. at the Spokane Council Briefing Center. The group has identified a need for data, which currently doesn't exist, that is relevant to policy makers.

Commissioner Mielke recommended that SRHD become the area's lead for distribution of marijuana related data and consider posting data on its website.

**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: December 5, 2013

2013 Vouchers paid: November 1-30, 2013 and December 1-31, 2013

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Voucher Numbers:	#232537 - #232830 & EFT B&O Oct13		
Payroll Warrants:	#823142 - #823155		\$ 576,128.66
	#823763 - #823769	Advice Numbers: #DD22302 - #DD23491	618,565.78
Payroll Warrants:	#825247 - #825271	Advice Numbers: #DD23492 - #DD23680	591,935.45
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,786,629.89</b>

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

***Motion/Second: Waldref/Snyder***

***Approved: Unanimously***

**ACTION ITEMS**

Elect 2014 Vice Chair – Councilmember Hafner

As noted in the agenda packet, Mayor Trulove has resigned from the BOH. He was scheduled to become the vice chair per the rotation schedule. A replacement has not been made for the small cities position from the Mayors of Small Cities to date. Options for the BOH are to change the rotation, wait for an appointment to be made, or appoint an interim vice chair.

Councilmember Snyder nominated Councilmember Waldref as an interim vice chair until a small cities appointment has been made. Councilmember Fagan seconded the motion.

Councilmember Waldref accepted the nomination.

***Motion: To appoint Councilmember Waldref as interim vice chair until a small cities appointment has been made.***

***Motion/Second: Snyder/Fagan***

***Approved: Unanimously***

Adopt 2014 Meeting Schedule – Councilmember Hafner

Councilmember Fagan motioned for an approval of the 2014 meeting schedule. Councilmember Snyder seconded the motion.

Commissioner Mielke posed the question of County Commissioner availability at the July 31 meeting date. The recording secretary will confirm the date with the commissioners’ assistants and report back to Board members.

***Motion: To adopt the 2014 Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health meeting schedule as presented.***

***Motion/Second: Fagan/Snyder***

***Approved: Unanimously***

Appoint 2014 BOH Committees – Councilmember Hafner

Councilmember Hafner requested Board members report to the recording secretary by the end of the meeting which committees they'd volunteer for. Councilmember Hafner will appoint members to the committees after all names have been received.

Commissioner O'Quinn volunteered for the Budget & Finance Committee previously to Councilmember Hafner.

Commissioner Mielke requested that he be allowed to designate Commissioner O'Quinn as a member on the Executive Committee in his place due to standing schedule conflicts he has with the current schedule. Councilmember Hafner requested the Recording Secretary determine a new date for Executive Committee meetings to accommodate Commissioner Mielke's schedule.

Resolution #14-01 Designation of Substitute Health Officer during Absences of the SRHD Health Officer and Rescission of Prior Designation of Substitute Health Officer – Dr. McCullough

The health officer for Whitman County has volunteered to substitute for Dr. McCullough during his absences. Previous substitute health officers (Dr. Gray and Dr. Jecha) have retired. Most of the work required during absences will be completed by phone. Dr. McCullough will serve as substitute health officer for Whitman County.

Commissioner Mielke asked that the agency seek a second substitute health officer in case the first is not available when needed. Dr. McCullough will have conversations with eastside health officers about cross-coverage.

There is no requirement for naming the substitute health officer; it has been past practice in order for Board awareness and approval of the substitute. Board Member Norwood supported the resolution and would support an additional substitute health officer designee.

Councilmember Waldref made a motion to approved Resolution #14-01. Councilmember Fagan seconded the motion.

***Motion: To approve Resolution #14-01 Designation of Substitute Health Officer during Absences of the SRHD Health Officer and Rescission of Prior Designation of Substitute Health Officer.***

***Motion/Second: Waldref/Fagan***

***Approved: Unanimously***

**REPORTS**

BOH Survey Results – Stacy Wenzl/Linda Graham

Councilmember Hafner reported the City of Spokane had a retreat to attend at 2:15pm and designated 15 minutes for reporting of the survey results with continued discussion at the next BOH meeting.

The survey was completed in November with 11 members completing the survey and all 12 completing the interviews. The summary of the results is available at:

<http://boh.srhd.org/documents/Presentations/PRESENTATION-BOH%20Survey-ExecSummary.pdf>

Linda Graham, SRHD Health Policy Specialist, recommended the Board form a committee that focuses on the recommendations of the survey and develops an implementation plan.

Commissioner Mielke and O'Quinn requested time at the next Board meeting to discuss the recommendations and possible next steps.

Commissioner O'Quinn requested all material that will be reviewed at meetings be made available prior to each meeting.

**BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN**

No reports were made.

**NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on February 27, 2014.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the Board the meeting was adjourned at 2:19 p.m.

APPROVED: Charles E. Valle/Chair  
Board Member Name and Title

Date: 2/27/14

C. Harwood  
Recording Secretary