

The regular meeting of the Spokane Regional Health District Board of Health held on Thursday, **June 30, 2016** was called to order by Mayor Kevin Freeman, Chair, at 12:30 p.m. in room 140 of the Public Health Center, 1101 West College Avenue, Spokane, Washington.

PRESENT

Mayor Kevin Freeman, Chair
Commissioner Nancy McLaughlin (arrived 12:49pm)
Commissioner Shelly O’Quinn, Vice Chair (arrived 12:49pm)
Councilmember Lori Kinnear
Councilmember Breean Beggs
Board Member Keith Baldwin, MHA
Board Member Bob Lutz, MD, MPH

ABSENT

Councilmember Amber Waldref
Commissioner Al French
Board Member Susan Norwood-Boysen, EdD, RN

CITIZEN INPUT

There was no citizen input.

CHAIR REPORT – Mayor Freeman

Recognition of Needle Exchange Program Staff

The Board of Health (BOH) recognized Lynn Everson, Disease Prevention and Response Division, and presented her a plaque for her 27 years of work in the Needle Exchange Program.

BOH Health Officer Selection Committee Update

Board Member Baldwin is assisting Mayor Freeman and has met with Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD) Executive Leadership Team (ELT) members to gain feedback on the agency’s structure. There will be meetings with other health district officials that Mayor Freeman will arrange this week and next. The goal is to complete the committee discussions and present recommendations by the next BOH meeting. Mayor Freeman will work with Dr. McCullough to determine if he is able to continue as the interim health officer and will seek a replacement if needed.

SRHD Audit

The agency has completed an audit by the Washington State Auditors. The audit report was favorable.

Spokane Valley BOH Representatives

A formal letter will be sent to the City of Spokane Valley requesting BOH representatives. Two outstanding Spokane Valley council positions have been filled and appointments to the BOH are expected at their next meeting.

BOH Committee Updates

The Policy Committee met and is working on ways to move forward on policies. There will be a future update by Councilmember Waldref.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT

STD and Immunization Updates – Lyndia Wilson, Disease Prevention and Response Director

Over the past five years, gonorrhea, chlamydia and syphilis cases have continued to rise. It is nearing an epidemic level and there is a need for additional staffing to complete case investigations. The rates of gonorrhea from 2010 to current has gone from 29 cases per 100,000 to 107 per 100,000. Chlamydia has gone from 343 cases per 100,000 to 446 cases per 100,000. The most serious, primary and secondary syphilis cases, have gone from 11 cases in 2014 to 28 in 2015 and is currently at 28 in the first half of 2016.

There is a full-time Department of Health (DOH) infectious disease investigator that has covered the syphilis cases. Because of the increases, internal SRHD staff have been moved to assist with the cases. In 2012, there were two full-time disease investigators. Since then, one of the positions has been laid off due to funding decreases. There is a RCW that requires three days for case completion. The agency has never been able to meet the requirement for follow up. The average is 10 days for case completion.

Preschool immunizations for 19-35 month olds is at 42% of completion. Spokane County is at the bottom third of the counties in the state. The state is at 58% and the nation is at 71%. The western states are lower than the national average for immunizations. Staff time has been focused on the 6th grade and school completion series. Those rates have risen from 61% up to 83%. The data shows when staffing is available, rates improve. More staffing will be sought to address preschool immunizations.

STDs and immunizations are core foundational public health services; therefore, staffing is very important. Demographics for STDs are available. Gonorrhea and syphilis are prevalent in the 18 to 30-year-old range. Chlamydia remains higher in teenagers.

Board Member Lutz supported Lyndia Wilson's request commenting there has been 100+ increase in syphilis cases at the Rockwood Clinic. With the amount of time it takes clinic staff to complete a case, it is understandable why there is a need for additional staff. Lyndia responded that due to the complexity of a syphilis case, it takes staff more time to complete than an HIV case.

Universities have student health services to test and treat STD cases. The universities also have prevention programs. SRHD doesn't have funding for STD prevention services.

SRHD ELT has discussed the staffing issue and is supportive of two more positions to cover STDs.

Public Health 3.0 – Torney Smith, Administrator

The Assistant Secretary of Health, Dr. Karen DeSalvo, will be visiting Spokane on July 11. She is visiting five cities across the nation to promote a concept she calls, Public Health 3.0., which reviews the evolution of public health in the nation over the last decade. The Spokane community is one that Dr. DeSalvo believes is heading in the direction that public health should go. All BOH members should have received invitations to attend the conference.

Partners in Parenting – Torney Smith, Administrator

There was a recent article about SRHD's Nurse Family Partnership program on Partners in Parenting. The program has developed a toolkit called *1-2-3 Care*, designed to be used by families and communities to address adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). The toolkit is now being used nationally and internationally. Information on the kit is available online or by contacting the recording secretary, Ann Pitsnogle.

Environmental Public Health (EPH) Division Report – Torney Smith, Administrator

The EPH report will be held at the Aug 18 meeting.

SRHD Elevator Repair – Torney Smith, Administrator

The agency’s elevators are under repair for the next 12 to 18 weeks with the public elevator work starting first. The public elevator is currently under repair for four months. Thyssenkrupp Elevator will be inspecting the existing elevator twice a month during the repairs.

COMPTROLLER REPORT – Mike Riley, Comptroller

The Comptroller Report has been added as a standing BOH agenda item resulting from the State Auditor’s visit. There were no findings or management letters resulting from the audit, and the auditors recommended SRHD keep the BOH informed about large financial decisions in the agency. Mayor Freeman recommended including a standing Comptroller Report on the BOH agenda.

Next month’s topics will include: new agency budgeting tools, the 2017 fee schedule, a 2016 budget amendment, and a 2016 financial report. The BOH Budget and Finance Committee will recommend topic items for future reports.

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: May 26, 2016

2016 Vouchers paid: May 1-31, 2016

Voucher Numbers:	#239850 - #240081 & EFT B&OApr2016	\$ 613,377.35
Payroll Warrants:	#924472 - #924494 #924765 - #924771	
	Advice Numbers: #DD34719 - #DD34912	685,381.11
Payroll Warrants:	#926043 - #926066 #926322 - #926333	
	Advice Numbers: #DD34913 - #DD35105	660,515.08
	TOTAL	1,959,273.54

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

Motion/Second: O’Quinn/Kinnear

Approved: Unanimously

ACTION ITEMS

There were no Action Items.

REPORTS

There were no Reports.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The BOH recessed at 1:02pm for 15 minutes for an Executive Session pursuant to RCW §42.30.10.1(i). Ray Byrne, Environmental Public Health Division Director, and Torney Smith, Administrator, were asked to participate in the executive session.

MEETING RECONVENED

The meeting reconvened at 1:17pm.

BOARD MEMBER CHECK IN

City of Spokane Forum on Oil Trains – Councilmember Beggs

Spokane City Council held a forum on the various effects of oil trains. Mike LaScuola, SRHD Environmental Resources Technical Advisor, reported to the council. Councilmember Beggs thanked him for a job well done. The Washington State DOH participated in the forum and spoke on drinking water issues and Spokane Valley Mayor Higgins spoke on train separation and aquifer issues.

Judge Derr Retirement – Commissioner O’Quinn

Commissioners Laughlin and O’Quinn were late to the BOH meeting due to the retirement party of District Court Judge Derr.

City of Millwood Grant – Mayor Freeman

The City of Millwood received a \$300,000 WUTC grant to place signals at the last ungated railroad crossing in the city. Work will begin this year.

NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING


The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled at 12:30 p.m. on August 18, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

APPROVED: 
Board Member Name and Title

Date: 8/18/2016


Recording Secretary