

# **KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD**

**Regular Meeting**

**February 3, 2015**

The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair, Commissioner Robert Gelder, at 1:49 p.m.

## **MINUTES**

Commissioner Garrido moved and Mayor Lent seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the January 6, 2015 regular meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The contracts on the consent agenda included:

- 1347 Kitsap County, *Clean Water Kitsap*
- 1343 Washington State Health Care Authority, *Medicaid Administrative MATCH*
- 1313 Kitsap County, *Derelict Vessel Prevention Program*

Mayor Erickson moved and Commissioner Garrido seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda, including the contracts update and Warrant and Electronic Funds Transfer Register. The motion was approved unanimously.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

## **HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT/ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Susan Turner, MD, Health Officer, informed the Board that the community is having a Pertussis outbreak and that the Health District has begun asking for the public's help to control it and to especially protect infants, the group that is of highest risk of severe infection and even death. She stated that there are an elevated number of cases in other areas of the state. In 2014, there were 36 cases of Pertussis in Kitsap County and 34 of those cases have occurred since June. There were 14 cases in December alone and in January there have already been 25 as of today. In the two days prior to today's Board meeting, 14 additional cases were reported indicating more individuals are being identified. The number of cases in Kitsap County thus far in this outbreak is 74. In 2012, there was an outbreak, with 94 cases of pertussis reported in the County. There have been no deaths from Pertussis in Kitsap County over the last 25 years.

Dr. Turner stated that the Health District is having frequent team meetings to address the high number of Pertussis cases and to respond to situations where people pose a risk. In mid-January, a provider letter was sent out, and a parent letter was forwarded to the Bainbridge Island and North Kitsap School Districts. Another letter is currently being prepared to send to medical providers, the Olympic Educational Services District (OESD), and all of the schools in the County. A toolkit prepared by the Health District will be provided by the school districts to parents of children who are sent home for coughing. The toolkit includes a note to bring back to school when their physician releases them to return to school. Anyone with Pertussis needs five days of treatment before coming back to school or work. A Health District prepared letter is also being sent to all childcare providers urging them to be sure vaccinations are up to date.

Dr. Turner also noted that the Health District is working collaboratively with stakeholders who

serve infants and pregnant women. The District's website has been updated with current information for the media and providers. The District is doing a lot to step up and respond to the outbreak and Dr. Turner has been in contact with neighboring jurisdictional health officers so that they are aware of the Kitsap County situation. Pertussis can begin like a common cold with symptoms including runny nose, low grade fever and cough. The District is asking the public to avoid settings where sick people congregate, and to ensure that family members and child care providers have up to date vaccinations. Anyone exposed to someone with Pertussis should see a physician for preventive treatment. If symptoms develop, stay home, and cover coughs, call your physician, and wear a mask if asked. They should not return to school or work until cleared by the physician.

Dr. Turner stated that influenza seems to have passed its peak. Kitsap County has experienced five deaths from influenza this flu season, all deaths occurring in older individuals. The Washington State Lab and University of Washington Lab both indicate a decline in influenza testing and positive tests. However, the Respiratory Syncytial Virus findings are still increasing and the Cold Virus is still hanging in there. The number of deaths across the State from influenza is comparable to last flu season's death rate, with 81 occurring this year versus 79 during last year's flu season.

Scott Daniels, Administrator, stated that last year the District talked to the Board about the development of the Olympic Community of Health (OCOH), the healthcare reform effort to bring stakeholders together in the county and across the state to address the Triple Aim of improved healthcare, improved health outcomes and lower healthcare costs. Recently the Health District was awarded a \$100,000 grant from the Washington State Health Care Authority to help pay for the OCOH's work in 2015. Hiring a Project Manager is the first priority. Mr. Daniels asked the Board to refer to him anyone who might be qualified and interested in the position.

Secondly, Mr. Daniels mentioned that the District's Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) site visit will be next week. If successfully accredited, the District will be the second local health jurisdiction in the state to be accredited. Only the Spokane Regional Health District has been accredited to date. He reminded the Board that the PHAB site visit team will be meeting with Board members Commissioner Gelder, Mayor Erickson, and Mayor Lent, next Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 a.m. in the District's Sinclair Room. Commissioner Garrido will serve as an alternate if one of the other Board members cannot attend this meeting.

Mr. Daniels confirmed a Health District orientation meeting with Commissioner Wolfe on February 24 at the Commissioner's office. The District's Executive Leadership Team will attend and conduct the orientation.

Lastly, Mr. Daniels mentioned a Board member's concern that the Board packets are too lengthy and that the Board does not have sufficient time to review the materials prior to Board meetings. As a solution, he proposed to instead provide the Board with two packets, the first containing a short written summary of the consent agenda contracts rather than including them in their entirety in the main packet, and also include in that packet the main discussion and action item documents. The second packet would include the lengthy consent agenda contracts and financial documents. This would require that the two packets be sent as separate PDFs and links. Also,

Mr. Daniels stated that the Health District will make every effort to get the Board packet out sooner. Daniels then asked the Board if they had any other recommendations. The Board agreed to try this approach and modify if needed.

Commissioner Wolfe asked why there is only one other Health District in the state accredited and what will an accreditation mean for the District? Daniels stated that several other health jurisdictions are in the process. The main benefit is that it ensures that we are providing services in the most effective and efficient way. Accreditation also has the potential to improve funding for the District, especially federal funding. He stated that the Health District has learned a lot going through the process and it has assured us that we are really good at what we do, and we take pride in that.

**RESOLUTION 2015-02: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING KITSAP PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 1 TO OPERATE AND MAINTAIN THE PORT GAMBLE LARGE ON-SITE SEWAGE SYSTEM**

Commissioner Gelder reminded the Board that this topic was introduced at the last Board meeting and at that meeting the Board had requested additional information before taking action on the resolution. That information was received a couple weeks ago. The task today is to go through that information and ask Mr. Keith Grellner, Environmental Health Division Director, any questions to make sure the Board is well as informed so they can make a decision on the resolution today.

Mr. Grellner referred to the resolution included in the packet that would authorize Kitsap Public Utility District (KPUD) to operate and maintain the Port Gamble Large Onsite Sewage System (LOSS) which is in its early design phase. He stated that Bob Hunter, General Manager of KPUD, was attending today's meeting to answer any questions. Mr. Grellner then asked the Board to adopt the resolution. Commissioner Gelder called for questions. Mayor Erickson asked if the plant is located on private property. Mr. Grellner introduced Bob Hunter, General Manager of KPUD, who clarified that it is on Olympic Property Group (OPG) land in Port Gamble. Mayor Erickson then asked for clarification of the relation between Mason Public Utility District (MPUD) and KPUD. Mr. Hunter stated that KPUD has a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with MPUD that allows them to initially take ownership of the infrastructure. He explained that KPUD would then take ownership of that when KPUD gets sewer authority. MPUD is the interim owner. Mayor Erickson asked if the size of the plant means there will not be more than 350 houses in Port Gamble. Mr. Hunter stated that it is currently being designed to serve the existing properties there and it will have the ability to add more capacity to serve at the maximum vested level allotted for Port Gamble.

Mayor Lent moved and Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2015-02: Authorizing Kitsap Public Utility District No. 1 to operate and maintain the Port Gamble large on-site sewage system. The motion was approved unanimously.

**HARRISON MEDICAL CENTER COMMUNITY HEALTHCARE ADVISORY GROUP**

Dr. Turner mentioned that in May 2014, Harrison Medical Center (HMC) announced that its Board of Directors was considering consolidating acute hospital care services from Bremerton to its campus in Silverdale. Late last year, HMC convened an advisory group to make recommendations to the HMC Board of Directors about what ambulatory services should remain in Bremerton and how the existing property should be repurposed. That advisory group consists of many community healthcare leaders. HMC has chosen not to share that list. There have been three meetings thus far, but the meeting content is also not being shared at this point. Dr. Turner said that Katie Eilers and Scott Daniels attended the initial meetings and that she attended the last meeting and will continue to attend with Katie Eilers. At the next meeting, the advisory group will be discussing the priorities for services that might remain or be needed in Bremerton once the hospital closes. Once the Board publicly announces their decisions, there will be an opportunity for public comment. Dr. Turner wanted to make the Board aware that the Health District is engaged in this discussion. Mayor Erickson asked what the timeline is for the build-out in Silverdale to occur. Dr. Turner said she was not aware of the timeline. She said she did invite one of the hospital representatives to come do a presentation to the Board; however, the representative declined until the HMC Board of Directors have completed the process. Dr. Turner will keep the Board updated as information is shared.

## **WORKPLACE WELLNESS POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

Mr. Daniels introduced the topic and expressed his happiness to talk to the Board about policy related issues. He stated that the District has created draft Wellness Policies and a Guidebook to help Board members, and other agencies and businesses in the County, adopt in their own jurisdictions and workplaces. The policies address breastfeeding, physical activity, healthy eating, and tobacco use. He stated that the District would be glad to come to Board members' offices and talk with their Human Resources staff to help explain what these Wellness Policies are all about and to assist with their implementation. Mr. Daniels next introduced Yolanda Fong, RN, Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Healthy Communities/Chronic Disease Prevention.

Ms. Fong shared that chronic disease issues in our communities are the leading cause of death. Chronic disease is often caused by factors such as poor nutrition, inactivity and tobacco use. She stated that, at the Health District, chronic disease prevention work is focused on reducing the risk factors to help improve health. Chronic diseases are long-term and incurable, and include heart disease, asthma, diabetes, and cancer, among others. Workplaces have the ability to help impact health at multiple levels: individual, organizational, and in the community. At the individual level, a person spends fifty-four percent of awake time at work. At the organizational level, businesses are impacted by the health of their employees in direct costs for medical care or indirect costs such as lower productivity, higher rates of disability, and worker compensation claims. Ms. Fong stated that eighty percent of employed Kitsap residents work in Kitsap County, so workplace interventions are community interventions as well. She explained that a Workplace Wellness Policy is a formal written rule that clarifies expectations of management and staff. A policy can help to enhance workplace wellness programs by providing guiding principles for activities that reflect organizational values. The draft Workplace Wellness Policies developed by the District have gone through legal review and are currently being reviewed by the District's union and staff. Once the policies are finalized, they will be added to the guidebook and it will be

ready for other community organizations to use. The District wants to allow people to make healthy choices. She then asked for any questions.

Commissioner Gelder stated that the guides and tables are great and commented on the phenomenal work.

Commissioner Matthes stated that he supports only the tobacco policy, but asked why the policy reads "All district buildings are designated tobacco-free outside the area of 50 feet" when the state law is 25 feet. He suggested that the policy be 25 feet to be consistent with state law. Commissioner Matthes stated his concern with the employee acknowledgment that reads, "I have received this policy and my signature below signifies that I accept and will abide by the policy". He felt that it sounded too strict.

Mr. Daniels addressed the tobacco policy with regards to the 50 feet limit. He stated it is a requirement established by the Norm Dicks Government Center Condo Association adopted by all tenants of the building.

Mayor Lent next shared a new City of Bremerton parks sign to be installed at 38 city parks. The sign asks for voluntary no smoking in the parks. The sign was developed with the assistance of the Health District.

Mr. Daniels commented on the healthy eating policy. He stated that the policy is focused on the food that the District purchases for meetings and made available in the office. He clarified that staff can bring any type of food they want for personal use. In the case of the healthy eating policy, the acknowledgement is meant for those who are buying food for meetings and District events.

Commissioner Garrido stated she really appreciates the fresh fruit and water provided by the District at today's meeting.

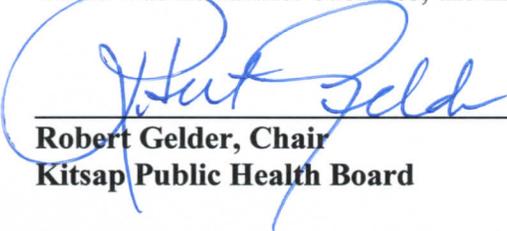
Mayor Erickson stated that she has encouraged their wellness committee to buy fresh fruit and have it available. It will go a long way to help people be more happy and healthy in the community.

Dr. Turner, commented on Mayor Matthes' concern of the healthy food acknowledgment. She stated she understands his concerns. She mentioned that the District was very careful to allow for personal freedom and provide guidelines for nurturing the workplace and not limit people's personal actions. She stated the acknowledgement is uniform and used for other District policies. She that the District is open to any ideas to help the policy accentuate personal freedom as well as improve the nutritional environment.

Commissioner Gelder thanked Ms. Fong.

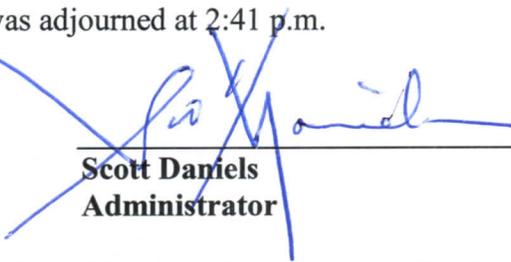
## **ADJOURN**

There was no further business; the meeting was adjourned at 2:41 p.m.



---

**Robert Gelder, Chair**  
**Kitsap Public Health Board**



---

**Scott Daniels**  
**Administrator**

**Board Members Present:** *Council Member Sarah Blossom; Commissioner Charlotte Garrido; Commissioner Rob Gelder; Mayor Patty Lent; Mayor Tim Matthes; Mayor Becky Erickson; Commissioner Edward Wolfe.*

**Staff Present:** *Karen Bevers, Communications Coordinator/Public Information Officer; Karen Boysen-Knapp, Healthy Communities Specialist, Chronic Disease Prevention Program; Scott Daniels, Administrator; Susan Turner, Health Officer; Kerry Dobbelaere, Program Manager 2, Clinical Services Program; Katie Eilers, Assistant Director, Community Health Division; Yolanda Fong, Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Chronic Disease Prevention Program; Kathy Greco, Confidential Secretary, Administration; Keith Grellner, Director, Environmental Health Division; Leslie Hopkins, Program Coordinator 2, Administration; Nicola Marsden-Haug, Epidemiologist 2, Administration; Suzanne Plemmons, Director, Community Health Division; Shelley Rose, Public Health Educator, In-Person Assister Program; Danielle Schaeffner, Health Specialist 1, Built Environment/Chronic Disease Prevention Program; Pat Degracia, Public Health Educator, In-Person Assister Program; Stuart Whitford, Program Manager, Pollution Identification and Correction Program; Siri Kushner; Epidemiologist 2, Administration; Ruth Westergaard, Community Liaison, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Program; Dana Brainerd, Public Health Nurse, Clinical Services Program; Megan Sater, KPHD Intern.*

**Public Present:** *Monte Levine, self; Robert Hunter, Kitsap Public Utility District.*