

**KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Regular Meeting
June 4, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Commissioner Robert Gelder at 12:31 p.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Ed Wolfe moved, and Commissioner Charlotte Garrido seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the May 7, 2019, regular meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The June consent agenda included no contracts.

Commissioner Garrido moved and Mayor Rob Putaansuu seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda, including the Contracts Update and Warrant and Electronic Funds Transfer Registers. The motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Update:

Mr. Keith Grellner, Administrator, informed the Board that Dr. Susan Turner and several other directors were attending the Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WSALPHO) conference in Leavenworth.

He shared an update on behalf of Dr. Turner: flu season in Kitsap County appears to be over as of week 20, May 12-18, 2019, since the percentage of positive flu tests reported and influenza like illness visits at emergency departments fell below baseline.

Next, Mr. Grellner informed the Board that the Health District is about to undergo its 2018 audit and he will invite one or more Board members to the entrance conference, and when complete he will invite members to the exit conference.

Mr. Grellner also noted that Board Committee materials will be posted on the website shortly, in response to Mr. Roger Gay's public comment at the May meeting. He said staff have been working to gather these materials and Mr. Grellner is reviewing them to post online.

Mr. Grellner reminded the Board that Group B water user agreements are required to be in place in September, per the new Group B regulations. He said notices will be sent out to Group B systems this week to remind system owners about user agreements. He said to direct anyone with questions to John Kiess, Environmental Health Director.

Additionally, Mr. Grellner noted the requirement for water status reports during real estate transactions has been fully implemented. He said 200 reports were processed in May.

Lastly, Mr. Grellner reminded the Board of the upcoming Baby Breakfast at Harrison Hospital at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 28, 2019 to recognize and support the achievements of Nurse Family Partnership in Kitsap and Jefferson Counties. He said Senator Christine Rolfes will be speaking at the event.

There was no further comment.

TOBACCO, VAPING & MARIJUANA PREVENTION PROGRAM

Ms. Megan Moore, Healthy Community Specialist in the Chronic Disease Prevention Program, provided the Board a presentation on the Health District's Tobacco, Vaping and Marijuana Prevention program.

The Chronic Disease Prevention Program at Kitsap Public Health seeks to intervene throughout the lifespan to reduce preventable diseases. Youth substance use prevention programs are essential in preventing substance use disorder and tobacco-related diseases.

The Tobacco & Vapor Product Control & Prevention Program (TVPCPP) and the Youth Marijuana Prevention & Education Program (YMPEP) are grant-funded programs managed at the Washington State Department of Health (DOH). Funding for these programs comes from various sources including the Dedicated Marijuana Account (RCW 69.50.540).

Locally, the Kitsap Public Health District tailors DOH strategies to the communities of the Olympic Region including Kitsap, Jefferson, and Clallam Counties. Our activities on the ground-level are implemented by our partners at Kitsap County Human Services, Jefferson County Public Health, and Clallam County Health & Human Services.

The presentation provided the Board with a brief overview of the work being done at a regional level under these two programs.

Tobacco & Vapor Product Control & Prevention Program

- 0.25 FTE dedicated to this program.
- Smokeless tobacco and cigarette use by youth are lower than ever in history.
- 2018 Healthy Youth Survey (HYS) saw a dramatic rise in youth vapor product use at the state and national level, with Kitsap County being slightly higher than the state average.
- Vapor products are extremely inexpensive and accessible for youth

- Many youth and parents believe vapor products contain no nicotine and are not harmful due to misleading labels and education
- Two major State legislative successes in 2019:
 - Passed Tobacco 21
 - Passed Vapor Tax
- Kitsap Public Health Board approved Ordinance 2016-01 – Prohibiting the Use of Vapor Products in Indoor Public Places
 - Health District staff just sent out 1200 “No Vaping Within 25 Feet” window clings for food-permit holding businesses. The businesses responded favorably to the window clings.

Commissioner Gelder asked if the symbol used on the clings is a common depiction of vapor products. Ms. Moore said there are a couple different symbols used, but the main signifier is the lightning bolt.

Youth Marijuana Prevention & Education Program

- There is evidence that developing brains (under age 25) have higher likelihood of challenges with memory, attention, learning, poor school performance, and increased problematic behaviors. Additionally, those under 25 have an increased risk of mental health illnesses such as depression, anxiety, psychosis and other mental illnesses.
- HYS found that there has not been an increase in youth use of marijuana since the legalization of marijuana retailers.

Mayor Kol Medina said it is shocking that, according to the HYS, nearly one out of three high schoolers have used marijuana in the last 30 days. He asked how use is defined by the survey. Ms. Moore explained that the statistic was related to any kind of use in the last 30 days, ranging from tried marijuana once or use it heavily. She said this is an alarming number. She added that there is some data reported on how frequently youth use marijuana and she can get this information to the Board.

Mayor Becky Erickson said she has heard that marijuana use in youth has been attributed to increased rates of schizophrenia and asked if the data around this issue is becoming clearer. Ms. Moore said there is research around the linkage between THC and psychosis and noted that the levels of THC in marijuana are higher than they have ever been. Mayor Erickson said it is important to continue researching this linkage. Ms. Moore added that one small study found that 50% of all new mental health cases have some relationship to marijuana use in the nation. She said that as more laws are passed on this issue, there will be more trend data available.

- Marijuana retailers have a high compliance rate of not selling to minors in comparison to tobacco retailers.

- 25% of youth obtain marijuana from a family source (sibling or parent, with or without parent permission).
- Working to educate parents about responsible use, including locking up or hiding marijuana, the same way they would with alcohol.
- There is concern about the low perception of harm in Kitsap County. There is an increase in youth and parents who believe marijuana is not harmful.
- Historically, when a substance is normalized in the community, it leads to an increase in youth use.
- Marijuana is very inexpensive. One high is more affordable than other activities, such as a night of bowling or going to a movie.
- There has been talk at the state level of increasing or removing the cap on the number of retailer licenses in each county. This would increase access for youth and create more normalization of marijuana use in the county.

Lastly, Ms. Moore said there are limitations on tobacco and vapor prevention policy options due to preemption, but there are not the same policy limitations for marijuana. She said staff want to get ahead of the curve forecasted by the data she showed regarding decrease in perception of harm. She shared some opportunities for prevention policies that have been implemented in other jurisdictions nationally: density restrictions, such as cap on retailers in low poverty or school areas; county-wide restriction of billboards or restriction of billboards on bus routes; restrictions on marijuana event licenses, such as Hempfest; or restrictions on attractive lighting on the exterior of retail locations.

Commissioner Gelder said the Board's concern is the preemption of local authority as state policies change, which is something for the Board to keep an eye on.

Mayor Erickson noted that the City of Poulsbo does not allow marijuana retailers inside city limits. She said some of the regulations Ms. Moore suggested to the Health board may be in direct conflict with land-use laws. She asked if Ms. Moore had discussed these policy options with a land-use attorney. Ms. Moore explained that these were just examples of what jurisdictions in other parts of the nation were doing, and that the Board would need talk to attorneys if it were to consider implementing any of the policies.

Commissioner Gelder added that some of these policies may be things the jurisdictions may need to address at the local level, rather than through the Health Board.

Ms. Moore added that an infographic from the CDC was included in the Board packets that could be used for a variety of audiences, and if the Board members are interested in using the infographic, she can distribute it in a number of media formats.

There was no further comment.

NOXIOUS WEED MANAGEMENT

Mr. Grellner informed the Board that on March 29, 2019, the Kitsap Environmental Coalition (KEC) emailed the County Commissioners and requested that they, in their roles as county commissioners and Health Board members, ban the sale and use of Glyphosate in Kitsap County.

He introduced Dana Coggon from the County's Noxious Weed Program. He said the purpose of this presentation was to provide the Health Board with information concerning Glyphosate and explain how herbicides like Glyphosate are one of a number of tools that may be used to manage noxious weeds as required by law and begin a discussion about how the Health Board may want to respond to the KEC's request.

Mr. Grellner also noted the recent resolution signed by the Commissioners to discontinue use of Glyphosate on county owned property and right of way, and a draft Toxicological Profile for Glyphosate from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (April 2019). Additionally, Mr. Grellner said he has submitted a legal request to the Health District's attorney to see if the Health Board has authority to ban the sale or use of herbicides.

Mayor Medina said the Bainbridge Island City Council looked into this previously and were given the impression that state law doesn't give authority to local jurisdictions to regulate herbicides. He said he suspects the Health Board will be told the same. Mr. Grellner said that is his suspicion too, but is waiting to hear back from the attorney.

Ms. Coggon said noxious weeds are defined as non-native, invasive and aggressive plants which are extremely difficult to control. Noxious weeds have significant ecological impacts and cause harm to human and animals. There are currently 170 plants designated as noxious weeds in Washington State. The County is given authority to maintain noxious weeds through state law (RCW 17.10) which states jurisdictions should limit economic loss and adverse effects to Washington's agricultural, natural, and human resources due to the presence and spread of noxious weeds on all terrestrial and aquatic areas in the state.

Noxious weeds are divided into three classifications: Class A, Class B, and Class C. Class A weeds pose a serious threat to the state and are the highest priority of the program. Giant Hogweed, a Class A weed, can cause caustic burns and lifelong scarring if touched. The program does education and outreach to the public for appropriate management and removal of noxious weeds outside of the program's ability to manage directly.

Ms. Coggon said the Noxious Weed Program manages over 6,000 sites and that the program only uses about two gallons of Glyphosate on average per year. She said the program uses integrated vegetation management. Program staff try to stop the seed set where it first starts through prevention, but when that is not possible, they use a variety of approaches to eradicate the weeds. Some of these approaches include digging up the plants and using small, targeted amounts of herbicide. She said most of the product they use is broadleaf herbicide that is certified to be used in waterways. Additionally, she said a challenge is noxious weeds around

wellheads. The program seeks ways to eradicate weeds while ensuring no pesticides enter the wellheads. Ms. Coggon said the program tries to avoid using pesticides but when they do, they track when and where they were used and their implications.

Ms. Coggon said she appreciates the County's updated regulations about using Glyphosate near roads, but also appreciates that her program can use a small amount of Glyphosate in targeted areas where and when needed. She said she is of the mindset that we should be learning about implications and looking at alternative methods when possible.

Mayor Erickson asked what Crossbow is made of. Ms. Coggon explained that it consists of two active ingredients, Triclopyr and 2, 4-D, which manage only broadleaf plants and do not impact other species.


Mayor Erickson asked if Crossbow is getting the same kind of reputation as Roundup (Glyphosate). She also asked if the program posts alternative methods on their website for public to use on noxious weeds. Ms. Coggon explained that the program does not publish any recommendations of products, but that the program publishes which products they have used and where. She said the program tells the public to do their own research and select a product or method that works best for their own property. Ms. Coggon added that Glyphosate should be a last resort after trying other methods, which is what the Noxious Weed Program does.

Mayor Medina informed Ms. Coggon that the City of Bainbridge Island set aside money in the budget for noxious weed management and is awaiting a proposal. Ms. Coggon said the City already has a line item for the Noxious Weed Program to manage weeds along roadways, but that she knows of volunteer groups that would be interested in using the funding to look at ways to eradicate other types of noxious weeds, such as Scotch broom. She said she will let those groups know to reach out to the City with a proposal.

There was no further comment.

ADJOURN

There was no further business; the meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.



Robert Gelder
Kitsap Public Health Board



Keith Grellner
Administrator

Board Members Present: *Mayor* Becky Erickson; *Commissioner* Charlotte Garrido; *Commissioner* Robert Gelder; *Mayor* Kol Medina; *Mayor* Robert Putaansuu; *Mayor* Greg Wheeler; *Commissioner* Ed Wolfe.

Board Members Absent: *None.*

Community Members Present: Dana Coggon; *Kitsap County Noxious Weed Program*; Pam Hamon, *League of Women Voters – Kitsap*.

Staff Present: Angie Berger, *Administrative Assistant, Administration*; Dana Bierman, *Community Liaison, Chronic Disease Prevention*; Keith Grellner, *Administrator*; Karen Holt, *Program Manager, Human Resources*; Joffrey Inocencio, *Intern, Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response*; Dayna Katula, *Manager, Food and Living Environment*; Lyndsey Kellum, *Community Liaison; Chronic Disease Prevention*; Melina Knoop, *Environmental Health Specialist 2-RS*; Melissa Laird, *Program Manager, Accounting and Finance*; Megan Moore, *Community Liaison, Chronic Disease Prevention*; Yana Shuhler, *Secretary Clerk, Support Services*; Tad Sooter, *Public Information Officer & Communications Coordinator*; Jim Zimny, *Assistant Director, Environmental Health Division*;