

**KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Regular Meeting
November 5, 2019**

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair, Commissioner Robert Gelder at 12:36 p.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Charlotte Garrido moved and Mayor Kol Medina seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the October 1, 2019 regular meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The November consent agenda included the following contracts:

- 1621 Amendment 3 (2029), *Kitsap County Prosecuting Attorney, Legal Services*
- 2030, *Olympic Educational Service District, Head Start*

Mayor Becky Erickson moved and Commissioner Garrido 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.

HEALTH OFFICER/ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Health Officer Update:

Dr. Susan Turner, Health Officer, provided the Board with a few updates.

Syringe Exchange Program Network Update:

The Health District will be releasing a request for proposals (RFP) for a mobile syringe exchange services contract for 2020. The purpose of the RFP is to continue mobile syringe exchange services as we transition to the new integrated syringe exchange model that Dr. Turner presented last month. Peninsula Community Health Services (PCHS) is up and running and reports the 6th Street site having a few exchanges per week, some of them being larger exchanges.

Flu Season:

- We have had some positive flu test activity, and ESSENCE influenza-like illness (ILI) data is elevated as is usual for this time of year;
- WA reporting low flu activity and no deaths. US also generally reporting low flu activity;

- We are likely hovering near the onset of flu season; and
- It is important to get flu shots ASAP, and practice excellent hand hygiene, stay home if ill.

E-cig or Vaping Associated Lung Injury (EVALI) Outbreak:

No one compound or ingredient has emerged as the cause of these illnesses to date; and it may be that there is more than one cause of this outbreak. Many different substances and product sources are still under investigation.

Kitsap Public Health investigated a suspect EVALI case reported to us by a local physician who felt the illness was associated with the individual's e-cigarette use. The case is a probable case, not fully meeting the official case definition because extensive infectious disease testing was not done. Health District staff are coordinating with Washington State Department of Health (DOH), more information should be announced soon.

Kitsap Public Health issued a Health Advisory to the medical community regarding the new Washington State Board of Health (SBOH) rule and its requirements and will shortly publish an update that highlights for providers the new Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance on managing potential cases.

Commissioner Gelder asked for clarification that the case in Kitsap was considered unconfirmed because testing didn't occur to rule out other causes. Dr Turner confirmed and explained that a diagnosis of exclusion is when test results are consistent with a diagnosis and then additional testing is done to exclude other illnesses.

Nationwide as of 10/31/19 (CDC updates website on Thursdays)

- 1,888 cases (include confirmed and probable), from all states except Alaska
- 37 confirmed deaths in 24 states as of 10/29/19
- Demographics/outbreak characteristics unchanged since what she shared last month

Washington outbreak a little different with more exclusive use of nicotine among cases:

- 12 cases (include confirmed and probable)—not including Kitsap case
- No deaths
- 58% male
- 7 cases <30 YO
- 2 reporting only THC
- 4 reporting only nicotine containing products
- 4 provided no information on products used

WSBOH adopted emergency rule 10/9/19, effective 120 days.

- Goal to immediately decrease the attractiveness of vaping to youth to reduce their risk for this lung injury;
- Bans sale virtually all flavored vaping products (exception only for tobacco, marijuana and similar flavors);
- Requires sellers to post DOH warning signs;

- Requires health care providers to report confirmed cases to local health jurisdictions (LHJs) within 3 business days, and LHJs to DOH within 7 days of complete case investigation;
- Initial judicial review upheld emergency order

DOH working with Governor on his request legislation for 2020 legislative session to make flavor ban permanent.

Recommendations: continue to encourage all people who use vape products to quit, using approved effective cessation methods, and

- Youth, young adults and women who are pregnant should not smoke or use vaping products
- Adults who do not currently use tobacco or vapor products should not start using e-cigarettes;
 - Remember that vaping products are not regulated—there is no oversight, no inspection, no testing at the federal or state level of any of the products.
 - Want all adults to stop using e-cigarette and tobacco products until the products are proven safe, but if they choose to vape and develop symptoms, especially severe cough, shortness of breath and/or chest pain, seek evaluation by healthcare provider.
 - Those using vaping products to quit should use evidence-based treatments including counseling and FDA-approved medications
- The CDC notes that THC use has been associated with a wide range of health effects, particularly with prolonged heavy use. The best way to avoid potentially harmful effects is to not use THC, including through vaping products. Persons with marijuana use disorder should seek evidence-based treatment by a healthcare provider.

Suspect Mumps Cluster

Health District staff worked closely with the Navy on a reported cluster of four cases of suspected mumps—all testing to date is negative, follow-up testing will be done.

- The suspect cases were instructed to isolate themselves and they did so; there is very little risk to the public, and all known contacts have been notified.
- The Navy did an excellent job with their own investigation and collaborating and communicating with us and with DOH.
- All of these cases are fully vaccinated, which is typical for mumps cases in the United States. The presentation of mumps is very unusual and difficult to detect in vaccinated individuals, hence follow up testing has been ordered to confirm the diagnosis.

There was no further comment.

Administrator Update:

Mr. Keith Grellner, Administrator, provided the Board with a few updates. First, Mr. Grellner said that in his report to the Board last month, he omitted a note from the October meeting with the Board's Personnel Committee concerning Dr. Turner's contract: Dr. Turner's current contract expires on December 31 of this year. Dr. Turner and the Personnel Committee have separately agreed to recommend doing a simple contract amendment/extension of her current contract to take her into 2020. The Health District will include a copy of the contract amendment/extension in December's consent agenda.

Additionally, he said the Health District is finalizing its recruitment postings to search for Dr. Turner's replacement. A copy of a recruitment brochure was provided to the Board at the start of today's meeting. It will be included with the official position description for the Health District's nationwide recruitment efforts. The Health District is also working on a news release to announce the job posting and recruitment efforts, and this will be issued in the next week or so.

Next, Mr. Grellner said he wanted to publicly recognize and thank John Kiess, Environmental Health Director who was voted as the Environmental Health Director of the Year at the annual statewide environmental health directors meeting in October. Among his many examples of good work both locally and statewide, Mr. Kiess was also recognized for his leadership on the state on-site sewage regulations update committee.

Next, Mr. Grellner shared that Governor Inslee came to Kitsap on November 1 and met with Mayor Wheeler, Kirsten Jewell, and the Health District's Kitsap Connect team along with a few clients to talk about homelessness and affordable housing.

Mayor Greg Wheeler said it was nice to have the Governor visit and listen to our story for an hour. Mayor Wheeler said the Governor heard from staff and service users talk about homelessness issues. He said Kitsap Connect is a great example of a solution to the homelessness problem and that we need more funding and solutions like this in Kitsap.

Lastly, Mr. Grellner said the meeting packet included a memo about the draft 2020 budget, along with a copy of the most current draft budget. In summary:

- The draft 2020 Budget is a "status quo" budget as compared to 2019;
- Total Expenditures are projected at \$13,434,306 and total Full-Time Equivalents at 101.85; and
- Total Revenues are projected at \$13,302,618, and \$131,688 of available Fund Balance is proposed to be used to balance the budget.

He said the Finance Committee met in late September and was comfortable with the budget, which has since improved. If needed, the Finance Committee is tentatively scheduled to meet with the Health District on November 12 to make final adjustments to the budget prior to the December 3rd regular Board meeting. He asked the Board if they had any questions about the budget and asked if the Board desires a formal presentation on the budget during next month's meeting.

Mayor Medina said he was comfortable with just seeing the resolution at the December Board meeting, but for the sake of transparency, a presentation may be useful for the public.

Commissioner Gelder added that the public has an opportunity to review the full draft budget in today's packet.

Mr. Grellner said he will prepare a brief overview budget presentation for the December Board meeting that explains the Health District's plans for 2020 and how it links to the strategic plan.

There was no further comment.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO RCW 42.30.110 (1)(I): DISCUSSION
RELATED TO POTENTIAL LITIGATION**

At 12:56 p.m., Commissioner Gelder said the Board would break for executive session for approximately 25 minutes.

At 1:17, Commissioner Gelder returned and closed the executive session. Commissioner Gelder asked if there was a motion to approve Resolution 2019-05, Authorizing Settlement of a Claims Lawsuit.

Commissioner Garrido moved and Mayor Erickson seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2019-05, Authorizing Settlement of a Claims Lawsuit. The motion was approved unanimously.

There was no further comment.

**RESOLUTION 2019-06, APPROVING AMENDED ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
DIVISION FEE SCHEDULE**

Mr. Kiess approached the Board regarding Resolution 2019-06, Approving Amended Environmental Health Division Fee Schedule. He directed the Board to the memo in their packets.

At the December 2017 regular meeting, the Board adopted an updated Environmental Health fee schedule for 2018 – 2026 through Resolution 2017-03. In summary, Resolution 2017-03 approved the following:

1. The EH Fee Schedule should be adjusted to recover the actual cost of service for all fees;
2. The base hourly rate should be increased from \$109 to \$145 over a two-year period (2018 and 2019); and
3. An annual automatic escalator, tied to increases (if any) in the Seattle Consumer Price Index (CPI), should be applied to the EH Fee Schedule for budget years 2020 – 2026.

The Health District is recommending withholding the approved CPI escalator for Drinking Water and Onsite Sewage (DWOSS) and Solid & Hazardous Waste (SHW) fees for the following reasons:

1. The Health District has attained reserve funds for Drinking Water, Onsite (OSS) Permitting, and Solid & Hazardous Waste (SHW) due to correction of these fees, the realization of cost savings from program service efficiencies, and the offset of non-fee related program costs by temporary grants or other non-fee related revenues;
2. Drinking Water, OSS and SHW are all ahead of budget for fees 2019 YTD, which the Health District projects will likely add to the reserves of these programs at year-end for 2019 and carryover to 2020;
3. Accounting for all cost increases and costs for 2020, the draft 2020 Budget projects that DWOSS and SHW are currently forecast to possibly add to their reserves in 2020 without the 2.1% CPI escalator.

Conversely, As Food and Living Environment still projects to incur a \$253,000 deficit in 2020, even with the 2.1% CPI escalator, the Health District recommends continuing with those fee increases as approved in Resolution 2017-03. The resolution would allow the Health District flexibility to increase fees annually when needed and withhold fee increases when they are not needed to sustain the program.

Mayor Erickson commented that government should never be in the business of making money and should only charge the fees that are needed to provide services, so this resolution makes sense to her.

Mayor Erickson moved and Mayor Medina seconded the motion to approve Resolution 2019-06, Approving Amended Environmental Health Division Fee Schedule. The motion was approved unanimously.

Commissioner Ed Wolfe congratulated Mr. Kiess again on being awarded Environmental Health Director of the Year.

There was no further comment.

2020 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Mr. Grellner approached the Board regarding 2020 Kitsap Public Health District Legislative and Rule Making Priorities for the upcoming 2020 state legislative session. Health Board approval of these legislative priorities allows Health Board Members and the Health District's Executive Leadership Team to advocate for (or against) priority legislation/rules as described therein. Mr. Grellner explained that all the priorities are carried over from 2019, except for one new one: "Oppose Proposals to Increase Access to Marijuana," which, if proposed and passed, could increase youth access to marijuana.

If additional bills come to staff's attention that have public health significance (pro or con), the Health District may bring these legislative and rulemaking priorities back to the Board for reconsideration at a later date.

The Health District's 2020 Legislative Priorities are as follows:

- Support Funding Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS);
- Oppose Reductions or Limitations on Funding for Local Health Jurisdictions;
- Oppose Bills which would Allow Potentially Hazardous Food (PHF) to be Prepared and Sold from Residential Kitchens;
- Support Department of Health's Request Legislation to Update & Modernize Sexually Transmitted Diseases Law, RCW 70.24;
- Oppose Proposals to Increase Access to Marijuana; and
- Support Proposals to Ban Flavored Vaping Juices

Commissioner Gelder asked if the increased access to marijuana bill is agency or legislator driven. Mr. Grellner said his understanding is that it is both. He explained that the state has maxed out the number of retailers permits allowable by law, and a Liquor and Cannabis Board analysis found people of color were not issued a proportionate number of permits to Caucasian permit holders. Therefore, a potential new bill would try to close this gap. Another bill that may arise is to allow the delivery of medical marijuana. At this point, based on current knowledge, Health District staff are concerned that these changes would increase access to minors.

Commissioner Gelder asked Mr. Grellner to remind the Board what "potentially hazardous food" is. Mr. Grellner explained that potentially hazardous foods must be carefully maintained at specific temperatures to prevent the proliferation of harmful bacteria, such as meat, potato salad, and dairy products. Non-potentially hazardous foods are shelf stable baked goods, such as cookies or cakes without dairy-based icings or fillings. He said that companies that provide meal kits are increasing in popularity. The business models that deliver kits to be assembled and cooked at home are stored and shipped appropriately and are not ready to eat until individuals prepare them at their own home. However, some newer business models focus on recruiting people to cook meals in their own residential kitchens and sell the meals directly to the public. These home-based meal prep outfits don't require facility inspections the way regular food establishments do. He said a statewide public health effort helped to stop these bills during the last legislative session, however staff are expecting these to come back again this session.

Commissioner Gelder said this is a robust list for not only the Health District, but also the statewide group, Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WSALPHO). He also noted that this conversation could change depending on the today's election results.

Commissioner Wolfe moved and Commissioner Garrido seconded the motion to approve 2020 Kitsap Public Health District Legislative and Rule Making Priorities for the upcoming 2020 state legislative session. The motion was approved unanimously.

ADDITIONAL BOARD DISCUSSION

Mayor Erickson said she would really like to see a state level analysis of greywater treatment. She said there is a big greywater problem in Puget sound because sewage plants are at or beyond capacity. She said there should be an easier way for people to use alternative septic systems like composting toilets and greywater solutions, in single family residences. She said there is no incentive to use alternative systems that would be better for the environment and cheaper for affordable housing. She requested a presentation from the Health District on this topic.

Mr. Grellner said Mr. Kiess is currently working on it at the state level. Kitsap County, he explained, is surrounded by water and shellfish beds. He said the Health District, and other local health jurisdictions, share concerns about increasing options for individual septic systems because of pollution impacts. He said, if something happens and shellfish beds get contaminated, the Health District and County are on the hook to do the expensive bacteria and pollution cleanup. He said the Health District is more comfortable with a municipal approach for greywater treatment and reuse like the purple pipe network. He added that the Brownsville wastewater treatment facility has partnered with Silverdale Water District to run purple pipe to carry treated wastewater for reuse throughout Silverdale and parts of Central Kitsap. He said the Health District feels comfortable with this system because there is oversight, but he explained trying to match that system for septic systems is very difficult. He said there are 65,000 septic systems in Kitsap County and trying to oversee the greywater reuse of all those systems would be a significant burden to the Health District. He said that there are environmental and public health pros and cons, but its worth having the conversation and he will add it to the 2020 agenda.

Commissioner Gelder said there was good discussion around this topic at the Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council retreat. He said, in order to support growth, there is a need to be able to use water more than once. He explained the only way to do this is to bend the cost curve to make greywater systems more sustainable. He gave the example of Port Gamble's new membrane systems and asked why this can't be utilized in an urbanized setting at some point.

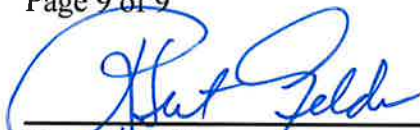
Mayor Erickson noted that the Brownsville plant costs more than \$300 million. She said we have to find a way to do it better, cheaper and faster and replenish our aquifers. She said she welcomes anything the Health District wants to present on this topic.

Mayor Medina said he agrees.

There was no further comment.

ADJOURN

There was no further business; the meeting adjourned at 1:36 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: Lauren Funk; *Peoples Harm Reduction Alliance*; Pam Hamon, *League of Women Voters – Kitsap*; Khuyen Tran, *Northwest Family Medicine Residency.*

Staff Present: Angie Berger, *Administrative Assistant, Administration*; Yolanda Fong, *Director, Community Health Division*; Keith Grellner, *Administrator*; Karen Holt, *Program Manager, Human Resources*; John Kiess, *Director, Environmental Health Division*; Melissa Laird, *Program Manager, Accounting and Finance*; Julie McElroy-Brown, *Intern, Community Health Division*; Nicole McNamara, *Community Liaison, Chronic Disease Prevention*; Tad Sooter, *Communications Coordinator and Public Information Officer*; Susan Turner, MD, *Health Officer.*