

**Island County Board of Health
Regular Meeting - Monday, May 21, 2012
Minutes**

DUE TO THE UNAVAILABILITY OF RECORDING EQUIPMENT FOR TODAY'S MEETING, MINUTES ARE IN HARD COPY FORMAT ONLY. THERE IS NO AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS MEETING.

Members Present: Commissioners Angie Homola, Commissioner Helen Price Johnson, and Kelly Emerson; Anne Tarrant, Whidbey General Hospital Commissioner; and Roger S. Case, MD, Executive Secretary to the Board.

Members Absent: Scott Dudley, Mayor of Oak Harbor; Captain Susan Lichtenstein, MSC, USN, Ex-Officio Member.

Call to Order: Chair Angie Homola called this Regular Meeting of the Island County Board of Health to order at 1:20 p.m.

Additions or Changes to the Agenda: There were no requested changes or additions to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes: The Chair called for the approval of the minutes of the March 19, 2012 Special Session. Commissioner Price Johnson moved for approval of the minutes as presented. Member Anne Tarrant seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Input or Comments: The Chair invited members of the public who wished to provide input or make comments to indicate their wish to do so. There were no requests to address the Board.

Due to technical issues with the laptop containing today's presentation, agenda items were moved up and taken out of order to allow more set-up time for the presenters.

Quarterly Advisory Board, Community Agency, and Health Partner Reports: David Macys, Community Health Advisory Board (CHAB) Chair, told the Board that he did not have a formal presentation for today's meeting. He reminded the Board of the Special Joint Session of the Board of Health and CHAB to be held that evening to present the Linda Lee Martens Health Hero Awards. There were no other agency reports.

Contracts: Keith Higman presented two contracts to the Board for their consideration:

1. Department of Health – 2012-2014 Consolidated Contract
Contract No. C16886, Amendment No. 2
Contract Amount: \$ 810,116
Amendment Amount: \$ 50,459

2. eOnsite, LLC – Online RME Software Services
Contract No. HD-09-12
Contract Amount: \$ 6,200

Commissioner Price Johnson moved that the both contracts be approved as presented. Commissioner Emerson seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Legislative Updates: Keith Higman told the Board that the State legislature is not currently in session.

Health Department Report: Keith Higman advised the Board that Washington State and Island County are still experiencing a pertussis outbreak. Island County has experienced 33 confirmed cases and state-wide approximately 1,500 confirmed cases. Despite news reports suggesting a leveling off in cases, Island County Public Health staff are still very active in case investigations.

Mr. Higman advised that the Health Department is working with the County's Department of Emergency Management and with the Washington State Department of Health to monitor and address Penn Cove recreational and commercial shellfish closures due to the sunken boat. Several state agencies are on-site in Coupeville and currently, Department of Natural Resources is taking the lead in efforts to plan raising the boat. Department of Health is collecting samples from the commercial mussel rafts and also from recreational beaches. Human panelists are trained to do smell and taste tests and can decipher well

below the contaminant level. If the human panelists detect contaminant presence, the samples will be lab tested. There is no closure to fin fish since the spill was diesel fuel which is light and rises to the surface of the water. A big concern is over potential damage to natural mussel larvae.

The Department of Health has released its 2012-2016 *Department of Health Strategic Plan* which highlights a focus on the following core activities:

- Promoting healthy lifestyles for individuals and families in their communities and workplaces.
- Preventing disease, disability, and premature death, and reducing or eliminating health disparities.
- Protecting the public from unhealthy and unsafe environments.
- Providing or ensuring access to quality, population-based health services.
- Preparing for, and responding to, public health emergencies.
- Producing and disseminating data to inform and evaluate public health status, strategies, and programs.

And last, Mr. Higman told the Board that as Local Board of Health members, they are invited to participate in the inaugural meeting of the Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WSALPHO) Local Health Boards Alliance on June 19, 2012. The Alliance is intended to allow local Boards of Health to work collectively in their role as part of the larger Washington public health system.

Presentation – Quality Improvement Initiative Update: Keith Higman opened the presentation by telling the Board that the Health Department has come a long way in the quality improvement process and that success has been based on:

- The Health Department has voluntarily subjected itself to the application of Department of Health Standards review every year and those Standards were used as a basis for the accreditation criteria.
- Resources continue to be limited so the QI process is a good way to reevaluate the Health Department's processes and is customer centric.
- Department of Health helped to fund our effort.

Mr. Higman turned the dais over to Kate Hicks, Public Health staff, who told the Board that the ultimate goal is to institutionalize the quality improvement process into Public Health's organization and to continually look to improve service delivery. She went on to discuss the two ongoing quality improvement projects: 1) Intradepartmental Communication; and, 2) Performance Evaluations. Ms. Hicks reviewed the pilot project goals, project selection, project design and updates for both projects.

Board Member Comments and Announcements: Member Anne Tarrant advised that Position #2 on the Whidbey General Hospital Board of Commissioners will be open and she is hoping for good interest in the position. The Chair reminded the Board of the 5:00 p.m. start time for this evening's Special Session for the Linda Lee Martens Health Hero awards. Commissioner Price Johnson commented that it is important to have the local Board of Health represented at the state level and hoped scheduling would allow Island County presentation at the Local Health Boards Alliance meeting on June 19th.

Adjourn: There being no further business before the Board, Chair Homola adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m. The next meeting of the Board of Health will be as a Special Session in a joint meeting with the Community Health Advisory Board (CHAB) held on Monday, May 21, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. at the Coupeville Performing Arts Center in the Coupeville High School to hold the Linda Lee Martens Health Hero Award recognitions. The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Health will be on Monday, June 18, 2012 at 1:15 p.m. in the Commissioner's Hearing Room (B102) in the Court House Annex Building.

Submitted: _____
Roger S. Case, MD
Executive Secretary to the Board

Minutes approved this 18th day of June 2012
ISLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Angie Homola, Board Chair