

**Island County Board of Health  
Regular Session - Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014  
Minutes**

**Members Present:** Commissioner Jill Johnson, Commissioner Helen Price Johnson, Scott Dudley, Mayor of Oak Harbor, Brad Thomas, MD, Executive Secretary to the Board and Captain Edward Simmer, MC, USN, Ex-Officio Member.

**Members Absent:** Commissioner Kelly Emerson and Board of Health Chair, Anne Tarrant.

**Call to Order:** Commissioner Jill Johnson called this Regular Session of the Island County Board of Health to order at 1:15pm on behalf of absent Chair Anne Tarrant.

**Additions or Changes to the Agenda:** Commissioner Price Johnson inquired as to the status of the appeal. Public Health Director Keith Higman reported nothing has been heard from either party, appeal will continue until formally withdrawn and no action needed from the Board to continue.

**Approval of Minutes:** Commissioner Jill Johnson called for the approval of the minutes of the March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Regular Session. Commissioner Helen Price Johnson moved to approve the minutes. Mayor, Scott Dudley seconded. Motion passed unanimously with those voting.

**Public Input or Comments:** Commissioner Jill Johnson invited members of the public who wished to provide input or make comments to indicate their wish to do so. No requests to address the Board.

**Presentations:**

**Human Service Director, Jackie Henderson** presented an overview of 2SSB 6312; providing insight into the importance of the integration of publically funded mental health and chemical dependency services and what that means to Island County. An informative presentation and Q&A resulted in the Board inviting Ms. Henderson back to provide updates siting deadlines and milestones as opportunities to address the Board again.

**Environmental Health Specialist/O&M OSS Program Coordinator, Bill Roberts** presented a draft of the Incentives Program for Onsite Sewage Systems in Target Area Watersheds. The Board would see funding for this on Amendment 14 of the Consolidated Contract (to be presented at the May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 meeting). The draft Incentives Program as presented was received positively. Pleased with the retroactive portion of the program, Commissioner Helen Price Johnson also offered to help share information on the program. Commissioner Jill Johnson asked if there will be other septic presentations, and Keith Higman stated there would be. Per Board directive Island County Public Health and CHAB will review current septic regulations and CHAB will present their review of these at the May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 Work Session Agenda.

**Contract:**

**Public Health Director, Keith Higman** presented one contract amendment to the Board for their consideration, noting all monies were anticipated except for the \$30,000 to fund increased hours to conduct enhanced On-Site Sewage System activities.

1. Washington State Department of Health Consolidated Contract (Amendment #13)

|                     |             |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Contract No.        | C16886      |
| Contract Amendment: | \$ 205,260  |
| Contract Amount:    | \$2,160,131 |

Commissioner Helen Price Johnson asked if the WIC monies were expected. Yes, both expected and consistent with past allocations. After a brief discussion, Commissioner Helen Price Johnson moved to approve Amendment 13 as presented; Mayor Scott Dudley seconded and it passed unanimously by those voting.

**Legislative Updates:** None

**Health Department Report:** Keith Higman continued the draft Strategic Plan conversation. After incorporating changes and additions, brought about by soliciting the Board and staff review, he asked to present the draft Plan at the next meeting. Additions include the immunization of communicable diseases for which vaccines are available, incorporating the role of fathers and other family members into the Maternal Child Health Program piece, and continuing to emphasize reciprocal research based practices. Commissioner Helen Price Johnson suggested incorporating the local hospital and the Navy into the Strategic Plan. Commissioner Jill Johnson asked to prioritize protection over promotion in the Strategic Plan's mission statement. As priorities are not ranked numerically removing the numbers on the priorities was revisited. The revised Strategic Plan will be presented May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 with the same adoptive Resolution brought forward to the Board.

Reminder: The Board will meet at 1:15pm on May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and in the evening the Linda Lee Martens award ceremony will be held at the Pacific Rim Institute.

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Public Health Officer, Dr. Brad Thomas, sent out a public health alert to the affected Oak Harbor schools as a means of outreach regarding active pertussis cases within their schools. Also, there is a significant number of cases of measles in the state, and Dr. Brad Thomas has done outreach to providers regarding this as well. Immunization is a key factor in reducing communicable diseases and yet immunization rates in Washington State are well below the national average. Improving social perceptions of immunization is needed.

The Septic System loan program is in a holding pattern with the merger of Whidbey Island Bank and Heritage Financial Corporation; the contract collection service has been eliminated. Island County Public Health is in discussions with AFTS – Automated Funds Transfer Services based in Seattle to handle this process.

The CDC released an Aquatic Health Code model similar to the Food Health Program. Commissioner Jill Johnson asked if a letter grading could be assigned after inspection. Food inspections are easily assigned a letter as numeric value is determined at time of inspection. This is not the case with water recreation facility inspections, but utilizing "SMARTGov" to make inspection data available to the public may be an option.

Upcoming change: Community Action Skagit County currently providing WIC services on base will be moving their facilities to an undetermined off-base location in Oak Harbor. This may result in WIC clients switching between facilities – ultimately making it even more difficult to manage caseload. Keith Higman will ask for a MOU to establish Community Action Skagit County's services for DOD families.

**Board Comments/Announcements:** None.

**Adjourn:** There being no further business before the Board Commissioner Jill Johnson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 2:50pm. The next meeting of the Board of Health will be on Monday May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 1:15pm in the Commissioners Hearing Room (B102) in the Court House Annex Building.

Submitted: \_\_\_\_\_

  
Brad Thomas, MD

Minutes approved this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2014  
ISLAND COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

  
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Anne Tarrant, Board Chair