



**BENTON-FRANKLIN HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD OF HEALTH
MEETING MINUTES
May 28th, 2014**



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IN ATTENDANCE

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Beaver	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jason Zaccaria, BFHD Administrator & BOH Executive Secretary
<input type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Delvin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Dr. Amy Person, BFHD Health Officer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Koch	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nick Boukas, BFHD Operations Director
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cody Lewis, BFHD Information Technology Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Peck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Lisa Wight, BFHD Human Resources Manager
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Commissioner Small	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jeff Jones, BFHD Finance Manager
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Visitor – Karen Queen, WSNA Union Rep
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Visitor – James Coleman, PTE Local 17 Union Rep
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Staff – Rick Dawson, EH Supervisor
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Staff – Janae Parent, Senior Administrative Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rick Miller called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Beaver moved to approve the April 16th, 2014, meeting minutes. Commissioner Small seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS FROM THE PUBLIC/STAFF

None to report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None to report

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Greywater Discussion – Rick Dawson

- a. The Health District has received some inquiries from the public over the last few weeks regarding reuse of greywater. R. Dawson provided to the board a greywater reuse summary as recognized by the state Department of Health for review and discussion. The Department of Health (DOH) adopted rules regarding reuse of greywater in July of 2011. These rules gave the local health departments three years to decide whether or

not they want to implement the rules provided by the state, adopt their own rules, or chose not to implement any rules.

- b. It was previously decided not to implement the greywater reuse rules as inquiries from the public usually occur about once a year. An inquiry has now been made requesting to know why the greywater reuse rules were not implemented. Although R. Dawson was not present at the time this decision was made, he believes the rules were not implemented due to a lack of funding to support staff and a program that could enforce the rules. R. Dawson stated that implementation of a greywater program today, could be costly, but there still might be some benefit to the public.
- c. R. Dawson stated that the Health District currently permits the installation of on-site sewage systems that are designed to allow irrigation systems to dispose of an entire household's waste water, not just the greywater portion. Such systems do work, but are not installed very often as they are expensive and an average household does not generate enough waste water in our climate to irrigate their landscape, so there is still a significant need to supplement with irrigation water. And based on the state issued greywater rules, the smallest systems would not require a permit/fee and the Health District would still be required to monitor them.
- d. The biggest benefit of greywater systems is typically seen on a commercial level. Large producing entities generate enough waste water to irrigate their landscape which helps alleviate some pressure on city irrigation, but as of yet, there have not been any inquires or requests for commercial grade use.
- e. R. Dawson recommends that we continue to decline WAC 246-274 and consider allowing the community to put in greywater systems on a case by case basis. They would submit a request, which would allow the Health District to charge a fee to recover costs that will be required to support those systems. This process would also allow easier methods to monitor and report usage, as well as the ability to put specific requirements on the systems to protect the public.
- f. Commissioner Beaver asked if a proposal could be completed, to which R. Dawson stated he was unsure if one would be needed and stated that action on the rules notated in the minutes would be sufficient. Commissioner Small motioned to decline the implementation of WAC 246-274 due to financial constraints and review requests to install reuse greywater systems by waiver to Benton-Franklin District Board of Health Rules and Regulation number two, and allow the review of greywater systems on a case by case basis. Commissioner Beaver seconded with Commissioner Peck asking for discussion.
- g. Commissioner Peck asked for further explanation from R. Dawson regarding the nature and scope of the threat to public health when irrigating with greywater. R. Dawson replied that it is relatively limited. Greywater does contain bacteria and pathogens depending on what you are washing with your greywater. There are limitations on the

water that they can use. For smaller use systems only water from the bathroom sinks, bath tubs and washing machines can be used; kitchen sink water is not allowed. R. Dawson went on to further explain that there is an impact if the systems are installed, not correctly sub surfaced, and the Health District receives complaints. If these systems become more prevalent it will require more staff time to regulate as the Health District is responsible to monitor them.

- h. Commissioner Small further discussed the benefits for larger scale entities including factories and food processing plants that could benefit and assist from the reuse of greywater. R. Dawson agreed that these larger scale suggestions are great examples of where reuse of greywater could be very beneficial for the environment.
- i. Commissioner Peck further summarized that it appears the state has given rules and now the Board needs to determine whether or not to adopt the rules or take no action. Looking at the argument from the other side, someone could make a case about the lack of regulation being harmful to the environment. However, based on the circumstances in which someone who does irrigate their lawn with greywater, they might make the choice to do it whether there is a program in place or not.
- j. Commissioner Small withdrew his original motion, and re-amend it to decline to implement WAC 246-274, to which Commissioner Beaver seconded. There was no further discussion and the motion passed unanimously.

2. Medical and Environmental Health Updates – Dr. Amy Person

- a. Update on Anencephaly: On May 14th a listening session was held on anencephaly. Public comment was invited to the discussion, as well as a presentation given regarding the high rates. An advisory board has been formed, with their first meeting to be held in June. In this meeting they will review the comments from this previous listening session as well as the comments received from the listening session in Sunnyside. Also in this meeting the board will review what the experts are saying about anencephaly in conjunction with the public comments. They hope to try and determine if this is a new and isolated cluster or if this is the true background rate in our area.
- b. Update on Coccidioidomycosis: It was previously planned for updated information regarding coccidioidomycosis to be rolled out to coincide with the publication and CDC's MMWR, however the local Washington State University newspaper published an article that produced quite a bit of state and national coverage, so the rollout happened sooner than anticipated. Overall, they are still proceeding forward with testing of the soil to identify the extent in the area, as well as the testing that will done in Oregon. They are still deciding along with funding to be identified, how to look at the background prevalence rates and what they are for it. Since it was first identified here in 2010, there have been no additional cases reported. Up until this month, it was only reportable in the 3 county areas, but it is now reportable statewide which should help identify if there are

more cases. All the local healthcare providers have been notified and made aware of this as a possibility to consider if they see someone with pneumonia that does not improve.

- c. Update on the Jimmy Johns Foodborne Illness Investigation: The establishment was closed on Friday and reopened on Saturday after the initial investigation interviews were completed, and District staff were able to determine that there was not any ongoing food contamination or any life threatening foodborne illnesses. The Health District is still waiting on the laboratory tests to determine what caused the illnesses, but based on the information being reported and their symptoms no serious bacterial infections are suspected. There was a recall on alfalfa sprouts that had been issued which included Jimmy Johns however, those had been taken off the shelves prior to when the complaints were received. The Health District is still hearing illness complaints from last week, but had not received any new complaints since the food establishment was reopened. Jimmy Johns was very cooperative and followed through on the recommendations provided by the Health District. Staff from the Health District also provided some additional training to the establishment's food handling staff.
- d. Regarding the anencephaly cases Commissioner Peck asked if there have been any new cases since Dr. Person last gave an update and if the trend has gone up or down. Dr. Person stated that based on the cases from 2010-2012 and the reviewed cases for 2013, they appear to be consistent. Dr. Person further explained that based on how data is collected in Washington state, it still needs to be determined if the reason for the higher rates is because they more actively ascertaining cases. Also it needs to be determined if it would be of value to do more active surveillance throughout the state as there is nothing in place right now to do active surveillance. The reason for the 2010-2013 data is a result of an inquiry that was received by a healthcare provider, the CDC and investigators from DOH went to area hospitals and providers completing ultrasounds to go through their records and identify them.
- e. Regarding coccidioidomycosis, Commissioner Peck asked if the individual strains were geographically traceable or if they are common throughout. Dr. Person responded that they are somewhat traceable and their reason for identification now is the advancement in detection techniques. The strains that were identified from the 2010-2011 samples are genetically linked to those seen in southern California, although they are not completely overlapping.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Introduction of Jeff Jones (Finance Manager) – Jason Zaccaria

Jeff's first day was May 19th, 2014. He has proven skills in the ways of Accounting and Finance. He was previously here with our Health District for about 15 years, in this current

position. He is back now, not only because of some family changes, but the positive things he has heard happening here at the Health District.

2. 2013 Annual Report - Jason Zaccaria

Commissioners will receive a printed copy of the annual report near the next board meeting in June and thanked everyone for the participation in the group photo for the report.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Commissioner Beaver moved to approve vouchers numbered 11-2014 through 20-2014, in the amount of \$1,328,557.00. Commissioner Koch seconded the motion with discussion. Both Commissioner Koch and Commissioner Peck asked for further clarification on some of the vouchers. The motion carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

N/A

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Date of next meeting will be June 18th, 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Miller adjourned the meeting at 2:04 pm.

Signature on File

Rick Miller

Chairman of the Board

Signature on File

Jason Zaccaria

Executive Secretary