

MINUTES
CLARK COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
JANUARY 27, ~~2009~~²⁰¹⁰, 9:00 A.M.

The Board convened in the Commissioners' Hearing Room, 6th Floor, Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, Washington. Board members Steve Stuart, Tom Mielke, and Marc Boldt, Chair, present.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Commissioners led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

There being no public comment, moved by Mielke to **APPROVE** Consent Agenda items 1 and 2. Board members Stuart, Mielke, and Boldt voted aye. Motion carried.

POLICY UPDATE – BRIEFING ON CLARK’S STATUS ON THE STATEWIDE LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH KEY INDICATORS

Staff Contact: John Wiesman, Alan Melnick

Staff Summary / Discussion:

Wiesman and *Melnick* presented a PowerPoint presentation on public health indicators. (See master file for printed version of PowerPoint) Washington’s public health improvement plan require local measurements of health, indicators are a snapshot of health status, health behavior, and public health system performance. *Melnick* presented the findings and referenced a handout regarding the five indicator categories: communicable disease, prevention and health promotion, environmental health, maternal and child health, access to care. (See master file for handout)

Discussion:

Boldt inquired if our local indicators are a part of the state indicators. *Wiesman* stated we have some of the same indicators as them but we also have some of our own indicators. He mentioned the report card will be released on February 3, 2010 and it will be discussed at the next Board of Health meeting.

Boldt asked if the handout was comparing our findings compared to the state. *Melnick* stated it is comparing our findings throughout the last couple years in addition to comparing it with the state.

Stuart asked for more details in regards to access for care for preparation for State of the County. *Melnick* stated he would be happy to help.

Discussion ensued about BMI and binge drinking.

Boldt asked how many times the survey is given out. *Melnick* responded once a year and stated it is self reported data.

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Stuart stated he would be interested in seeing GIS's participation in this project. He stated the importance of not only having the market for healthcare providers but also a space for them.

Mielke inquired how much education outreach they provide. *Melnick* stated they currently have health educators. *Wiesman* explained further and stated there is a strategic plan on the table.

Boldt stated his concerns and suggested a conversation in regards to the increase of cigarette dependence after getting sober. *Wiesman* shared public health's plan in addressing the issue.

Mielke discussed about the importance in education in a group setting versus just passing papers out. Further discussion ensued.

POLICY UPDATE – BRIEFING ON DRAFT COUNTY POLICY SUPPORTING EMPLOYEES WHO BREASTFEED

Staff Contact: Marni Storey

Staff Summary / Discussion:

Storey stated breastfeeding is the most important health choice families can make for their infants. She said breastfeeding is a national health objective and nutrition best practice and breastfeeding for the first year of life is recommended by the AAP, Healthy People 2010, WHO and the ADA. She commented breastfeeding plays a key role in prevention of chronic diseases and reduces health care costs. She referenced *HB 1596: Protecting a Woman's Right to Breastfeed in a Place of Public Resort, Accommodation, Assemblage, or Amusement*, which passed in April, 2009, is Washington's newest law supporting breastfeeding. She mentioned in 2001 a law was passed that encourages employers to accommodate breastfeeding workers and allows employers to advertise as infant friendly. She stated women returning to work want to be good employees AND good mothers and over 70% of new mothers nationally choose to breastfeed their babies because of the important nutrition and health benefits. She stated breastfeeding mothers have higher productivity, loyalty and positive public relations especially when they are supported at work. She stated Clark County is a leader in the community and Public Health in collaboration with the Clark Breastfeeding Coalition will launch the Washington State Business Case for Breastfeeding initiative in March. She stated Public Health has had a written policy in place since 1996 with a designated lactation room on the 4th floor of the CCCH building. She stated several employees use the room daily and are successfully breastfeeding and working. She stated Tricia Mortell and Elspeth Durek have met with Maria Vergis to provide help and advice in writing this policy and is compliant with Human Resources. She said the Public Service Building has a designated room on the first floor. She referenced a draft copy of the policy. (*See master file*) She stated the key components of policy are: flexible breaks to express milk or nurse, privacy, support, and education.

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Discussion:

Mielke asked if they need a child care facility here to accommodate the policy. *Storey* stated no as they already have a lot of components in place, like the room that is private designated place for them to go and a place to store their milk.

Boldt inquired where the policy was at. *Staff* responded they are going to have it to the Board by the end of February and mentioned they will be giving the lactation information to the mothers before they go on pregnancy disability leave.

Mielke asked how often the room gets used. *Storey* stated most mothers express a couple of hours but over time it would be once to twice a day, but it also depends on the mother.

Boldt inquired to Bill Barron if this requires them to have a lactation room in every county building. *Barron* stated it is not mandated but from an employees relations perspective it is something they would like to do. *Boldt* agreed. *Wiesman* stated they could work with HR if other buildings wanted to incorporate it into their building.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

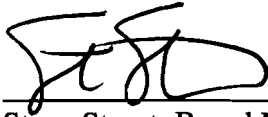
Melnick introduced Brendon Haggerty who is working as a project coordinator for the active living research grant that we have through the Robert Johnson Wood grant. *Melnick* provided Brendon's education background and provided insight on the upcoming tasks he would be doing.

Storey introduced Kate Ketcham, program manager of the Nurse Family Partnership Program. *Ketcham* highlighted a couple of stories of families in the program, including the first graduate of the program.

Hearing adjourned

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BOARD OF HEALTH



Steve Stuart, Board Member



Tom Mielke, Board Member

Marc Boldt, Board Member

ATTEST:



Louise Richards
Clerk of the Board

jc

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