The Board convened in the Councilors' Hearing Room, 6th Floor, Public Service Center, 1300 Franklin Street, Vancouver, Washington. Board members Marc Boldt, Jeanne E. Stewart, Julie Olson, John Blom, and Eileen Quiring present.

9:00 A.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Councilors led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION: Moved by Quiring to APPROVE minutes for January 25, 2017. Blom seconded the motion. Board members Stewart, Olson, Blom, and Quiring voted aye. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

PUBLIC HEALTH IN ACTION

Community Health Assessment (CHA):

Adiba Ali, Clark County Public Health Epidemiologist, gave a brief background on epidemiology and discussed the Community Health Assessment (CHA). Epidemiology is the study of the distribution of diseases and health conditions within populations. A core principle is that disease does not occur randomly. By identifying patterns of disease incidence, including who is getting sick and injured and who is experiencing better health, epidemiologists can gain clues to the causes and risk factors for disease, and can then work with others, including public health staff and community partners, to address identified risk factors and go upstream to prevent disease. Epidemiologists also contribute to community health assessment, a core public health function, by using a systematic approach to collecting and analyzing information on the health of a population.

The CHA is an example of a tool our Health Assessment program uses to help us understand the health of our community. Our team systematically collects and analyzes quantitative data, derived from health behavior surveys, vital statistics, disease registries and many other data sources, and gathers community input on perceived community health issues. The assessment team then shares the information within our department and with the community to provide a deep foundation for understanding community health issues and for promoting and improving community health. Our health department and community partners can use the CHA report as a guide for discussion on specific health issues and for determining actions that can be taken to address those issues. Further discussion ensued about marijuana use.
DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Foundational Public Health Services update:

Dr. Alan Melnick, Clark County Public Health Director/Health Officer, provided a summary of Foundational Public Health Services status in the legislative process. Further discussion ensued about various bills.

Drug take-back legislation update:

Dr. Alan Melnick, Clark County Public Health Director/Health Officer, provided a summary of the Drug take-back status in the legislative process.

Flu update:

Dr. Alan Melnick, Clark County Public Health Director/Health Officer, presented. Influenza activity is declining but is still present at elevated levels in Clark County. Vaccination is still the best method of prevention and it is not too late to get vaccinated. Further discussion ensued.

COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Boldt spoke about going to D.C. next week and spoke about the Public Health Prevention Fund. Melnick joined the discussion.

Quiring inquired about the Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP). Melnick responded.

Hearing adjourned
Please Note: The Board of Health minutes are action minutes. Digital recordings can be provided upon request. In addition, the Councilors' hearings are broadcast live on CVTV, cable channels 21 and 23, and are also videotaped and repeated several times (www.cvtv.org).