



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

# Advisory Council

## December 10, 2019 meeting notes

**Attendees:** Sandy Brown, Joan Caley, Mark Collier, Remy Eussen, Adrienne Fairbanks, Dave Fuller, Charbonneau Gourde, Katie Huynh, Lawrence Neville, Bob Richardson, Stephanie Roise-Yamashita, John Roth, Marla Sanger, Cassandra Sellards-Reck

**Absent:** Paul Childers, Aru Undurti

**Staff:** Alyssa Carlson, Kathaleen Deane, Doreen Gunderson, Jeff Harbison, Janis Koch, Michael Kubler, Alan Melnick, Alyssa Pilot, Roxanne Wolfe

**Guest:** N/A

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### (1) WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS/APPROVAL OF MEETING NOTES (*Adrienne Fairbanks*)

Adrienne opened with introductions. The council reviewed the meeting notes from October 22, 2019. Marla Sanger moved and Sandy Brown seconded motion to approve the meeting notes as submitted.

### (2) COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

No comments

### (3) PRESENTATIONS

- **Environmental Public Health: Bazaars and Food** (*Kathaleen Deane and Alyssa Pilot*)  
The Clark County Public Health (CCPH) Food Safety Department serves the community through risk-based inspections of food service establishments including brick and mortar businesses, schools and temporary events. During these inspections they address practices that can lead to foodborne illness. Identifying these practices and educating food workers helps to keep the public's health safe. Summer bazaars and events are an area of focus to get vendors permitted as well as educate them on how to safely produce the food items they are selling. There are multiple permit options that allow for food vendors to sell their product in Clark County. CCPH has a three year permitting plan for temporary vendors, which includes: 2019 as an educational year, 2020 requiring the use of a permitted kitchen, 2021 permits will be required and enforced. Permitting options, education of vendors and ongoing inspections are in place to keep the public safe.
- **Foodborne Illness Investigation and Response** (*Alyssa Carlson*)  
When a member of the public believes they have become ill from consuming a food item in Clark County, they are more than encouraged to report any suspicion of foodborne illness to CCPH. Once notified, a trained staff member then follows-up with questions to evaluate the individual's illness and identify potential pathogens to determine if there is a public health concern. Staff then compares this information to a centralized complaint system to determine the level of concern and provide education around food safety with the affected individuals. All information is documented in the complaint system for Environmental Public Health (EPH). Investigations take place when a risk is determined and if founded, short-term and long-term remediation is done with the operators and the facilities through EPH.

**(4) RECOGNITION OF CHIEF BOB RICHARDSON** (*Dr. Alan Melnick*)

- Chief Bob Richardson has been a PHAC member (law enforcement representative) since 2011 and is a former member of the Executive Committee. In 2015, Bob was the recipient of the Washington State Public Health Association Public Health Leadership Award. He has been a long-term advocate for public health issues and has taken a leadership role in addressing methamphetamine use, youth (and adult) suicide and stable public health funding. Bob clearly understands the connection between public safety and public health, as well as the influence of social determinants on health outcomes. He has taken a leadership role in addressing health impacts from Adverse Child Experiences (ACEs) and helped the County obtain funding from the Community Health Foundation for ACEs work. Bob has created a trauma informed law enforcement agency in Battle Ground and played an essential role in helping CCPH address the 2019 measles outbreak. Congratulations to Chief Bob Richardson on his retirement.

**(5) DEPARTMENT UPDATE:**

▪ **Legislative update** (*Dr. Alan Melnick*)

○ **Vaping Executive Order:**

As of December 3, 2019 there have been 2,291 hospitalized cases of lung injury associated with vaping (EVALI: E-cigarette and Vaping Associated Lung Illness) reported to the CDC nationwide along with 48 deaths. The demographic is predominately young-adult, white males. Of those cases, 80% report any THC use and Dank Vapes were the most frequently reported product nationwide. In Washington State there have been 20 reported EVALI cases. Of those cases, 58% of the patients are male and 26% are 19 years old or younger. At the end of September, the Washington State Board of Health passed emergency rules that placed a 120 day ban on flavored oils along with the requirement of warning signs at the point of sale. Lung illness is now identified as a required notifiable illness to local and state public health departments. On November 18, 2019 the Board added a new section to the rule banning the sale of vitamin E acetate. The outbreak appears to have peaked and is dropping. Youth vaping, however, has skyrocketed and the long-term effects are currently unknown. January 1, 2020 the legal age for tobacco and vaping will go from 18 to 21.

○ **FPHS (Foundational Public Health Services):**

The 2019-2021 state budget appropriated \$22 million for FPHS. The new vapor product tax accounted for \$12 million of these dollars. In August 2019, estimates showed a \$3.2 million shortfall, however, with vaping sales continuing to decrease, the current shortfall appears to be closer to \$11 million. This means that funding for FPHS will decrease as well. The governor is looking into options to replace this lost funding.

○ **Flu Update:**

Clark County is officially in flu season. This is defined by two consecutive weeks of 10% or greater positive influenza samples. We are currently in week two. The vaccine is still the best way to prevent flu.

○ **Vaccinations Status:**

There are two ways that vaccination rates are measured in the state: (1) Washington State Immunization Information System, (2) School Immunization Reports. With the philosophic exemption removed for schools, the number of religious exemptions being utilized is likely to increase. School immunization reports will be available in March 2020 to verify this. Currently those claiming vaccinations have not been required by the school board to submit proof of vaccination by a healthcare provider. The WA State BOH passed a new rule that will take effect in August 2020 requiring healthcare provider/medically verified proof of vaccination.

- **Firearm Safety** (*Roxanne Wolfe*)

The Firearm Tragedy Prevention conference took place on November 6<sup>th</sup> at the Water Resource Education Center. Discussion centered on opportunities and education regarding firearm safety and suicide prevention. Firearm related mortality rates are increasing in Washington State while Clark County rates are stable. Most alarming is that firearm deaths among youths age 10-24 are increasing. Of the gun deaths in Clark County, 84% are suicides, compared to 75% for the state of WA. It was also reported that 55% of adults are not following safe storage practices.

- **Budget** (*Jeff Harbison*)

- **MHST Recommendation for NFP:**

As part of the 2020 budget submission we requested just over \$150,000 in additional Mental Health Sales Tax dollars to expand our Nurse-Family Partnership program. These funds will be used to match additional grant funding, 2 to 1 by NFP National Services Office.

**(6) EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- **SLATE FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER NOMINATIONS** (*Joan Caley*)

Joan Caley, Remy Eussen, and Adrienne Fairbanks met in November to nominate individuals to the Executive Committee. The proposed slate for 2020 is:

*Chair - Marla Sanger,*

*Vice Chair - Aru Undurti*

*Member at Large - Sandy Brown.*

Joan Caley moved and Sandy Brown seconded the motion to approve the slate as submitted.

The council will hold an official vote at the February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 meeting and the new executives will begin their term in March 2020.

- **NEXT MEETING** (*Adrienne Fairbanks*)

February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at Clark County Public Health. Adrienne will not be present, so Marla Sanger will serve as Chair.

**(7) ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 7:52pm.