Asotin County Local Board of Health Meeting  
February 25, 2019 at 1:00 PM  
Asotin County Courthouse Annex Commissioners’ Chambers

Present: Jim Jeffords (Chair), Monika Lawrence (Vice Chair), Brian Shinn, Skate Pierce, Chris Seubert, Vikki Bonfield  
Absent:  
ACHD Staff: Dr. Robert Lutz (left mtg 2:29), Brady Woodbury, Shannon Jones, Sundie Hoffman  
Public: Lori Loseth for Vikki Bonfield

The regular Board Meeting was called to order by Jim Jeffords @ 1:01 PM

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Issue / Concern</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
<th>Follow-up / Action</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Minutes Approval</td>
<td>Brian Shinn Moved to approve the BOH minutes of January 28, 2019, as presented. Chris Seubert Seconded Motion Passed Unanimously</td>
<td>Motion Passed</td>
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**Financial Report**

Jan 2019 Financials – Actual January net revenue $125,615, budgeted $160,227, variance <$34,612>, see Budget vs. Actual Recap for.

**REVENUE VARIANCE(S):**  
> Revenue under budget due to receiving $20,000 Lower Columbia Valley Health Foundation Needle Exchange Grant in December 2018 vs January 2019  
> Have not received budgeted $31,500 FPHS funding

**EXPENDITURE VARIANCE(S):**  
> Professional Services under budget due to most of WA St Auditor's expense being paid in December 2018 vs. January 2019. Budgeted $12,000 for Jan.

See Budget vs. Actual Recap for details by BARS code category.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>FUND BALANCES</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer's Health District ER&amp;R (656.000)</td>
<td>$18,219.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer's Health District (657.000)</td>
<td>$271,195.04</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasurer's Health District Audit Acct (657.001)</td>
<td>$24,900.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Less Encumbered Leave Accrual Liability</td>
<td>($28,813.32)</td>
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<td>Total Unencumbered Balances in Funds</td>
<td>$285,501.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Imprest Accounts (Expense, Sweep, Travel, Petty Cash)</td>
<td>$23,575.75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Balance All Accounts</td>
<td>$309,077.55</td>
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### Program Statistics

**Agency Stats**
- Administrator routed year to date stats.
  - Food permit number is high due to new year. All FSE’s pay for and are issued annual permits in January and February.
  - WIC numbers back up to 477 in January.

### Unfinished Business

None

### New Business

**Dr. Lutz Discussion with Board**
- Dr. Lutz provided information regarding diseases listed on the Agency Stats Sheet:
  - Campylobacteriosis: Also known as valley fever is a fungus typically found in western states, but recently found in Oregon & Washington. Most people affected have asymptomatic symptoms. There have been cases that have turned into meningitis.
  - Campylobacter is caused by eating raw or undercooked meat, especially poultry. Symptoms include diarrhea, cramps, fever, and vomiting, and possible dehydration (similar to stomach flu). It is readily treatable.
• Chlamydia, Gonorrhea and Syphilis are very common sexually transmitted diseases, most prevalent in drug users. There has been a huge uptick in Spokane recently. Women are asymptomatic but can cause sterility and other diseases. Men typically have painful urination. In such cases, SCRHD conducts investigations to identify partners, then test accordingly in an effort to prevent spreading.

Measles Update:
Clark Co has had 65 confirmed measles, all involving young people.
56 unimmunized,
7 no solid proof of immunization
2 partially immunization
The measles vaccination is a 2-series vaccine and provides 97% protection against disease. The 1st is administered between 12 & 15 months and the 2nd booster is administered at 4 years old. In 2000 measles was considered eradicated from the US. In Europe many elderly people do not trust government or vaccines, so many younger people do not get immunized. In addition, the anti-vaccine movement is strong and vocal which affects immunization rates. Measles is very contagious so if exposed, there is 90% chance symptoms will develop.

The recent measles outbreak is timely in relation to vaccine exemptions bill(s) currently in front of legislature.

J Jeffords asked Dr. to address southern boarder influx in relation to non-immunized individuals. Dr. Lutz stated that there have been pockets of outbreaks among Europeans in US, but he is not aware of issues from people entering from the south.

Administrator told of a local situation where a grandma brought her grandson into ACHD. District personnel instructed grandmother to call minor care but she took him directly to St Joseph’s Hospital. After speaking with Spokane Regional Health District’s Epi Officer, ACHD closed office for 2 hours and sterilized. St Joe’s tested child. St Joe’s/DOH/SCRHD decided not to test child for measles due to recent measles immunization child received. Unfortunately, grandma called daycares and spread the rumor that grandson had measles. Administrator contacted her and asked her to stop. Baby tested positive for measles vaccine strain, but not for spreadable measles and was not contagious. In the future, District will contact hospitals directly should someone present with possible contagious disease.

Brian Shinn asked what steps one should take to protect a loved one and the public if concerned loved one is infected? Dr. Lutz instructed group to contact the ED or Urgent care and follow their instructions specific instructions. Dr. will share written info that District can share with hospitals and other partners. Important to know that WA St Assistant Attorney General supported the exclusions of children that were placed at risk from school and activities without exception.

Suicides:
Already in 2019, 3 Asotin men have taken their lives by use of a firearm (2 elderly, 1 younger). Dr. Lutz was looking for input regarding these specific cases, but none available. With the rise in suicides across the country, especially in rural areas, a Suicide Prevention Task Force is being developed in Spokane. Nationwide suicide is one of the top 5 causes of deaths between ages 10 & 30. Age group most at risk is seniors, usually an older man who has lost his spouse.
In rural areas, a firearm is used in 90% of suicides. In 2017, in Spokane, 48% of suicides were by guns, and nationally 2/3 of firearm related violence is related to self.

This epidemic has been titled “diseases of despair” in 2015/2016 by an economist. Studies show life span of Americans has plateaued. Between ages of 25-44 studies show a significant decrease of longevity due to this phenomenon which usually include use of drugs and alcohol affecting mostly lower socioeconomic class who don’t see a way out of personal situation.

There are some legislators interested in funding suicide prevention programs, but no funding thus far. The key is raising awareness by talking about it, uncomfortable as it may be. Parents need to talk with their kids. Psychiatrist known by Dr. Lutz kids stated that kids wanted to die to get rid of the pain but didn’t necessarily want to be dead. There is such a hole in adolescent resources.

### Food Permitting Issues / Discussion

Meeting with Knights of Columbus personnel, Administrator, Public Health Educator, and Environment Health Specialist took place this morning regarding the 60+ year tradition sausage feed fundraiser and required Health District permit, fees, and penalties. KofC has never been permitted in the past and after seeing the event on Facebook, was assessed a penalty for operating without a proper food permit. According to Brian Shinn, member of Holy Family, KofC wants to be completely compliant, wants to ensure public safety, has asked for a kitchen inspection, but doesn’t feel the penalty is warranted. Skate Pierce stated that the District essentially sent a precedent by not charging for the last 60+ years so why not waive this year and hold establishments accountable going forward.

It was agreed that KofC would be charged for inspection.

This situation sparked much discussion regarding various establishments, past and current internal processes, fee schedule, penalty criteria, community events, who/what needs permitted, etc. Discussion points:

- ACHD constantly trying to improve internal processes.
- Anyone providing food to the public should apply for a permit and are required to show the food prep process is safe and does not put public at risk.
- Penalties apply if operating without a current permit.
- Consistent and constant communication regrading food safety and permitting requirements needs to be available to public via various methods (newspaper, website, letters, public education, social media, etc.).
- Letters and outreach needs to transpire with all area churches to be sure any who are preparing food for public are educated and permitted accordingly.

Schools – inspected twice/year and they have been late paying their permit fee every year. For 2019 permits, ACHD started the process in early November and they still didn’t submit applications and pay for permits timely. Firm letter sent that next year they will be assessed a penalty. Consensus is the schools should have paid penalty this year. Follow up letter needs to be sent regarding requirements of others preparing food in school kitchens. Monika Lawrence and Skate Pierce suggested copies of letters be forwarded to Wendy Wesbaucher.

A $95 OSS site evaluation fee was assessed on a prospective buyer by Environmental Health Specialist while in the field. Brian Shinn questioned the validity of the charge and inquired about cash handling / internal control procedures by providing WA St Auditor’s internal control documents. Fiscal Administrator assured Board that District does have such written policies, in fact
they utilize the County’s Cash Handling Policy and customize to fit District needs and compliance requirements. In addition, District does have a schedule that allows assessment of plot evaluation services. Administrator stated that more work is involved than just looking at property. Chris Seubert stated that Jeff Hagen told the potential buyer and Realtor that the fee was being charged due to lack of county funding.

Consensus from members of Board was to contact Karey with Lewiston Tribune to write an article or press release, get contact list from all churches and communicate. City of Asotin, representative Lori Loseth said that often people don’t read papers, and that outreach would be more beneficial.

**Public Health Policy Bills Presented to Legislature**

Distributed a list of bills in legislature.  
26 Boards of Local Health Jurisdictions (LHJs) passed resolutions in support of Foundational Public Health Support. Trying to get to 30 out of 35 LHJs. Encouraged vaccinations, T21 – HB1074/SB 5057  
Dr. Lutz is pleased by the number of public health initiatives moving forward in this session.

**Health Education / Vaping Discussion**

S Hoffman, Public Health Educator working with Audrie Clark on a program with 7th & 8th graders that promote healthy behavior. Recent Youth-2-Youth Prevention Summit addressed vaping issues and now they want to create a video to present to their classes. S Hoffman is taking project a step further and asking youth to present to the ACHD’s BOH as it relates to recommended policy change.

Update on Youth 2 Youth Spring Youth Forum Competition in May 2019: Kindness Club and Lincoln Middle School would like to utilize a drone to take photos demonstrating how close a vape shop (excluding names) is to the school and the negative effects, which they would use in the competition video as a campaign to stop kids from vaping. Board supports educational message but advises District personnel not be involved in singling anyone or any business.

**Syringe Exchange Program**

ACHD will be starting its own program at the Health District funded by Lewis-Clark Valley Healthcare Foundation. Dept. of Health set ACHD up with an account for discounted supplies. Training is being set up for District staff. Dr. Lutz recommends a specific schedule for client needle exchange. Goal is to have it up and running by mid-March 2019.

Lori asked that Administrator work with City Law Enforcement as they have limited police coverage.

### Announcements and Reports

| Executive Session | None |

### Scheduled Meetings

| March 25, 2019 Board of Health Meeting | Scheduled for March 25, 2019 at 1:00 PM, Commissioners’ Chambers at Asotin County Annex. |

| Meeting Adjournment | 2:45 mtg adjourned after all agenda items discussed. |