

**KITSAP COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**November 3, 2009**

The meeting was called to order at 11:26 a.m.

**MINUTES**

Mayor Chris Snow moved and Council Member Roy Runyon seconded to approve the minutes of the October 6, 2009, regular board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Dr. Scott Lindquist, Director of Health, directed the Board's attention to an item on the Consent Agenda – the Mutual Aid Agreement between seven federally recognized Indian tribes in Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap Counties and the Health District – that establishes a public health system for the tribes in the event of an emergency, if needed. He commented on the historical importance of this agreement, which is the first such agreement in the State of Washington and extended his thanks to the Department of Health who provided the funding for the work necessary to develop the Agreement. After a brief discussion, Mayor Snow moved and Council Member Darlene Kordonowy seconded to approve the items on the consent agenda. The motion passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Dr. Lindquist introduced several special guests to the Board from the Department of Health in Olympia including Secretary of Health Mary Selecky, Dennis Dennis, Allen Mares, and Marie Flake. Secretary Selecky addressed the Board thanking them for their work in partnership with the Health District in establishing public health priorities for the community and noted that they were ahead of most counties in the State in doing so. She then addressed the current budget challenges faced by the state and the impacts of lagging revenue on the Department of Health and therefore local health jurisdictions. Finally, Secretary Selecky underscored the importance of behavioral health issues to communities across the State and the impact on them of unmet behavioral health needs. She encouraged the Board to do what they can at the local level to deal with mental health issues, because funding from the State cannot be relied upon to meet these needs. Secretary Selecky then presented Dr. Lindquist with a rare public health poster autographed by the State Health Officer, Dr. Maxine Hayes, and Secretary Selecky, which was received with thanks.

Dr. Lindquist brought the Board up-to-date on the District's current outreach to the community in providing information about H1N1, respiratory etiquette, and what to do if residents do become sick. Lindquist explained that the District's strategy in distributing vaccine, in contrast to the strategy in some other counties, has been to move vaccine out to medical providers in the community including those providers that serve low income persons rather than sponsoring mass vaccination clinics. Lindquist sees this as a more effective way to reach a larger percentage of the target groups for vaccination with the result that almost all the vaccine has been pushed out into the community with very little being retained by the District.

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ALLIANCE DISCUSSION**

Dr. Lindquist introduced Mr. Joe Roszak, Executive Director of Kitsap Mental Health Services. Mr. Roszak acknowledged the other members of the Kitsap County Behavioral Health Alliance (BHA) in the audience, including Barb Malich, Peninsula Community Health Services; Patty Cochrell, Harrison Medical Center; Bert Furuta, Kitsap County; and Ned Newlin, Kitsap County Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Roszak presented an overview of mental health care needs in Kitsap County to the Board. He began by explaining that the BHA sponsored a gap analysis of the mental health care needs in the County. This analysis revealed that the mental health care needs of a significant number of county residents across the age spectrum from children, teens, adults, to older adults are not being met. The lack of sufficient funding for mental health services in the community strains the resources of all the members of the Behavioral Health Alliance who provide the safety net for residents with mental health needs. For example, Roszak noted that his agency has seen a 37% increase in request for services for children and families in fiscal year 2009 with no corresponding increase in funding. He further noted that, in fact, some entities within the BHA have faced cuts in funding. Other examples of the effects of the lack of funding for mental health needs on other members of the BHA include a lack of transitional housing for inmates leaving the County Jail who have mental health illness; long waitlists at the Adult Drug Court at the County; 16 percent of Peninsula Community Health's patients presenting with a primary diagnosis of mental health illness; and 89 percent of the frequent visitors at Harrison Hospital's Emergency Department with a primary diagnosis of mental health and/or substance abuse diagnosis in addition to 5,700 visits by clients with a primary mental health diagnosis. The effect of the lack of mental health resources results in cost-shifting where clients in acute psychiatric crisis end up in jail or in the emergency room. Roszak commented on the tragic impact on individuals suffering from mental illness who are unable to receive appropriate services, because the best treatments for serious mental illness are highly effective when resources are available and treatment begins early.

Mr. Roszak then presented a map showing the 14 counties in Washington State that have enacted a sales tax increase to provide funds to support behavioral health services in their counties. On behalf of the BHA, Roszak then asked the Board to consider recommending passing a 1/10<sup>th</sup> or one percent sales tax, which the BHA calls the Behavioral Health and Safety Initiative, to generate revenue to support behavioral health services in Kitsap County. This additional revenue would narrow the gaps in services, better address significant needs in our community, and prevent further erosion of our community's vitality if these needs remain unmet.

Mr. Roszak then opened the proposal to the Board for discussion and questions. Dr. Lindquist explained in response to a question from the Board that this proposal is being brought to the Board of Health first for discussion rather than directly to the Commissioners, because mental health is a public health priority of the Health District and is a compelling public health need in terms of the burden of disease in the community.

Council Member Runyon inquired if there has been a shifting of persons needing mental health services from nearby counties such as King and Pierce into Kitsap County where the cost of living is lower and suggested if that number could be identified that the County could look to the State for equalization funding to help subsidize their treatment. Mr. Roszak explained that he did not have an in-migration figure of individuals into Kitsap County needing mental health

care and that even if that statistic were available; neither Washington State nor the federal government has funds available. Further Roszak explained that Kitsap Mental Health does bill outside entities for the cost of services if KMH treats persons who are clearly the responsibility of, for example, King County mental health agencies. However, Roszak noted that when persons move to Kitsap County and become residents, they then become the responsibility of Kitsap County agencies to provide needed services.

Commissioner Charlotte Garrido asked if a strategic plan for how the money that is raised would be used would be part of the proposal. Mr. Roszak responded by explaining that the County would have flexibility in deciding on a variety of governance models to manage the revenue raised by such a tax. Commissioner Brown then expressed his support for this initiative pending the outcome of today's election with regard to Initiative 1033 and suggested that it be revisited after the election in a future Board meeting

### **2010 BUDGET/2010 PROGRAM PRIORITIES DISCUSSION**

Council Member Dianne Robinson reported on the October 13 meeting of the Finance Committee meeting. She informed the Board of the District's status with regard to the 2009 budget to date, the 2010 budget is balanced owing in part to the H1N1 funding, and expects that 2011 will be a "rough year". Mr. Scott Daniels, Deputy Director, followed up with a summary of the highlights of the 2010 budget. He noted that the budget is balanced, with the help of one-time H1N1 funding. No fee increases are planned for 2010. He noted with regard to local government funding that the 2010 budget includes an eight percent funding reduction from Kitsap County and no change in funding from the Cities. On the expenditure side, there are no FTE reductions planned and no COLA or benefit increases are planned with furloughs continuing through June 2010. Finally, Mr. Daniels stated that additional state and federal cuts are expected in 2010 and will be responded to in a targeted fashion.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO RCW 42.20.140(4)(a) TO DISCUSS COLLECTIVE BARGAINING NEGOTIATIONS**

At 12:24, Commissioner Steve Bauer announced that the Board was adjourning to Executive Session pursuant to RCW 42.20.140(4) (a) to discuss collective bargaining negotiations and that no decisions would be made in the session. Commissioner Bauer estimated the Executive Session would take about ten minutes. At 12:35, Commissioner Bauer announced that the Executive Session would be extended and would take an additional 15-20 minutes. The Board returned to public session at 12:53.

### **ADJOURN**

There was no further business; the meeting was adjourned at 12:53 p.m.

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**Commissioner Steve Bauer, Chair**  
**Kitsap County Board of Health**

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**Scott W. Lindquist, MD, MPH**  
**Director of Health**

**Board Members Present:** *Commissioner Steve Bauer; Commissioner Josh Brown; Commissioner Charlotte Garrido; Mayor Lary Coppola; Council Member Darlene Kordonowy; Mayor Kathryn Quade; Council Member Roy Runyon; Mayor Chris Snow; Council Member Dianne Robinson*

**Board Members Absent:** *Mayor Pro Tem Cecil McConnell*

**Staff Present:** *Scott Daniels, Deputy Director; Keith Grellner, Director Environmental Health; Leslie Hopkins, Special Projects Program Coordinator, Administration; Tracey Kellogg, Manager, Accounting; Scott Lindquist, MD, MPH, Health Officer; Akiko Miller, Nursing Student Intern, Seattle Pacific University; Lisa Miranda, Environmental Health Clerical; Beth Phipps, Nurse Epidemiologist, Clinic; Suzanne Plemmons, Director, Community Health; Betti Ridge, Case Manager, HIV/AIDS Program; Shawn Ultican, Senior Environmental Health Specialist, Drinking Water & Water Protection Program*

**Public Present:** *Patty Cochrell, Harrison Medical Center; Dennis Dennis, Department of Health; Rochelle Doan, Kitsap Mental Health Services; Marie Flake, Department of Health; Bert Furuta, Kitsap County; Rita Di Inno, Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1384; Barb Malich, Peninsula Community Health Services; Allen Mares, Department of Health; Behnaz Nelson, International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers, Local 17; Ned Newlin, Kitsap County; Joe Roszak, Kitsap Mental Health Services; Mary Selecky, Department of Health; Mary Wendt, Department of Health*