BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
ANNUAL MEETING
Wednesday, January 15, 2020

MEMBERS PRESENT: Don Dashiell, Nathan Davis, Steve Kiss, Elbert Koontz, Steve Parker, John Ridlington, Karen Skoog

MEMBERS ABSENT: Johnna Exner

STAFF PRESENT: Judy Hutton, Kelly LeCaire, Tammy Maine, Jon Ness, Makayla Nez, Matt Schanz, Logan Worley

GUESTS: Andrew Engell, Ralph Lane Jr.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Chair Steve Parker called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS: Introductions were made by all. Matt Schanz provided background on the Northeast Tri County Health District (NETCHD) Environmental Health Director (EHD) position. Jim Matsuyama held that position from 1975-2011; followed by Matt Schanz and Alyssa Spradley. Jon Ness has been hired and started November 25, 2019. He previously worked within the field of environmental health for the past 20 years.

DESIGNATION OF 2020 BOARD OF HEALTH: Matt received notification this morning that Metaline Falls Council Member Jerry Weaver is unable to fulfill his position on the Board of Health (BOH). Matt will discuss this with the Mayor of Metaline Falls. If Metaline Falls does not appoint a representative, the next Pend Oreille County city/town on the rotation is Cusick.

Appointments to the Board of Health of Northeast Tri County Health District for 2020 were read into the record. Ferry County Board of Commissioners have appointed Commissioners Nathan Davis and Johnna Exner; Pend Oreille County Board of Commissioners designated Commissioners Steve Kiss and Karen Skoog; Stevens County Board of Commissioners have appointed Commissioners Don Dashiell and Steve Parker; Mayor John Ridlington was appointed by the City of Kettle Falls; the City of Republic appointed Elbert Koontz.

REPORT FROM NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Members of the nominating committee are: Don Dashiell, Johnna Exner, and Steve Kiss. Don Dashiell reported that the nominating committee recommends Johnna Exner as 2020 Board Chair and Steve Kiss as 2020 Vice Chair.

Don Dashiell moved, and Elbert Koontz seconded the motion to approve the recommendation by the nominating committee to elect Johnna Exner as 2020 Board of Health Chair and Steve Kiss as 2020 Board of Health Vice Chair. Motion carried.
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Steve Parker noted that this follows the long-established rotation that allows each county to participate at this level. Though there have been variations, the term is two years if they choose.

In the absence of Johnn Exner, newly elected Vice Chair Steve Kiss began chairing the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES: Steve Parker moved, and John Ridlington seconded the motion to approve the minutes of November 13, 2019. Motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE AND INFORMATION: There was no correspondence to the Board.

Karen Skoog arrived at the meeting at 10:17 a.m.

PUBLIC APPEARANCES: No public appearances were pre-registered.

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA: There were no changes to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was no public comment.

RESOLUTION 01-2020: ADOPTING A VAPING RESOLUTION: Matt Schanz noted that in 2017, NETCHD staff presented the BOH with a proposed resolution that would prohibit vaping of any substance in indoor public places and places of employment, applicable in both incorporated and unincorporated areas of Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Stevens Counties. The proposed resolution added vaping to the pre-existing Smoking in Public Places law (RCW 70.160) to prevent secondhand inhalation of chemicals/substances contained in vaping products.

While there was strong support based on community survey results, there were several issues that the BOH discussed that included:
1. It seemed likely that the State of Washington would incorporate vaping into the Smoking in Public Places law;
2. The scientific data regarding the harmful impacts of vaping products was not comprehensive;
3. Ferry County Jail utilized vaping products within their facility and jail staff spoke of the benefits of continued utilization of vaping products.

A public hearing was held during the September 2017 BOH meeting. One member of the public attended and spoke in favor of the action. At the November 2017 BOH meeting, the BOH considered the resolution but ultimately voted to table the motion to adopt the vaping resolution until Ferry County Commissioners could assess other potential solutions within the jail facility. At the January 2018 BOH meeting there was discussion about potential solutions within the Ferry County Jail. The BOH directed staff not to pursue any further action on the issue and considered the matter tabled until further instruction from the BOH.
Matt Schanz reported that since 2018, the following is an update:

1. There is no current legislative effort to add vaping product use into the Smoking in Public Places law. To date, 12 public health jurisdictions have adopted regulations on vaping in public places. Eleven of the 12 regulations also restrict vaping in places of employment. The lack of statewide legislation is likely a result of local regulations being enacted in most populated counties and that those local jurisdictions would not likely support a statewide rule that would preempt their local regulation.

2. To date, there have been over 2,500 cases of lung injury associated with direct vapor use, with 21 cases occurring in Washington State. There have been over 50 deaths confirmed with additional cases under investigation. Findings suggest tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) containing vapor products are linked to most patients and vitamin E acetate (an additive in some THC containing products) is also closely associated with lung injury.

3. Research on long-term health impacts from second-hand inhalation of vaping products is still on-going. However, studies have demonstrated that vaping product contains nicotine, propylene glycol (which travel deep into the respiratory system, damage tissue and can worsen asthma or other respiratory illnesses), cancer-causing chemicals, heavy metals (such as nickel, tin, and lead), and flavoring such as diacetyl (a chemical linked to serious lung disease).

4. Ferry County Jail has discontinued use of vaping products within the jail setting.

5. Ferry County Commissioners have considered measures that would prohibit vaping in indoor public places and places of employment. At an October 2019 public hearing on the issue, they tabled their decision on the subject until the issue could be discussed through the NETCHD BOH.

6. During the November 2019 BOH meeting, the Board gave direction to staff to present a revised vaping resolution before the BOH at the January 2020 meeting for further consideration. During the meeting there was discussion about vaping in work vehicles and how the resolution would address the issue. This question also came up in 2005 at the time of the Initiative 901 (I-901) and subsequent revisions to the Smoking in Public Places law. The Attorney General provided guidance that states that if a vehicle is used for work purposes and there are multiple individuals in the vehicle, the vehicle would be considered a “private enclosed workplace” where smoking/vaping is allowed. However, any agency or business may choose to prohibit smoking/vaping in any vehicle.

NETCHD staff presented the BOH with a revised resolution for consideration that no longer contains prior wording from the 2017/2018 draft excepting the correctional facilities from vaping restrictions. Matt noted that the resolution has been updated since it was last presented to the BOH at the November 2019 meeting to include recent data updates.

Elbert Koontz asked if the State of Washington had passed this. Matt said they have not passed this and added that the Washington State Association of Counties (WSAC) and Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WSALPHO) have indicated that they likely will not pass this. There have been 12 local health jurisdictions (LHJs) that cover 75% of the population that have passed local ordinances or resolutions how they saw fit. There’s no driver for a state-wide rule. Steve Parker said we do advocate more for local rule as it gives us the chance to look very closely at impacts. The fact that 12 other LHJs have taken this action is encouraging.
Steve Parker said he would like to take more time to review the resolution. He suggested not rushing through this, especially with new BOH members and an environmental health director. We looked at it closely in 2017-18. Matt Schanz wants to clarify that in 2017-18 we contemplated carving out the Ferry County Jail etc. and the BOH didn’t want to adopt a rule to include the carve out to exclude any facilities. It if makes good sense, then it’s for all. It was decided at that time to wait and see what would happen at the state level and with Ferry County. Those provisions were removed. At the November 2019 BOH meeting we presented a resolution example to include changes with updated statistical information.

Karen Skoog said Pend Oreille County recently discovered a conflict with their policy. An issue came up with the transfer station that is a public place and a place of employment. If you smoke, you need to be

25 feet from the building. If you vape, do you have to walk across the street to vape on private property? Karen said this resolution doesn’t contain the language describing the 25-foot rule. Matt said there is no change to those definitions, they remain the same and are contained in state law. This resolution is simply adding vaping to the existing Smoking in Public Places law. Definitions to include employer owned vehicles has been worked through. Karen said this document should be easily understood and feels that we need to provide that clarity. The public won’t know those definitions, they should be clearly stated. Karen noted that Pend Oreille County didn’t realize this would be an issue with their policy until they went through it.

Nathan Davis reported that given the new research and information, Ferry County has revised their policy that prohibits vaping and sale of vaping products within the jail. Nathan has the same issues as Karen and feels that we need to clarify place of business, as it could be a private business in a home. Matt said in 2005 with the passage of I-901, NETCHD served as educators as it pertained to businesses with tobacco. NETCHD staff met with bars, food establishments, etc. Matt reiterated that all of that will remain the same — the only change is to add vapor along with tobacco smoke. Nathan talked about the public hearing that Ferry County held on vaping and the decision to let the BOH adopt the resolution that would cover all three counties. Matt noted that the BOH resolution would apply to incorporated and unincorporated areas of Ferry, Pend Oreille, and Stevens Counties.

Matt stated that in October 2019 the Washington State Board of Health (SBOH) passed an emergency ban on the sale of flavored vaping products for a period of four months. Steve Kiss asked when that is due to expire? Matt said it is being discussed at the legislative level. The SBOH chose to leave it up to the Legislature. Matt said the federal government recently passed a law that prohibits the sale of tobacco products, e-cigarettes and vaping cartridges to anyone under age 21. The State of Washington had previously enacted the rule prior to this.

Judy Hutton said the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) strongly suspect that vitamin E acetate is linked to the e-cigarette, or vaping, product use-associated lung injury (EVALI) cases. They are looking closely at the flavoring, which seems to be the primary issue. Judy noted that kids aren’t coming forth in saying where they are getting the product. It is suspected that kids are getting it from the black market, but adults are still getting it commercially.

Karen reiterated her desire to add the wording of the 25-foot rule and clarify with a short definition that includes RCW 70.160.020 that defines public place and place of employment.
Steve Parker moved, and Elbert Koontz seconded the motion to table Resolution 01-2020: Adopting a Vaping Resolution to allow each county and municipality to review the document and provide feedback to Matt Schanz.

Don Dashiell said some of the “whereas” statements within the resolution could be up for debate. A “whereas” statement is a conclusion and there are different opinions in this situation. Don agrees with suggestions made by Karen Skoog and keeping it simple. He doesn’t know if it is necessary to have a resolution telling people that vaping is bad for them. He isn’t certain that the science has been resolved. Matt asked the BOH if they wish to remove some of the “whereas” statements given new evidence of second hand impacts from inhalation from those products. One person has the right to not be negatively impacted by the vaping person. They are completely discretionary to this Board and a judgement call. The statements can be removed from the resolution if that is the desire of the Board. Don suggested another review by the BOH and include only what is needed. Steve P. said sometimes regulatory agencies tend to make things so clear to them, but the general population doesn’t understand it. It should be done in a way that is simpler by using a common-sense approach. Steve P. noted that we have enforcement issues here. He reminded the BOH that there are new people in law enforcement positions (Stevens County Sheriff, police chief in other counties, etc.). Don hasn’t heard of anyone reporting someone blowing vape in their face to a 911 dispatcher. Matt said someone blowing vape in another person’s face would be a law enforcement issue. If the issue is with an establishment allowing vaping, that becomes the responsibility of the LHI.

Steve Kiss encouraged BOH members to provide Matt with desired language and comments. Matt would like comments within the next 30 days. He will send out reminders to BOH members. At the very least, he said we can take another look at “whereas” statements and eliminate those that aren’t necessary and add definitions under item #3 in the resolution.

Motion carried.

BETTER HEALTH TOGETHER EQUITY PROJECT UPDATE ON MATERNAL SMOKING CESSIONMENT: As discussed at the November 2019 BOH meeting, Judy Hutton said the job description is ready for the temporary position, we are just waiting to hear from Better Health Together (BHT) on budget details. Matt said we are supposed to receive the plan from BHT in February 2020. Letters of support have been signed by Ferry and Stevens County health coalitions. Judy is already being contacted by providers wanting to participate in the project. Matt noted that this project is for Ferry and Stevens Counties only, because Pend Oreille County selected mental health as their primary focus.

STATEWIDE ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH RULE MAKING UPDATE (KEEPING OF ANIMALS, ON-SITE SEWAGE SYSTEMS, FOOD SAFETY): Jon Ness reported that the SBOH released the draft version of the Keeping of Animals rule for public comment. This is an update to WAC 246-203-130 and is much more prescriptive in its application. The rule applies to domestic pets as well as livestock. The Keeping of Animals rule is very old and outdated.
The draft rule prescribes management of all domestic animal waste to prevent leaching to another person's property, public rights-of-way, surface water, aquifers and wellhead protection zones. For livestock waste that is stockpiled, it prescribes waste be managed to minimize odors, flies, rodents, and other pests. It also prescribes setbacks to drinking water sources, as well as surface waters.

The draft rule encourages animal keepers to consult with local conservation districts to develop best management practices. The rule also states that the local health officer or other officials described in RCW 43.20.050 (5) may initiate enforcement action.

Jon Ness noted that NETCHD will be submitting comments. He provided BOH members with information on where they could comment. Comments must be received by January 31, 2020.

Don Dashiell asked which agency between the Department of Health (DOH), Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), and Ecology would be the lead agency. Would someone report a violation to any of them and will they consult with each other? Jon said DOH worked with Ecology and WSDA as well as the Livestock Commission.

Steve Parker talked about the SBOH telling people how to manage dog waste. Jon said citizens could complain about it. Steve P. has a problem with domestic pets being included. He asked if that is the new edition? Matt Schanz said the original rule primarily addressed livestock but now covers domestic pets to include pet waste. Apparently, numerous LHJs wanted domestic pets included. Matt noted that the local health officer may choose to implement this. NETCHD receives a lot of complaints from neighbors complaining about handling of pet waste by their neighbor. If we don’t implement this, some citizens will be unhappy with the LHJ for not addressing this. Don asked if there is a threshold on what would apply, such as a commercial kennel. Jon said a situation occurred in Yakima with contamination of ground water from livestock, which is what initiated the rule update because of the public health impact.

Matt noted that SBOH Member Fran Besserman lives in Stevens County and is aware of our concerns. Steve P. said this is more continued encroachment on citizens at the state level.

Jon indicated that in January 2018 the SBOH directed DOH to begin the rule revision process for WAC 246-272A, the rule regulating on-site septic systems. In June 2018 DOH began having regular On-site Rule Revision Committee (ORRC) meetings. The ORRC is made up of 20 members, four of which are environmental health directors (EHDs), and the remaining 16 are from interested parties, such as engineers, installers, designers, pumpers, real estate, shellfish industry, and Ecology. Jon serves on the ORRC as the eastside EHD alternate.

After comments are received, DOH is separating out the requirements between the 12 Puget Sound counties and the rest of the state for local management plans (LMPs). Non-Puget Sound counties will still have requirements, which include:

- Education for on-site sewage system (OSS) owners to perform maintenance
- Property ownership transfer inspections
- Describe how to fund and implement LMP
There was discussion about property transfer and requirement for septic system inspection. The disconnect about what is required and what is happening would be a challenge to implement. Don Dashiell asked about transactions such as a quitclaim deed, family selling property to family members, etc. Jon Ness said NETCHD would have to meet with Realtors etc. Matt Schanz met with tri-county Realtors in November and there wasn’t an objection to the requirement because it protects them. Don asked about those non-permitted systems. Jon said he would look at the year of build (pre-1971).

The proposed draft would have allowed partial drainfield repairs without a permit. The new draft will reduce or eliminate this variance. Jon noted that public comments raised concerns that lot sizes are too small to protect groundwater from nitrate loading.

Steve Parker asked about the ORRC members. Jon said eastside members include: Benton Franklin Health District; Spokane Regional Health District; alternate – NETCHD. Westside members include: Jefferson County Public Health; Kitsap Public Health District; alternate – Thurston County Public Health.

Steve P. inquired about funding. Jon said he pushed back fairly hard due to how the local plan would be funded, compared to shellfish funding to Puget Sound counties in the past. We would need additional funding to implement the proposed rules. Matt said we submitted our comments about the funding strategy that this is an unfunded mandate and asked how we are going to do this if this is the expectation.

The food safety rule revision process formally began in July 2018. The updates are to amend existing sections and incorporate the new mobile food unit legislation. The implementation schedule has been extended, and may not be effective until October 2020, or even January 2021. The changes include:

- Requirement of a certified food protection manager per establishment (does not need to be present at establishment at all hours of operation).
- Date marking for food prepared on-site. Seven-day service or discard date.
- Amends rule to match the mobile food rule changes: Distance to bathrooms and plan review requirements across jurisdictions.

**2020 NETCHD LEGISLATIVE AND RULEMAKING PRIORITIES:** Matt is proposing the WSALPHO list of 2020 legislative and rulemaking priorities be approved by the Board. The proposed funding priorities include:

**Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS):** Our governmental public health system is failing to provide the most basic public health services necessary to protect and promote the health of the citizens of Washington State. Inadequate and unstable funding over time has contributed to unequal delivery of programs and services statewide. *Fully funding FPHS will assure that everyone, everywhere has access to consistent, efficient, and effective core public health services.*

**Maintenance Request, General Fund State:** The Legislature provided the Office of Financial Management (OFM) with $12 million in spending authority from the FPHS account for the 2019-2021 biennium. Revenue to support this was designated from tax revenue created by E2SHB 1873. Recent forecasts indicate a significant shortfall in the biennium. *WSALPHO urges the Legislature to provide the funding to address this revenue shortfall, allowing DOH to fulfill the Legislature’s FPMS appropriation.*
Fund Foundational Public Health Services: $16.4 Million, General Fund State: Request funding will be used in disease outbreak response, climate impacts to health and systems infrastructure. This funding request is part of the long-term phased asked to cover PHSS gaps statewide ($450 million/biennium) and will reduce our state’s risk of communicable disease and environmental threats.

Local Water System Safety: $492,000, General Fund State: Small group B public water systems provide drinking water to small businesses and communities across the state, particularly in rural areas where public utilities do not serve. Approximately 13,400 group B public water systems receive the assistances and oversight from LHJs to provide safe and reliable drinking water. WSALPHO supports the DOH request to assist LHJs with funding for local group B programs.

Policy legislation includes:

Vaping and Vapor Products: Vaping is a complex and challenging issue; rates of youth use have more than doubled in the last three years; the safety and health effects of long term vapor use is unknown; and lung injuries associated with vaping is a new public health crisis. Vaping is still widely unregulated by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), is not an approved cessation strategy, and has shown widespread appeal to youth through flavored products. Washington State has sadly underfunded tobacco and nicotine prevention for years, only appropriating $2 million this last biennium. WSALPHO supports strategies to prevent marketing, sales, and the use of tobacco, e-cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, and marijuana to youth. In addition, WSALPHO supports the regulation of vapor products and devices, and increased resources to better understand and respond to lung injuries associated with vaping.

Steve Parker approved of the list of proposed items. He asked if WSALPHO would engage in gun regulation. Matt Schanz said the Washington State Public Health Association (WSPHA) has gun regulation on their legislative agenda and are parallel with government efforts. Matt noted they are outside of WSALHPO and we don’t have a lot of involvement with them. WSPHA supports those who support public health. WSPHA members include some state public health folks, but primarily the medical-side of the field.

OPIOID SPEAKERS BUREAU PROGRAM PRESENTATION: NETCD Care Navigator Makayla Nez provided the BOH with a presentation on the Opioid Speakers Bureau. NETCD held an opioid response conference in March 2019 with 50 attendees from the tri-county area and three tribes. Presenters included University of Washington Research Scientist Caleb Banta-Green PhD, MPH, MSW and Dr. Charissa Fontinos, Deputy Chief Medical Officer, Washington State Healthcare Authority. A gap analysis indicates a gap in opioid prevention education in schools. A community action plan resulted in the formation of an Opioid Speakers Bureau (OSB). An OSB is comprised of individuals dealing with the crisis from varying perspectives. The OSB panel would answer student questions candidly on their experience with the crisis. The goal is to educate youth on all aspects of the opioid crisis. There are currently 15 project members that meet monthly. Makayla noted the development of a Tri County Student Opioid Prevention Coalition to gain student perspective. Future actions include specific opioid prevention education presentations in schools with question and answer style presentations. Peer groups in schools are a good way for students to take ownership of the project.
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Don Dashiell asked about program funding. Matt Schanz said funding comes through the Hub and Spoke grant. Makayla Nez noted that all members are volunteers. Steve Parker asked about the members. Makayla will send an email listing the members. Matt complimented work done by Makayla for this project as she had ideas given to her about reaching youth. Steve P. would like to be kept informed on the progress of the project.

Karen Skoog has been thinking about some type of third-party support for employers who hire adults and youth with addiction issues. There would be accountability and would help prevent homelessness by keeping these people employed.

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS: APPEAL, BUDGET, PERSONNEL: In the absence the newly elected Board Chair, Matt suggested and the BOH members agreed on the 2020 BOH committee appointments as follows:

- Appeal Committee: Don Dashiell, Johnna Exner, Steve Kiss, Elbert Koontz
- Budget Committee: Johnna Exner, Steve Parker, John Ridlington, Karen Skoog
- Personnel Committee: Nathan Davis, Steve Kiss, John Ridlington, Steve Parker

REVIEW OF 2020 MEETING SCHEDULE: The Board of Health of Northeast Tri County Health District 2020 meeting schedule was reviewed and approved as follows:

- Wednesday, January 15, 2020 – Annual Meeting, Stevens County
- Wednesday, March 18, 2020 – Regular Meeting, Stevens County
- Wednesday, May 20, 2020 – Regular Meeting, Pend Oreille County
- Wednesday, July 15, 2020 – Regular Meeting, Ferry County
- Wednesday, September 16, 2020 – Regular Meeting, Stevens County
- Thursday, November 12, 2020 – Regular Meeting, Stevens County

CHAIRMAN REPORT: There was no Chairman report.

BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS REPORTS: There were no reports from BOH members.

Karen left the meeting at 12:01 p.m.

HEALTH OFFICER REPORT: There was no Health Officer report.

ADMINISTRATION REPORT: Matt submitted the administration report as follows:

Association of Washington Cities (AWC): January 1, 2020 marked the start of Health District employee coverage through AWC Employee Benefit Trust that provides health benefits/promotion programs. Administration staff have spent the preceding months working closely with AWC staff to ensure a smooth transition from Washington Counties Insurance Fund (WCIF).
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One significant change from WCIF is that dental and vision benefits are not optional and are part of
required coverage along with medical through AWC. Depending on the choice of dental and vision plan
selected, this coverage costs the employee approximately $59.00/month. For medical coverage,
employees could select from a “Health First” ($500 deductible plan) selected by 5 employees with a cost
of $712/month for the individual or a “High Deductible Health Plan” ($1,500 deductible plan) which was
selected by 11 employees for a cost of $527/month for the individual. Five employees waived coverage
with verification of coverage under another group plan through their spouse.

All Staff Trainings: Through the District’s risk and liability insurer, Enduris, staff completed on-line
trainings through 2019 that included required trainings on Health Insurance Portability and
Accountability Act (HIPAA), sexual harassment, bloodborne pathogens, driving while distracted, and how
to effectively work with clients under difficult situations. Staff were also required to select other
training opportunities of which they could select from other courses on successful customer
interactions, goal setting, enhancing work relationships, defensive driving basics, etc.

Mental Health First Aid Trainings: We have been working with Eastern Washington University to offer a
local training on mental health first aid. We have teamed with Rural Resources to host the trainings on
February 26 (youth-oriented course) and February 27, 2020 (adult-oriented course). To date, 42 Rural
Resources staff and 12 Health District staff have signed up for the training. We have extended the
invitation to a few other organizations to send their staff as well.

Matt Schanz reported that he is working through the lease renewal for the NETCHD Newport building
that will expire in two months. The building owner has agreed to allow a year-by-year lease but did not
agree to any reduction in rent. Matt suggested seeing what happens with possible options in the near
future that would be more affordable.

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT: Judy Hutton submitted the community health report as follows:

Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN): CSHCN coordinators are reaching out to schools that
have the Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES) as part of their school culture. The CSHCN coordinators
plan to meet with the school educators to learn what services and tools they can offer children with
ACES. Once the schools have been visited, CSHCN coordinators will reach out to Head Start, Early Head
Start, daycares, and other venues that serve children age 0-18 to gather this same information.

Rural Children’s Immune Outreach: The Rural Children’s Immune Outreach project with Providence
Northeast Washington Medical Group (PNEWMG) is moving forward with the first clinic date set for
January 23, 2020. Staff from PNEWMG will be at the NETCHD Colville office on a quarterly basis to
administer immunizations with Dr. Shannon as the preceptor. The goal of this program is to increase
vaccination rates within the 0-2-year-old age group, however, they will also offer vaccines to children up
to age 18.
Vaping Associated Lung Injury: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) data suggests that e-cigarette, or vaping, product use associated lung injury (EVALI) outbreak began in June 2019, appears to have peaked nationally around mid-September 2019. There are some states that continue to report new cases to CDC on a weekly basis. The numbers seen in previous months are declining and the exact cause or causes is still being investigated. There have been 21 reported cases of EVALI in Washington State and additional cases are being investigated. Many interventions were instituted in response to the outbreak, for example, in Washington State there was a ban on flavored vaping products, so we really can’t say that any one was responsible for the decline in numbers. Most likely the decline was a combination of many interventions.

Disposal of Syringes: Safe disposal of syringes has been a topic of discussion and concern within Health District staff. When a resident who uses needles or syringes to manage a medical condition at home, proper disposal of these items is paramount to personal and public safety. As part of the opioid grant and solid waste grant, NETCHD staff will be developing a list of disposal sites within the three counties as well as providing information on how to safely dispose of Sharps containers and how to safely pick up and dispose of a syringe.

Satellite Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Clinics: NETCHD currently offers satellite WIC clinics in both Chewelah and Springdale. Along with the state WIC program, we are currently exploring the possibility of offering a satellite WIC clinic in Nine Mile Falls. NEW Health Programs (NEWHP) has allowed us to use a clinic room within their Chewelah and Springdale facilities to provide WIC services. If we are able to move forward with the additional WIC clinic, NEWHP has authorized NETCHD to use their Nine Mile Falls facility for WIC services.

Harm Reduction Safe Syringe Services Program (HRSSSP): The total numbers for the HRSSSP for 2019 by county are as follows:

Ferry County:
Naloxone Kits Distributed: 4
Overdose Reversals: 3
Syringes Disposed: 1,559
Syringes Distributed: 1,610

Pend Oreille County:
Naloxone Kits Distributed: 19
Overdose Reversals: 5
Syringes Disposed: 6,435
Syringes Distributed: 6,691

Stevens County:
Naloxone Kits Distributed: 60
Overdose Reversals: 11
Syringes Disposed: 12,623
Syringes Distributed: 13,280
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Total:
Naloxone Kits Distributed: 83
Overdose Reversals: 19
**Used Syringes Properly Disposed:** 20,617
Clean Syringes Distributed: 21,581

Total Unique Clients Served: 48

The total amount distributed, and the total amount disposed do not match because a client may come in with 4 syringes to dispose of and 10 syringes are given. Syringes come in a connected package of 10 and we don’t break up the package.

The total number of disposed syringes are from the exchanges only; this amount does not reflect syringes dropped off by members of our communities. To date, we have taken in 1,540 syringes from members of the community, who are not participants of the syringe exchange.

Since September 2019, NETCHD has provided Naloxone and education to the Colville and Kettle Falls Police Department’s and the Stevens County Sheriff’s Department and jail.

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT:** Jon Ness submitted the environmental health report as follows:

**Recent Illness Investigations**
- Campylobacter Outbreak – Two people became ill from drinking raw milk from the same seller.
  - Contacted seller and communicated a cease and desist order.
  - Coordinated with DOH food safety staff and WSDA field staff.
  - No more cases identified.
- Family suffered burning sensations in mouth area after consuming cereal.
  - Contacted DOH food safety staff and FDA.
  - DOH pesticide division obtained a sample for testing.
  - FDA acquired the remaining product for testing.
  - Pending results.
- Giardia – Likely exposure from a contaminated dug well. The well serves two residences on the property. Two-party wells are exempt from regulation. Reached out to the owner and offered guidance and recommendations.
- Norovirus – NETCHD received reports of cases of norovirus in Ferry County. Given that this virus is easily spread if a food worker is contagious, we made a special trip to Republic and visited with 18 food establishments including schools about the issue and handed out informative flyers. To date, we know of no norovirus illnesses associated with local food establishments.
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Country Hills Mobile Home Park: On December 2, 2019 DOH sent out an order to the owner of the Country Hills Mobile Home Park concerning the ongoing operation of the Large On-site Sewage System (LOSS) in violation of applicable laws concerning operating permits and a certified operator (RCW 70.118B.30, RCW 43.05.100 and WAC 246-272B). The order follows non-compliance with several pieces of informal correspondence and a formal notice of correction. The order gave 29 days for compliance before a civil penalty of $15,000 would be imposed.

The owner has appealed the fine and that hearing will not be for at least three months. DOH extended the offer for a mitigation hearing, which the owner accepted, and may be as soon as the end of January 2020. DOH is hopeful the operator will come into compliance.

The mobile home park serves approximately 17 active residences, and there are several more mobile homes that are currently unoccupied.

PacWest Smelter, Newport: Pend Oreille County Commissioners rejected a rezone from "public land" to "rural land" which would have provided a clearer pathway for the industrial development. In September 2019, PacWest asked Ecology to temporarily stop the environmental review process.

Steve Kiss said the rezone will likely happen. For now, the smelter is on hold.

Food Inspections: FDA Standards states that a staffing level of one full time equivalent (FTE) food inspector devoted for every 280-330 food inspections performed in a year.
https://www.fda.gov/media/86864/download Our Colville Food Inspector completed 525 inspections in 2019, which is quite an accomplishment. Depending on the level of menu complexity and risk level, each food establishment is assigned a routine inspection frequency of one, two, or three times annually. Even with the exceptional performance, it appears we may not complete all the inspections to meet our policy standards.

Northport/Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Lead Soil Testing Update: In 2003-04 EPA collected soil samples from Northport residential properties that may have been contaminated with historic smelter emissions. At that time the action level was 1,000 milligram-per-kilogram (mg/kg). In 2015 the action level was changed to 700 mg/kg. In October 2019 EPA conducted assessments on properties where the soil sampling in 2004 revealed lead contamination above 700 mg/kg, one of which is the Lyn Kaste Gould Memorial Park/community play area. EPA is working with the Northport School District on potential soil removal/remediation.

City of Colville Waste Streams: The City of Colville facilitates a wood and leaf pickup, as well as collects street sweepings. Traditionally these have been disposed of on City property, which is starting to fill up and is not in compliance with WAC 173-350. In December 2019 Ecology, the City of Colville and NETCHD met to discuss the options for managing the waste products. A letter was compiled summarizing their options for appropriate disposal and we will continue to work with them on this issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no announcements.
Board of Health Minutes
January 15, 2020
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PAYROLL AND VOUCHERS: Attached to these minutes are benefits and payroll amounts for November 5, 2019 through January 3, 2020; and voucher amounts from November 6, 2019 through January 3, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chair Steve Kiss adjourned the meeting at 12:13 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Board of Health of Northeast Tri County Health District will be on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 in Stevens County.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]
Samuel A. Artzis, M.D., Health Officer

By ____________________________________________________________________________
Kelly D. LeCafe, Executive Secretary

By ____________________________________________________________________________
Steve Kiss, Vice Chair
Northeast Tri County Health District

The following voucher/warrants are approved for payment:

2019

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