



South Central District Health

Keeping your family & community healthy

**SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT HEALTH
Budget Hearing and Board of Health Meeting
May 23, 2007**

County Commissioners Present:

Charlie Howell, Jerome County
Clay Handy, Cassia County
Ken Backstrom, Camas County
Tom Faulkner, Gooding County

Board Members Present:

Everett "Buck" Ward
Tom Faulkner
Marvin Hempleman
Linda Montgomery
Don Billings
Don Clark
Peter Curran
Marypat Fields

District Staff Present:

Cheryl Juntunen, Director
Rene LeBlanc, Deputy Director
Bonnie Spencer, Operations Director
Tom Machala, Communicable Disease and Prevention Dir.
Maggi Machala, Community Health Director
Merl Egbert, Environmental Health Director
Monie Smith, Public Information Officer
Jeremy St. Clair, Financial Specialist, Sr.
Kathlyn Egbert, Management Assistant

Budget Hearing

The Budget Hearing was called to order by Charlie Howell, Jerome County Commissioner, at 1:35 P.M.

South Central District Health's proposed budget for FY-2008 in the amount of \$6,393,880 including county contributions of \$982,202 was presented.

In accordance with Idaho Code 39-423, "The chairmen of the Boards of county commissioners located within the public health district are hereby constituted as the budget committee of the public health district...a budget for the public health district shall be agreed upon and approved by a majority of the budget committee. Such determination shall be binding upon all counties within the district and the district itself."

MOTION (made by Mr. Handy, second by Mr. Backstrom): "I move we approve the fiscal year 2008 budget as proposed by South Central District Health." Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION (made by Mr. Faulkner, second by Mr. Backstrom): "I move that we adjourn the South Central District Health budget hearing." Motion passed unanimously.

As there were no additional comments or discussion, the budget hearing was adjourned at 1:45 P.M. Mr. Ward thanked the Commissioners for their attendance and for their continued support of public health.

Board of Health Minutes

The Board of Health meeting was called to order by Mr. Ward at 2:00 P.M.

MOTION (made by Ms. Fields, second by Ms. Montgomery): “I move that the minutes of the April 25, 2007, meeting be approved.” Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Egbert reported that Dr. Peter Curran was approved unanimously by all counties for reappointment to the Board.

Ms. Montgomery, Ms. Fields, and Mr. Hempleman were asked to serve on the nominations committee to nominate a chair, vice-chair, and trustee for the upcoming fiscal year.

Operations Report

Ms. Spencer presented the fiscal report through the month of April. She anticipates the revenues to be about \$200,000 over budget at the end of the fiscal year. Fees and donations continue to come in very strong. We had budgeted a \$229,000 reserve draw which we will not need to do. Current expenditures indicate about a \$100,000 savings in personnel and \$75,000 in operating at FY end. The cash balance at the end of April is \$1,066,194.

In October 2006, a Board motion was made and approved to increase the building fund by \$200,000. That increase was not included on the recent fiscal reports, so Ms. Spencer added that on the April report. This increases the building fund allocated reserves to \$714,547.

Ms. Spencer gave an update on our business process and information systems assessment with Public Health Foundation Enterprises (PHFE). In the budget revision, she included \$30,000 to conduct the assessment. We contracted with PHFE in February to work with us on this project. We joined with North Central District Health on this project, and our final cost is expected to be about \$25,000. The consultants spent two days (one day in March and one day in April) in our office. An assessment tool looking at several processes was sent to us in March and was completed by 10 staff familiar with all of our procedures and processes. What was currently going well or not going well in our current Magic software and our future needs were addressed. The consultants reviewed the assessments with staff in March and came back in April and worked with staff on completing the processes. We anticipate a report in June. Preliminary feedback indicates that Magic would need to be completely revamped if we stay with it or we would need to go to a new system. If a new system is chosen, it would need to be phased in. The contract with Stephenson Consulting will need to be terminated or revised depending on what direction we go.

Questions were raised about why all the health districts are not using the same software systems or if there was a State directive for them to get on the same page. Ms. Spencer said that the State would love to see us use the same system, especially for contract reporting. Ms. Juntunen stated that the State uses multiple systems and has not given any support to move the Districts in the same direction. There is a national movement around better health information systems which hopefully will trickle down to the state level. A recommendation was made that the Districts work together with legislators to get something going at the state level.

Administration Report

A letter to Senator Crapo was drafted for Board approval and signature in support of the S.1052, the Healthy Children and Families Act of 2007, introduced by Senators Salazar and Specter. The bill would provide states with the option to offer evidence-based nurse home visitation services under their SCHIP and Medicaid programs. There is a federal initiative to provide grant monies to state and county health departments to provide services to high-risk families.

Ms. Machala provided background information on the bill and the need for services in our communities. The bill would allow us to use SCHIP and Medicaid money to provide Nurse Family Partnership services. In the past, unused money has been returned to the federal government that could have provided much needed services. Ms. Machala also received word that Pres. Bush has set aside \$10.3 million in Administration of Children and Families funds to replicate evidence-based nurse home visitation programs. There is an initiative in 105th congress to support this; and a request was made for us to send a letter of support to Congressman Simpson.

MOTION (made by Ms. Fields, second by Mr. Billings): “I move that the Board authorize Mr. Ward to sign the letter to Senator Crapo and also to approve a draft letter to Congressman Simpson be prepared for Board approval.” Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. LeBlanc reported on recent County Commission budget presentation visits. A few questions were asked about reserve accounts, environmental fees, and West Nile. Overall, presentations went well and good information was shared.

Final IAB plans and agenda were reviewed. A request has been made to develop a desk manual for the IAB conference. The budget for door prizes was discussed with ideas of what to include.

MOTION (made by Ms. Fields, second by Mr. Billings): “I move that the Board authorize the use of discretionary funds in the amount of \$150 for the purchase of items to be included in the door prize gift baskets.” Motion passed unanimously.

Nutrient Pathogen Policy Update

Mr. Egbert reviewed the recent updates to the Nutrient Pathogen policy and protocol. The purpose of the revision is 1) to clarify the definitions of ‘Nitrate Priority Area’ and ‘Area of Concern’ which were somewhat vague in the previous policy; 2) to include the more restrictive county ordinances into the policy; and 3) to provide the developer two more NP exception options to prove they are not in a nitrate sensitive area via sampling or to choose to specify nitrate reducing systems for all lots in the subdivision. Our District enforces a one-acre minimum size lot policy. This creates a ‘best management practice’ as larger lots often become weed patches, and ‘best practical method’ with the use of the recirculating nitrate-reducing systems. The present sampling IPO requires the use of the highest sample reading as the determinant.

The Board recommended taking this protocol revision to county commissioners and planning and zoning administrators before the next Board meeting.

Communicable Disease and Prevention Update

Mr. Machala provided overall information on services provided by the Communicable Disease and Prevention division. This division provides services that prevents childhood illnesses, assists in control of unintended pregnancies, and limits the spread of infectious diseases through early investigation, identification, and treatment. Mr. Machala prepared a spreadsheet showing the days and times of all clinics throughout the district which reflects the complexity of scheduling staff.

MOTION (made by Mr. Faulkner, second by Ms. Fields): “I move that we go into executive session as authorized by Idaho Law 67-2345 for the purpose of discussion employee or real property issues.

The Board returned to regular session at 3:00 p.m.

MOTION: (made by Mr. Hempleman, second by Ms. Montgomery): “I move that we appoint Rene LeBlanc to be the District Director of South Central District Health.” Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION (made by Ms. Fields, second by Mr. Billings): “I move that we transfer the isolation and quarantine authority to act on behalf of the Board to Rene LeBlanc.” Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Montgomery asked if the Board of Health would provide a letter of support to the Valley School District in their efforts to obtain grants to pay for school nursing services. The request will be given to Ms. Machala to draft a letter for Mr. Ward’s signature

MOTION (made by Mr. Faulkner, second by Mr. Hempleman): “I move that we adjourn.” Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.