

**SOUTH CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING  
March 26, 2008**

**Board Members Present:**

Everett “Buck” Ward  
Marvin Hempleman  
Don Clark  
Marypat Fields  
Linda Montgomery  
Tom Faulkner

**District Staff Present:**

Rene LeBlanc, Director  
Bonnie Spencer, Deputy Director  
Tom Machala, Communicable Disease & Prevention Director  
Merl Egbert, Environmental Health Director  
Maggi Machala, Community Health Director  
Amy Lierman, Public Information Officer  
Kathlyn Egbert, Management Assistant  
Elvia Caldera, Health Education Specialist  
Tami Pierson, Health Education Specialist  
Jeremy St Clair, Financial Specialist

**Board Members Excused:**

Peter Curran  
Don Billings

**Guests:**

Dr. Elizabeth Sugden and friends  
Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Program Volunteers  
Food Safety Awareness Coalition  
Magic Valley Tobacco-Free Coalition Members  
Nate Popino, Times News  
KMVT Reporter

**Minutes**

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order by Mr. Ward at 1:30 p.m.

Health Hero Award recipients for 2008 were introduced by Mr. Ward. The Adult Health Hero Award was given to Dr. Elizabeth Sugden for her work as a passionate educator on the severity of mental illnesses and the need to expand mental health resources. The Youth Health Hero was awarded to the Magic Valley Tobacco-Free Coalition for their work in tobacco prevention and cessation efforts in the community and lobbying at the state legislature. There was a tie for Group Health Hero. The South Central Idaho Food Safety Awareness Coalition is a group with the common goal of increasing food safety awareness for food handlers and the general public through advocacy, collaboration, and education. The Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Program Volunteers freely give of their time to help the elderly maintain their independence and stability by offering exercise programs.

**MOTION (made by Mr. Hempleman, second by Ms. Fields): “I move that we approve the minutes of the February 28, 2008, meeting.” Motion carried.**

It came to our attention that we did not adjust the reimbursement to Dr. Ben Katz when the Children's Special Health Program was transferred to the state. Mr. LeBlanc proposed sending a letter to Dr. Katz decreasing his reimbursement from \$750 to \$500 per month.

**MOTION (made by Mr. Hempleman, second by Ms. Montgomery): "I move that we authorize Mr. LeBlanc to sign a letter to Dr. Katz reducing his monthly reimbursement rate to \$500." Motion carried.**

Mr. LeBlanc introduced Amy Lierman, our new Public Information Officer.

### **Operations Report**

Ms. Spencer reviewed the Comparison to Budget report through the end of February. With the receipt of our state funding and heavy fees and donations, we have not had to make a draw on our reserve account. Operating expenditures are over budget at this point in the fiscal year but is expected to even out before the end of the year. The pass through account balance is \$881,768 (about \$300,000 less than last year's balance at this point in the fiscal year.

The FY 2009 budget proposal was presented showing a \$32,deficit. In an effort to balance the budget, a few cuts were made in staffing, case management payments to providers, and communication expenditures. Nothing was included for the Gooding facility or software replacement for next year.

In accordance with the state CEC recommendation, personnel is budgeted at a 3% salary increase over last year. Health insurance premiums have been increased 16% (combined for a \$208,762 increase). Other expenditures remain about the same with no capital outlay budgeted.

Revenues include a small increase in the state appropriation and a 3% county contribution increase (final funding formulas are not available yet). Projected revenues from contracts are down; and fees and donations are budgeted higher. A reserve draw or other budgetary adjustment will be necessary to balance the budget.

The Board discussed different methods of implementing the CEC increase to make the compensation more equitable for lower paid staff. Ms. Spencer recommended that this discussion take place at the next Board meeting after we receive final direction from the state CEC committee.

### **Administration Report**

Mr. LeBlanc presented information (Powerpoint) on FY 2009 Budget Decisions taking into consideration state statutes and rules, the CEC salary and compensation package, state and county contributions, options for fee increases, and program prioritizations (as a segue to a proposed Board strategic planning meeting). A draft FY 2009 Pay Increase Matrix and a draft county contribution allocation report were reviewed. Options to balance the budget include increasing fees, decrease services and/or staff, or using reserve funds.

Proposed revisions to the Idaho Association of District Health Boards Bylaws addressing Trustee responsibilities were reviewed. They will be voted on at the upcoming IAB meeting. Three proposed resolutions (Evidence-based Nurse Home Visitation, Food Establishment License fee, and Idaho Midwifery Voluntary Licensure) were reviewed.

County Commission Budget visits are scheduled in April and May. It is important that we keep county contributions up so we can receive our share of state funding. As in previous years, a table showing costs and benefits for each county will be prepared to accompany the spreadsheet for requested county contributions.

School Health contracts will be ready to send out in April. We have been encouraging our larger school districts to hire their own school nurse and our smaller schools to apply for Medicaid dollars through a pilot program. Discussion on fees for nursing services resulted in the Board recommending a move towards full cost.

**MOTION (made by Mr. Faulkner, second by Mr. Hempleman): “I move that we increase the fee for school health nursing services to \$50 per hour.” Motion carried.**

**MOTION (made by Mr. Faulkner, second by Mr. Hempleman: “I move that we find a way to balance the proposed budget without using a reserve draw, even if it is taking it out of the personnel budget.” Motion carried**

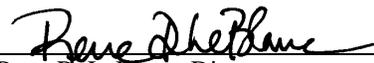
**MOTION (made by Mr. Hempleman, second by Mr. Faulkner): “I move that we go into executive session as authorized by Idaho State law 67-2345 for the purpose of discussing employee and real property issues.” Motion carried.**

The Board returned to regular session at 4:05 p.m.

The Board authorized Mr. LeBlanc to proceed with negotiations with Gooding County Memorial Hospital for an office site in Gooding. The Trinity Trucking building would be second choice.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

  
Everett "Buck" Ward  
Board Chairman

Attest:   
Rene R. LeBlanc, Director  
Secretary to the Board

Board Minutes approved on April 23, 2008