

**SOUTH CENTRAL PUBLIC HEALTH DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
June 29, 2011**

Board Members Present:

Marypat Fields, Chair
Linda Montgomery, Vice Chair
Terry Kramer, Commissioner
Charles Ritter, Commissioner
Don Clark

District Staff Present:

Rene R. LeBlanc, Director
Bonnie Spencer, Deputy Director
Cheryle Becker, FACH Director
Karyn Goodale, PHPP Programs Director
Amy Lierman, Public Information Officer
Kathlyn Egbert, Management Assistant

Members attending by Conference Call:

Cheryl Juntunen
Angenie McCleary, Commissioner
Peter Curran, MD

Excused:

Tom Faulkner, Commissioner, Trustee

Guests:

Times News
Sheryl Koyle, Minidoka Commissioner (phone)

Minutes

The Board of Health Meeting was called to order by Ms. Fields at 1:35 p.m.

MOTION (made by Ms. Montgomery, second by Mr. Clark): “I move that we approve the minutes of the May 25, 2011, Board of Health meeting.” Motion carried.

Operations Report

Ms. Spencer presented the May Comparison to Budget report (91.67% of the Fiscal Year). The pass-through account balance is \$1,253,424. We still have major software and facility expenditures pending. Revenues are all within normal budgeted levels, contract expenditures are a little over budget primarily due to a PHER contract amendment. A budgeted reserve draw is not expected to be needed. With significant savings in personnel and operating, we anticipate total expenditure savings of about \$750,000.

Ms. Spencer will bring a proposal for projects to be funded by carryover expenditures to the meeting in August. Approved projects would be included in the September budget revision request. Budgeted projects for FY 2011 that were not completed will be carried over to FY 2012 (NALBOH registration, software projects, and facility maintenance/modular furniture purchase). New projects may include staff bonuses, updating HVAC equipment, modular furniture for Twin Falls, and replenishing the building fund. (It was recommended that we check with Idaho Power and or Global Lighting to confirm our lighting and HVAC equipment meet energy efficiency standards.

Ms. Spencer gave an update of current infrastructure projects. The Twin Falls storage room expansion is almost complete; and the lighting, carpet, ceilings, and painting have been completed in Jerome with modular furniture to be installed in July. Research is being done for pricing of installing flag poles.

It was suggested to include on the August agenda a discussion on spending authority for the District Director.

MOTION (made by Commissioner Kramer; second by Ms. Montgomery): “I move the projects approved for FY 2011 that are not completed by July 1, 2011, be rolled over to the next fiscal year.” Motion carried.

Administration Report

ACS/CAN Tobacco Tax Resolution

Mr. LeBlanc reviewed discussion held at the IAB conference on the Tobacco Tax increase resolution stating that the public health districts would recommend the American Cancer Society/Cancer Awareness Network do an initiative for the ballot in 2012. It was also agreed that we would do no lobbying and that we would be silent partners.

A new resolution has been developed by the American Cancer Society with the approach that the revenue generated be focused on the health aspects of smoking rather than funding Medicaid (logos of partnering agencies included). The Board discussed at length the public health endorsement of the resolution. None of the public health districts disagree with supporting good public health policy; the concern is with the methodology. Consensus was that the concept is a good idea, but we should not be involved with promoting or setting taxes; that is the responsibility of the legislature. Our role is to advocate for good public health policy and educate. This resolution is not the way to do it.

MOTION (made by Commissioner Kramer; second by Commissioner Ritter): “I move that we approve signing on to the resolution to support an increase in the Idaho’s tobacco tax as stated.” The motion failed with eight no votes and one yes vote.

MOTION (made by Linda Montgomery, second by Commissioner Kramer): “I move that we do not allow using our logo on the resolution without approval of the Boards of Health.” Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. LeBlanc recommended that the seven public health districts come up with their own resolution without a dollar figure and forward it at the appropriate time to the elected officials after the redistricting. Ms. Fields also recommended preparing a fact sheet to accompany the resolution.

Employee Bonus

Mr. LeBlanc proposed giving District employees a bonus as most have gone three years with no salary increase. There have been significant salary savings generated by retirements and resignations with their replacements coming in at entry level salaries and by staff going to part-time status. Board members received a spreadsheet showing the costs of doing 1%, 1 ½ %, and 2% of current salary increases. Another option is to do a set dollar amount for each employee (e.g., \$500 or \$250 for part-time. A bonus is a temporary, one-time event that will not affect the personnel costs for FY 2012. Any possible action would need to go through the Division of Financial Management and the Division of Human Resources.

Commissioner Kramer is against bonuses as they are only a bandaid to the problem. If there are underpaid positions in the district, we need to raise those up as part of our budget process. We need to be competitive in the market place and pay our people what they are worth. To randomly say that we have extra money so we are going to give a bonus really bothers him; it doesn't represent the compensation that is necessary to keep the people where they are.

After further discussion, the Board agreed that bonuses are not the best way to go but they better than nothing since merit increases for all staff would not be approved by the State. If bonuses are approved, staff who are under policy should get a higher percent than those who are above policy. Staff have been working hard, and part of the personnel savings are due to efficiencies and hard work of all employees. A bonus would show the Board's appreciation and would be a positive sign to the staff that the Board will continue to work towards salary increases in the future.

MOTION (made by Commissioner Ritter, second by Ms. Montgomery): "I move that approve salary bonuses of 2% for staff under policy and 1% for staff over policy and pursue adequate compensation with the 2012 Legislature." Motion carried.

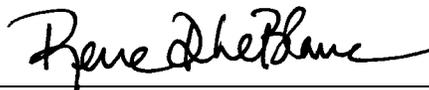
MOTION (made by Ms. Montgomery, second by Commissioner Ritter): "I move that we adjourn." Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.



Marypat Fields
Board Chair

Attest:



Rene R. LeBlanc
District Director

Board Minutes approved on August 24, 2011