

Julia Patterson, *Board of Health Chair*

**BOH Members:**

Sally Clark  
Richard Conlin  
George Counts  
Reagan Dunn  
Bob Ferguson  
Ava Frisinger  
Larry Gossett  
David Hutchinson  
Kathy Lambert  
Frankie Manning  
Bud Nicola  
Tom Rasmussen  
Pete von Reichbauer

**Public Health Director:**

Dorothy Teeter, Interim  
Director & Health Officer

**BOH Staff:**

Kathleen Uhlorn

**King County Board of Health**  
**Friday, October 20, 2006**  
**King County Council Chambers**  
**MEETING PROCEEDINGS**

Members Present: Bob Ferguson; Larry Gossett; David Hutchinson; Kathy Lambert; Bud Nicola; Larry Phillips; Pete von Reichbauer; Dan Sherman; Julia Patterson.

Members Absent: Sally Clark; Richard Conlin; George Counts; Reagan Dunn; Ava Frisinger; Frankie Manning; Tom Rasmussen.

Staff: Dorothy Teeter; Kathy Uhlorn; Jane McKenzie

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 AM by Board Chair Patterson.

2. Announcement of Alternates

Boardmembers Larry Phillips and Dan Sherman were present.

3. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the September 15, 2006 meeting were approved.

4. General Public Comments

Copies of written comments from Dr. Michael Lippman were distributed to Boardmembers. Dr. Lippman's comments encourage Boardmembers to support the efforts toward a dedicated funding source for public health.

Mr. Calvin Thomas testified in support of funding for social services in the City of Seattle.

5. Chair's Report

Board Chair Patterson recommended that the Board cancel its November meeting as the Seattle City Council and King County Council will be working to adopt their respective 2007 budgets.

Board Chair Patterson reported the following:

- A Special Meeting of the Board has been scheduled for Friday, October 27 from 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM in the Southwest Conference Room, 12<sup>th</sup> floor, King County Courthouse to discuss Public Health–Seattle & King County's (Public Health) 2007 budget submittal.

Boardmember Lambert asked for a chart depicting Public Health's funding sources and the distribution of these funds.

Carrie S. Cihak, Council Staff, responded that a list of Public Health's ten largest funding sources would be provided at the special meeting.

Toni Rezab, Public Health Operational Master Plan (PHOMP) Project Manager, reported on the results of the on-line stakeholder survey, which closed on October 6, 2006. The survey was sent to 750 to 770 public health stakeholders and all public health employees; 581 responses were received.

#### 6. Boardmember Updates

Boardmember Gossett reported that the Black Leadership Council on AIDS would be meeting on October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Center in Seattle from 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Boardmember Hutchinson reported that The Association of Washington Cities Board anticipates King County will take the lead on lobbying efforts related to statewide public health funding.

#### 7. Director's Report

Dorothy Teeter, Interim Director, reported the following:

- The first three dead birds were identified with West Nile Virus in King County. It is important to use insect repellents, wear long-sleeved shirts and pants, eliminate standing water, and secure window and door screens to protect against mosquito bites
- The amount of flu vaccine available should be more than sufficient this year, despite a delay in availability.
- The American Lung Association recently conducted tests in 35 restaurants and bars in the State of Washington, demonstrating improved air quality since the smoking ban in December 2005.
- A new "Spot the Tot" campaign will focus on preventing children from being run over by vehicles. This program is a collaboration between Public Health, Safe Kids Washington, Harborview Medical Center, Children's Hospital and the State Department of Health.

Boardmember Sherman asked whether Public Health had any recommendations regarding the use of *Bacillus* to kill mosquito larvae in retention ponds.

Boardmember Lambert asked whether public policy should be modified to use swales [natural or manmade channels used to trap pollutants, reduce the velocity of storm water runoff, and promote infiltration] instead of retention ponds and whether new research on flame retardants could be provided to the Board, particularly as it relates to children's sleepwear.

#### 8. Administrator's Report

Kathy Uhlorn, Board Administrator, reported the following:

- Alternatives to DEET (insect repellent)
- Boardmember Manning is facilitating a meeting of the Governor's Inter-Agency Council on health disparities to be held October 20, 2006 at the Renaissance Seattle Hotel from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

#### 9. Public Health Funding (Action Item)

Kathy Uhlorn, Board Administrator, provided background information on public health funding, as well as the 4410 Joint Select Committee Public Health Funding.

Rep. Shay Schual-Berke, Chair, 4410 Joint Select Committee, discussed the findings and recommendations of the 4410 Committee. The Committee recommends that the state provide an additional \$50 million in funding for public health statewide each year during the '07-'08 biennium. This funding would target core functions and other specific gaps in the public health system, including: communicable disease, promoting health, investing in healthy families, protecting against environmental health risks, and helping people access care. Existing, undesignated tobacco taxes are the suggested source of this additional funding. The 4410 Committee has not yet finalized a distribution formula for this funding, though components have been suggested.

Tom Bristow, Government Relations Consultant, King County Council, briefed the Board on the next steps in the process to support the Committee's recommendations. Meetings for elected officials have been scheduled in Auburn on November 14; in Lake Forest Park on November 28; and in Issaquah on November 30 to discuss the Committee's funding proposals and efforts around pandemic flu.

Boardmember Nicola asked about addressing the estimated \$315 million needed to fully finance public health throughout the State. Rep. Schual-Berke asked for assistance and advocacy from Boardmembers for this funding, possibly through policy action in other arenas—e.g. contracts, building policies, etc. Rep. Schual-Berke also added that evaluation of service delivery levels and impacts would help justify additional funding.

Boardmember Sherman added that perhaps a factor in the funding distribution formula should be the number of uninsured persons.

Boardmember Hutchinson asked about the distinction between work done by the Washington Blue Ribbon Commission on Health Care Costs and Access and the 4410 Joint Select Committee. Rep. Schual-Berke replied that both were created by the State Legislature. The 4410 Committee was a joint legislative committee tasked with looking at public health financing—it was composed of legislators, staffed by legislative staff and the report and recommendations will likely be put into bill proposals and brought before the State Legislature. The Blue Ribbon Commission was also formed by the State Legislature, but it includes a much more diverse group of Commissioners and is being Co-Chaired by the Governor and Senator Thibaudeau. The Commission includes representatives from a number of different stakeholder groups and its mandate is broader—the entire health care system.

Board Chair Patterson asked about the best method to advocate for an equitable funding formula. Rep. Schual-Berke encouraged Board members to provide input regarding this topic.

Boardmember Lambert suggested tracking funds from the Western State Hospital reduction to determine whether it was distributed throughout the community as originally intended. Boardmember Lambert also suggested that the number of people discharged from state prisons could be a factor in the funding distribution formula for public health funding.

Board Chair Patterson asked that Board of Health develop a letter in support of the Committee's recommendations.

10. Overweight Prevention Initiative (Action Item)

Willie Austin, Austin Foundation, lead the group in a stretching exercise symbolizing the Initiative's efforts to prevent obesity.

Kirsten Wysin, Health Action Team, introduced the panel and summarized the history and progress of the Overweight Prevention Initiative.

Carolyn Kramer, Seattle Public Schools STEPS Coordinator, summarized work with schools to implement nutrition/physical activity policies and programs, as a part of the STEPS grant which is funded by the CDC.

Marilyn Guthrie, Washington Mutual, briefed the Board on Washington Mutual's policies to promote breast feeding. There is strong evidence that breastfeeding is a key component to reducing the risk of overweight and obesity, both in childhood and later on in life. Ms. Guthrie also discussed efforts at Washington Mutual to promote healthier food options at the workplace.

Mr. Austin discussed programs which encourage physical activity, and expressed support for increased use of public and private facilities for physical activity, proper nutrition, and extracurricular sports.

Roberta Lewandowski, retired Planning Director for the City of Redmond, discussed designing communities that enable residents to walk and bike as part of their daily routine, and decrease the need to drive.

Board Chair Patterson expressed interest in working with Ms. Lewandowski as part of the work being done by the [Regional Transportation Investment District](#).

Laura Streichert, University of Washington Exploratory Center for Obesity Research, discussed efforts to promote program evaluation and evidence-based practices.

Boardmember Lambert inquired about items on the Design for Active Communities Checklist to Guide Plan and Regulatory Updates:

- How have issues of balancing common parking for businesses been balanced with overflow of customers into neighborhood parking been addressed?
- Clarification of the action item that reads "Use design to create a sense of enclosure with 'street walls' at ratios of 1:1 to 1:3 (i.e. for 60 feet of combined right of way and set back width, the building and/or tree height is 60 feet (1:1)."

Board Chair Patterson suggested that the Board discuss items listed on the King County Board of Health Action Items for Obesity Prevention at the next meeting, and consider how to incorporate these recommendations into the Board's 2007 work plan.

Boardmember Lambert asked for clarification on the funding for item 8 of the King County Board of Health Action Items for Obesity Prevention document, possibly removing any mention of the Regional Transportation Investment District (RTID). Board Chair Patterson suggested taking a more detailed look at each item, including the funding component of item 8.

Boardmember Nicola supported the idea of reviewing the King County Board of Health Action Items for Obesity Prevention at the next meeting.

11. Domestic Violence Awareness Month (Action Item)

Carrie S. Cihak, Senior Principal Legislative Analyst, King County Council, summarized her staff report on Resolution #06-04, noting Boardmember Lambert's interest in intimate partner violence research and the associated severe health effects on victims.

Dr. Robert Thompson, Director Emeritus, Department of Preventive Care and Senior Investigator, Center for Health Studies, Group Health Cooperative, briefed the Board on research on the effects of intimate partner violence. He also discussed successful domestic violence screening protocols.

Elizabeth Gay, King County Domestic Violence Program Manager, responded to Boardmember questions related to the services available for victims.

Boardmember Lambert presented information regarding the incidence of domestic violence, both in Washington and across the country. Boardmember Lambert also pointed out resulting increases in health care costs, as well as repeating cycles of violence, where victims/witnesses to domestic violence often become abusers themselves. Boardmember Lambert presented the resolution to the Board for adoption and encouraged victims to seek help.

King County Board of Health voted unanimously to adopt Resolution #06-04.

12. Amendment to the King County Board of Health Operating Rules (Action Item)

Boardmembers voted unanimously to pass Motion #06-05, which amends the Board of Health Operating Rules. Beginning in January, 2007, Board meetings will begin at 1:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month, King County Council Chambers will be the regular meeting location, and meetings may be canceled at the Chair's discretion or rescheduled in the case of legal holidays.

13. Adjournment

Chair Patterson adjourned the meeting at 12:20 PM.

KING COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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JULIA PATTERSON, CHAIR

DATE