



King County
Meeting Proceedings
Board of Health

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

**Metropolitan King County Councilmembers: Chair Julia Patterson, Reagan
Dunn,**

**Bob Ferguson, Kathy Lambert, Larry Phillips, Pete von Reichbauer
Alternates: Dow Constantine, Larry Gossett, Jane Hague**

**Seattle City Councilmembers: Richard Conlin, Sally Clark, Tom Rasmussen
Alternate: Peter Steinbrueck**

**Suburban Elected Members: David Hutchinson, Ava Frisinger
Alternate: Dan Sherman**

**Health Professionals: Ray M. Nicola, MD, MHSA, FACPM,
Frankie T. Manning, RN, M.A. and George W. Counts, MD**

**Staff: Kathy Uhlorn, Board Administrator (296-4312); Carrie Cihak, Lead
Staff (296-0317)**

**Director, Seattle-King County Department of Public Health: Dr. David
Fleming**

Room 1001

May 10, 2007

1:30 PM

REVISED AGENDA
Special Meeting
SeaTac City Hall
Council Chambers
4800 South 188th Street
SeaTac, WA 98188

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:36 p.m. at the Sea-Tac City Hall.

Roll Call

Present: Mr. Ferguson, Ms. Lambert, Ms. Patterson, Ms. Clark, Mayor Hutchinson, Ms. Frisinger, Dr. Nicola, Dr. Counts and Sherman

Excused: Mr. von Reichbauer, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Conlin, Mr. Rasmussen, Ms. Manning and Mr. Phillips

Announcement of Any Alternates Serving in Place of Regular Members

There were no alternates serving in place of a regular member. Boardmember Sherman was in attendance.

1. Approval of Minutes of April 19, 2007

The minutes were not moved for approval.

2. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

3. Chair's Report

The Chair reported that the King County Council had placed two parks levies on the August 21 ballot. The first levy is a renewal of the current levy and the second levy is for additional funds for the Woodland Park Zoo and the regional trails system. Both ordinances reference the health benefits of the parks and recreation and require that health impacts and health disparities be taken into account in parks and recreation planning.

4. Board Member Updates

Boardmember Nicola introduced Dr. Bill Wilson, a student in Public Health at the University of Washington, who is doing practicum with the Board of Health for this year.

Boardmember Ferguson reported on a successful town meeting in Shoreline w Dr. Fleming. At the meeting, Boardmember Ferguson announced that the county was able to reserve \$5 million to keep the public health centers open through 2008.

5. Director's Report

Dr. Fleming reported that he was pursuing innovative funding strategies for the Department. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is interested in observing a local Department of Public Health and foundation staff recently visited the department.

Dr. Fleming also solicited questions from Boardmembers. Boardmember Counts asked whether the public concerns raised at the Shoreline town hall meeting are the same as those raised by Boardmembers. Dr. Fleming replied that they were and mentioned the issues of the increase in the rate of uninsured, health disparities, community approaches to making a difference and descriptions of what public health is and what public health can do.

6. Administrator's Report

Kathy Uhlorn indicated that the HIV/AIDS report and plan discussed at the last meeting would be coming back to the Board soon.

Boardmember Counts indicated that Mr. Anton, a member of the ad hoc committee on nutrition, comes from a family that owned a small restaurant.

Briefings

7. [BOH Briefing No. 07-B17](#)

Washington State Legislative Wrap Up

Kathy Uhlorn, Board administrator, outlined the measures adopted by the legislature and referenced the Blue Ribbon Commission brochure on the costs of health care and other information on state funding for public health that was provided to the Board.

Christine Hulet, the Governor's health policy advisor, briefed the Board on the focus on children's health efforts in the legislature; the State's goal is to cover all children with insurance by 2010, with the emphasis on an increase in children's health, rather than only the provision of insurance. The Blue Ribbon Commission report was adopted by the legislature and included twenty initiatives. There was strong focus on changing the reimbursement system, medical record information, insurance coverage, insurance coverage of the high risk pool and public health and links to health. Ms. Hulet also reported that in addition to the Blue Ribbon Commission bill, HB1569 created a health insurance partnership, which would provide one stop shopping for small businesses and individuals, to begin in 2008. The legislature also passed bills on prescription drugs and mental health parity in insurance coverage.

Boardmember Nicola indicated that public health funding is a concern and highlighted that there is a huge need that has not been met. Ms. Hulet indicated that the Blue Ribbon Commission had established a goal of being one of top ten healthiest states and that one of those indicators is public health funding.

Boardmember Hutchinson indicated that performance measures are difficult because public health is about prevention and wondered whether that viewpoint is taken into account in determining performance.

Boardmember Clark asked questions about the health insurance partnership. Ms. Hulet indicated that the partnership would provide connectors that would provide a range of plans, which could be accessed by either employer or employee and subsidized by the state, if appropriate. When an employee either changed jobs or worked multiple jobs, health care provided through the connector would remain.

Tom Bristow, county council staff, also briefed the Board on legislative actions in the last session.

Chair Patterson asked that Ms. Hulet extend the Board's thanks to the Governor for the work of the past year, but also asked her to let the Governor know that the funding crisis in local public health has not yet been fully resolved.

8. [BOH Briefing No. 07-B19](#)

Report on Diabetes in King County

Kathy Uhlorn, Board administrator, introduced Dr. Jim Kreiger, chief, Epidemiology, Planning and Evaluation, who briefed the Board on diabetes in King County. Dr. Kreiger indicated that that diabetes rates have increased significantly in King County and disproportionately affect minorities and people of lower income.

9. [BOH Briefing No. 07-B18](#)

Nutritional Options in Restaurants

Kathy Uhlorn, Board administrator, reviewed the timeline for the ad hoc advisory committee on nutrition. Donna Oberg, project manager, briefed the Board on the May 2 meeting of the advisory committee, which included a discussion of nutritional options in restaurants. Boardmembers

discussed the range of options developed by the advisory committee.

10. **BOH Briefing No. 07-B16**

Public Health Operational Master Plan Update

Carrie Cihak, Board of Health staff, briefed the committee on the recent actions of the King County council relating to the Children's Health Initiative. Susan Johnson, project manager, Department of Public Health, described the specifics of the program.

Other Business

There was no other business to come before the Board.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Approved this _____ day of _____.

Clerk's Signature