



## WHATCOM COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

JULY 12, 2018

**Present:** Barry Buchanan, Rachel Lucy - Chair, Sue Sullivan - Vice-Chair, Ray Wolpov

**Absent:** Barbara Juarez, Chi-Na Stoane, Les Seelye, Lindsey Karas

Topic	Discussion/Outcome
<b>Approve Notes From Last Meeting</b>	Adopt the May 3, 2018, meeting summary as submitted. Tabled due to lack of quorum
<b>Director's Report and Updates</b>	<p>Sea Mar has agreed to take our full caseload in the WIC transition and have prioritized our staff for employment.</p> <p>Generations Forward received \$80K support grant. A portion of this will be used for our local team to participate in a learning collaborative.</p> <p>Barry was a Whatcom County delegate who participated in one of 5 teams across the nation to meet together to discuss reducing incarceration for young adults. It came to light that our Criminal Justice system data needs work. The data committee of the Incarceration Prevention Task Force ICPTF will work on addressing the data issue.</p> <p>A food system planning task force has been created as authorized by the Health Board at their April meeting. Whatcom Food Network has done a food system assessment and the task force has put together two proposals with two possible tracks including ordinance and charter work to bring back to PHAB in September.</p> <p>Next steps for the Community Health Assessment (CHA) include building data for Community Descriptions and going out to the school districts to ensure we capture experiences to go with our data. We are working to align our CHIP process with that of Peace Health. Rachel and Chi-Na are part of the Healthy Whatcom Team which is working on the Community Descriptions. Health Department staff are working on communication piece for the launch.</p> <p>There was a quick debrief on the June 26<sup>th</sup> Health Board meeting on housing. Council is looking at the homeless issue and passed an interim ordinance for religious institutions and nonprofits to set up shelters as well as camps for tiny homes. Council sees the broader issue of affordable housing. They are trying to connect the dots of homelessness, housing affordability, and employment. The Health Department (WCHD) is using best practices that have been effective, but more needs to be done from an economic standpoint.</p>
<b>PHAB Vacancy</b>	<p>Our open board position is for Citizen-at-large with expertise in Mental/Behavioral Health</p> <p>Members were asked to think of those they would like to invite to apply and send the names to Tammy. We will use a similar process to last time where Candidate information will be sent to members to review and choose the top two to be interviewed.</p>



<p><b>Health Department Budget</b></p>	<p>This is the initiation of the 2019-2020 Budget . Though the approval process takes us into late November, our initial budget request is due to the County Executive in early August.</p> <p>There is a multi-year push to obtain state funds for FPHS, so we can spend our local resources</p>
<p><b>Health Department Budget continued</b></p>	<p>on other important services. Astrid is on the board that will be looking at developing a request for this next year to fund Communicable Disease, Environmental Health, and assessment support.</p> <p>Managers were asked for input on their visions for their divisions and we looked at gaps in Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS). Less than 10% of our total budget is flexible. Changes and Additional Service Requests we would like to propose are highlighted in the meeting materials</p> <p>In addition to those listed, Environmental Health has received more Solid Waste Revenue, dedicated funds which we plan to use to hire a staff person in this area..</p>
<p><b>Public Health 3.0</b></p>	<p>The meeting materials and conversation brought several questions to the forefront:</p> <p>How can PHAB assist the WCHD in making the transition from where we are to Public Health 3.0?</p> <p>How does the uncertainty of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) impact the Health Department? It points to the need to remain flexible. The point of 3.0 is to pay attention and shift as things change.</p> <p>What does it mean to be a safety net “provider” when we are moving away from individual provider to population health?</p> <p>How are we staying on top of the gaps related to access in our community and ensuring data reporting is including disparities and health equity? The WCHD doesn’t have the capacity to do this alone</p> <p>How do we present data to the community and talk to people about Public Health issues? Public Health interpreter and distributor of information, what are the mechanisms to build confidence in what we are doing and get the complicated messages out and understood?</p> <p>Ray recommended, when his board member term is over, we bring in a High School teacher rather than an individual from higher education. Another member suggested one of the two new principals who grew up in Whatcom County.</p>
<p><b>Joint Learning Session with Health Board</b></p>	<p>The group reviewed the final agenda for the joint learning session with the Health Board. There will be an important Role for PHAB members and WCHD staff to establish relationships and dialogue with Health Board members</p> <p>The following health issues/priority areas present opportunity for policy development and program guidance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Child Development : early learning access/approach to child care</li> <li>• Affordable Housing</li> <li>• Substance Use Disorder and Addiction: destigmatize addiction, designate funding, provide resources in place of arrest, provide resources for current user safety</li> <li>• Criminal Justice/Incarceration: support ICPRTF recommendations</li> <li>• Food Address and Food System</li> <li>• Public Health System &amp; Services</li> <li>• Flexibility for recommendations from CHA</li> </ul>

<b>Other/Public Comment</b>	None.
<b>What went well? What can we improve?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Nice job on the packet for today and Tuesday, robust, well-done.</li><li>• Regrets for missing the upcoming joint meeting on Tuesday</li><li>• Appreciate hearing Barry and learning from the Health Board perspective. Should we consider formally adding this in to each agenda?</li><li>• There is a lot of interest at Health Board and committee meetings</li><li>• Accentuation of communicating, language, implementation of the process within WCHD</li><li>• Appreciated the participation. Always something to be learned, all are receptive and articulate</li></ul>