

DATE: April 16, 2018

2:15 p.m. - Convened/Board of Health.

Present: Troy Henderson and Ben Stone.

**DIVISION UPDATES:**

**Minutes:**

1. Commissioner Largent **moved** Commissioner Swannack **seconded** the motion and it **carried** to approve the Board of Health minutes of January 16, 2018. The March 19, 2018 meeting was rescheduled to today.

**Health Officer:**

2. Flu requirements have been lifted; STD's are up nationwide. WSU seems to be the source of the increase in Whitman County. Public Health is working with the University on this issue.

**Environmental Health:**

3. Mr. Henderson will be attending the

Ben Stone talked about Group B water systems and program.

The state has allocated \$20,000 to Whitman County to develop an ordinance to take on Group B water systems (more than 2 homes). Environmental Health has been working with the Department of Health Drinking Water Division and neighboring counties who already have such an ordinance in place to assist Whitman County in drafting its own ordinance.

Taking on the Group B systems would not an extensive amount of work to the Health Department and does not require extra training to take on this program.

It does allow more flexibility to the county to assist developers with their Group B water systems. In talking with the State Water Engineer, the state will not bend on any of their rules. However, if the county adopts its own ordinance it will allow for more leeway; i.e. exemption for professional engineers, certain types of disinfectants, etc. If the county adopted its own Group B water system ordinance it will have more freedom, control and flexibility and \$20,000/year from the state.

Upon conclusion of discussion, the Board voiced no objections to Public Health proceeding with the drafting of a proposed ordinance for their review.

**Personal Health:**

4. No report.

**Administrative:**

5. Troy Henderson gave a very brief staffing update.

Mr. Henderson currently serves on the Washington Department of Ecology (DOE) Agricultural Burning Task Committee. He recently attended the NW Smoke Management conference where it was felt controlled burning was the best way to prevent huge wild fires. Mr. Henderson voiced his opposition at the meeting stating logging was the better method to reduce wild fires.

**Next Meeting/Adjournment:**

6. The Board of Health adjourned at 2:35 p.m.  
The next Board of Health meeting is May 21, 2018.