

KITSAP PUBLIC HEALTH BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
Regular Meeting
September 2, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Chair Tara Sell at 8:30 a.m.

Board members present gave a brief introduction.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Becky Erickson moved and Mayor Rob Putaansuu seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the July 1, 2025, regular meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Christine Rolfes moved and Mayor Erickson seconded the motion to approve the minutes for the August 5, 2025, special meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

The September consent agenda included the following contracts:

- 2441, Amendment 6, *Washington State Department of Health, Consolidated Contract;*
- 2441, Amendment 7, *Washington State Department of Health, Consolidated Contract;*
and
- 2483, *Jefferson County Public Health, Youth Cannabis & Commercial Tobacco Prevention Program.*

Mayor Erickson moved and Member Dr. Michael Watson seconded the motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

Board members discussed the consent agenda and asked clarifying questions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. Susan Yake, a healthcare professional, informed the Board of her concerns about the health of tenants living in Housing Kitsap's public housing units. She noted she has provided this information to the Board in the past and shared personal statements and examples from tenants. Ms. Yake asked what action the Board will take regarding these issues.
2. Bridget Carver, a tenant in one of Housing Kitsap's units, shared her personal experience with conditions in her home and the stress they have caused her.

Chair Sell thanked Ms. Yake and Ms. Carver for sharing their experiences and said the Board will take their comments under advisement.

There was no further comment.

ADMINISTRATOR/ HEALTH OFFICER REPORTS

Administrator Report:

Yolanda Fong, Administrator, shared several updates:

- Dr. Herbie Duber was welcomed as Interim Health Officer.
- The State Auditor's Office began the 2024 fiscal audit, which includes federal grant compliance, a financial statement audit, and an accountability audit. The federal and financial statement audits are expected by September 30; the accountability audit may extend to year-end. The Board will be invited to the audit exit conference.
- The Washington State Department of Health (DOH) recognized 19 Kitsap clinics with Immunize Washington awards for meeting or exceeding state and national immunization goals. The Health District will send certificates, signed by the Board chair and the Community Health Director, to each Kitsap clinic recognized.
- On August 28, the Health District hosted DOH, Washington State Association of Local Public Health Officials (WSALPHO), and legislative staff to showcase the Health District's Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) work. Chair Sell attended on behalf of the Board. Ms. Fong thanked Adrienne Hampton and Siri Kushner for coordinating the visit and the Health District managers who participated. The Health District received strong positive feedback for its work.
- The Kitsap Community Health Priorities (KCHP) Fall Partner Summit will be held on October 2 to review progress on healthcare, housing, and behavioral health priorities. Invitations were sent to the Board on August 21.
- September is National Preparedness Month. The Health District's Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response (PHEPR) team will present at the Northwest Center for Evidence-Based Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response conference. Presentations will include an exercise with the Suquamish Tribe and an internal network and internet outage exercise. Dr. Sell will also present at this conference.
- The Black Infant Thrive (BIT) program held its second annual art gallery event, *Nurture in Color*, on August 26, which included a breastfeeding and community support panel. A recording will be shared with the community. BIT also released results from a community survey on experiences of Black families during pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum in Kitsap County. The report is on the Health District's website.

Board members discussed the report and asked clarifying questions.

There was no further comment.

Health Officer Report:

Dr. Herbie Duber, Interim Health Officer, introduced himself to the Board and shared three updates:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Update: Dr. Duber discussed recent changes at the CDC, including the dismissal and replacement of Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) members, an August 8 shooting on the CDC campus, and the firing and resignation of CDC leadership. He noted that these events have impacts that are felt locally, as they affect confidence in public health institutions. He also referenced an editorial written by former CDC directors stating that current events at the CDC are harmful to American public health.
- COVID-19 Vaccines: The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved updated COVID-19 vaccines with limitations on eligibility. ACIP will review the FDA's decision and issue CDC recommendations. The American Academy of Pediatrics and American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommend vaccination for children 6-23 months, children under 18 with high-risk conditions, and for pregnant women or those planning to become pregnant. DOH continues to recommend vaccination for everyone six months and older, informed by the State Vaccine Advisory Committee. Dr. Duber noted that while the COVID-19 virus has changed significantly since 2020, it still causes illness, risk of death, and strain on the healthcare system. Patterns of infection remain different from influenza and RSV.
- Next Steps: The Health District will continue tracking COVID-19 vaccine developments using a data-informed, population-centered approach. Future topics include community water fluoridation and healthcare access. Dr. Duber will work with Health District leadership on setting public health priorities informed by the strategic planning process.

Board members discussed the report and asked clarifying questions.

There was no further comment.

PARENT PREGNANCY SUPPORT LINE & NURSE FAMILY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Jess Smith, Parent Child Health and Nurse Family Partnership Program Manager, and Karina Mazur, Nurse-Family Partnership Supervisor, presented on the Health District's Pregnancy and Parenting Support Line (PPSL) and the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) program. During the presentation, they highlighted the following:

- PPSL's purpose and the topics staff assist with.
- Launch of PPSL in 2024 and the subsequent doubling of call volume.
- The most frequent requests received.

- Goals for PPSL's future development.
- Case studies illustrating PPSL's impact.
- An overview of NFP and its key goals.
- Outcomes demonstrating NFP's effectiveness.
- Local program data, including the number of home visits, referrals, and clients.
- Sources of NFP referrals.
- Retention rates and improved client outcomes.
- Case studies showing NFP's impact.
- Current funding sources and future plans.

Board members discussed the report and asked clarifying questions.

There was no further comment.

HEALTH CONTINUUM & ACCESS TO CARE FOR PERSONS USING SUBSTANCES

Lynn Pittsinger, Community Health Director, presented on the Institute of Medicine's Continuum of Care model and the Health District's approach to increasing access to care for persons using substances. She highlighted:

- The continuum of care framework, including promotion, prevention, treatment, and recovery.
- Local data on drug use, overdoses, and healthcare utilization in Kitsap County.
- High interest among individuals receiving treatment.
- The role of stable housing in reducing substance use, as reported by program participants.
- Available harm reduction services in Kitsap County.

Board members discussed the presentation and asked clarifying questions.

There was no further comment.

UPDATE TO ORDINANCE 1999-14, RODENT CONTROL REGULATIONS

John Kiess, Environmental Health Director, provided an update on draft Ordinance 2025-02, which proposes changes to Ordinance 1999-14, Rodent Control Regulations. The ordinance would add language addressing rodent attraction from human activities such as the feeding of wildlife, pets, or livestock. The Health District plans to bring the ordinance back to the Board in October for a public hearing and adoption vote.

Board members discussed the presentation and asked clarifying questions.

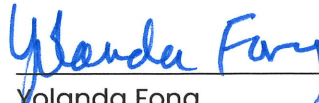
There was no further comment.

ADJOURN

There was no further business; the meeting adjourned at 9:59 a.m.



Dr. Tara Sell
Kitsap Public Health Board



Yolanda Fong
Administrator

Board Members Present: Mayor Becky Erickson; Member Drayton Jackson; Mayor Ashley Mathews; Mayor Rob Putaansuu; Commissioner Christine Rolfes; Member Dr. Tara Sell; Member Dr. Jolene Sullivan; Member Dr. Michael Watson; Mayor Greg Wheeler.

Board Members Absent: Member Stephen Kutz.

Community Members Present: Sean Callahan, Community Member; Bridget Carver, Community Member; Janet Kalmen, Community Member; Susan Yake, Tenants of Housing Kitsap.

Scribe: Angie Berger, Management Analyst, Kitsap Public Health District.

Staff Present: Dana Bierman, Program Manager, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention; Karen Boysen-Knapp, Program Coordinator, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention; Steve Brown, Program Manager, Solid and Hazardous Waste; Margo Chang, Management Analyst, Human Resources; Elizabeth Davis, Program Manager, Immunizations and General Communicable Disease; Dr. Herbie Duber, Interim Health Officer, Administration; Trey Evans, Epidemiologist, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention; Yolanda Fong, Administrator, Administration; Jessica Guidry, Director, Public Health Infrastructure Division; Adrienne Hampton, Policy, Planning, and Innovation Analyst, Administration; John Kiess, Director, Environmental Health Division; Sarah Kinnear, Community Liaison, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention; Naomi Levine, Community Liaison, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention; Martitha May, Bilingual Community Health Worker, Parent Child Health; Karina Mazur, Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Nurse Family Partnership; Kaela Moontree-Stewart, Public Health Educator, Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention; Gabreiel Outlaw-Spencer, Public Health Educator, Parent Child Health; Lynn Pittsinger, Director, Community Health Division; Morgan Shuman, Environmental Health Specialist, Pollution Identification and Correction; Jessica Smith, Program Manager, Parent Child Health; Tad Sooter, Public Information Officer.