

TETON COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2013

Present: Corrine Rose, RS; Jim Hodgskiss; Lora Wier, RN, Director TCHD; Elaine Sedlack, RN; Tim Sinton, P.A., TCHD Health Officer; Jim Taylor, P.E. representing Lauren Engineers and Constructors, Inc.; and Charles Ballard, Lauren Site Safety Manager.

Jim Taylor presented the request by Lauren Engineers and Constructors, Inc. for a variance for the year round use of holding tanks at their modular fabrication facility located south of Bynum. Welders, pipefitters, and others work at assembly areas scattered across the 160 acre site. OSHA requires sanitary facilities be available to all workers at a location no more than 10 minutes walking distance. During cold and inclement weather, and for the benefit of the workers, facilities need to be closer to work sites. Also due to the varying numbers of workers and contracts, an on-site treatment system is not feasible.

They propose using portable toilets (porta-potties) in good weather and heated trailers with hand washing and toilet facilities during colder weather. They would be located near the workers. The trailers would have 2,000 gallon holding tanks. All holding tanks would be pumped by licensed contractors and disposed of at licensed sites.

The board of health can request copies of pumping contracts and disposal site contracts. The holding tanks in the portable restrooms will have visual level indicators or high level alarms. When they are near capacity they will not be available for use until they are pumped but alternate facilities will be available.

The office site, which has a small, more stable work force, would have an on-site treatment system. There are currently 21 workers on site and they could have as many as 160.

Tim Sinton made a motion to grant the proposed variance. It was seconded by Jim Hodgskiss. Randy Morris was absent but had reviewed the requested variance with Corrine Rose and approved it. The variance request was approved by the board of health.

Corrine Rose presented a variance request from Diane Collins who has a campground and licensed mobile food establishment south of Bynum. She proposes using two 1,500 gallon holding tanks spring through fall to serve the campground and food service. She is still awaiting approval from DEQ for the campground water and holding tank systems. Teton Lumber will be the licensed pumping contractor. She will have to install alarms, etc on the holding tanks. The board of health can request copies of pumping contracts and disposal site contracts.

The board needs consistent requirements from all those seeking holding tank variances. The board also needs to make sure the pumpers can handle the loads.

Jim Hodgskiss made a motion to grant the proposed variance pending DEQ approval. Tim Sinton seconded the motion. Randy Morris was absent but had reviewed the requested variance with Corrine Rose and approved it pending DEQ approval. The variance request was approved by the board of health pending approval by DEQ.

Corrine also discussed the Miller Colony which put in a holding tank to hold waste water from the fish plant bathroom and utensil cleaning sink. The rest of the waste went to their new lagoon, built to hold waste water from the fish growing and processing operation. They are currently not using that building and may decide to change the use of the building. If the bathroom and/or warewash sinks in the building will be used, they will either have to connect to the residential wastewater lagoon or request a variance to use the holding tank year round.

Elaine presented the fatality management plan which was rewritten as a Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) deliverable based on the Teton County Emergency Operations Plan (EOP). Basically the health department role in a mass casualty/fatality situation would depend on the event. As a small health department we have no personal protective equipment on hand and our role would be educational if it involved a communicable disease, radiation, or chemical release, or bioterrorism event. The health department would consult with DPHHS and CDC to determine what special precautions are necessary in dealing with the victims, and educate the coroner and mortuary personnel on the proper personal protective equipment and handling procedures. We would assume other duties as requested by the incident commander.

During other mass casualty/fatality events such as flood, fire, or earthquake the health department would assume roles as requested by the incident commander, as outlined in the Teton County EOP. Tim Sinton and Lora Wier signed the plan.

Elaine presented the ChemPack Plan which was rewritten as a PHEP deliverable. The ChemPack is an emergency supply of drugs used to counteract the effects of chemical nerve agents such as insecticides and pesticides which are transported through, stored in, and used in Teton County. The ChemPack is stored at Benefis in Great Falls and is available to facilitate the rapid treatment of people exposed to chemical nerve agents during a terrorism attack or accidental release when available resources within Teton County are not sufficient to treat the victims. The plan outlines the procedures necessary to request, access, and transport ChemPack assets

The role of the health department is to assist DPHHS with coordinating the identification and training of stake holders within our jurisdiction regarding requesting, mobilizing, distributing, and use of ChemPack assets. ChemPack assets can be requested by the on-site incident commander. Teton Medical Center is the lead entity responsible for the implementation of this plan. The plan was reviewed and signed by Lora Wier and Tim Sinton. It will be presented to the LEPC on January 30th and needs to be signed by Dr Borland, Dr Denney, Keith Van Setten, Sheriff, and DES/EMS Director Deb Coverdell, and the Teton County Fire Marshall Joe Zahara.

Corrine talked about new legislation proposed for Farmer's Markets concerning bartering or exchanging foods considered at higher risk of causing illness. There have

been some complaints from Cascade, Lake and Missoula Counties about some colonies selling salami and processed meats. There was also an issue of a colony selling pickled beets in previously used pickle jars. This will be discussed further at the next board of health meeting.