

TRANSITION MEMORANDUM WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Agency Name

State Board of Health, 101 Israel Rd. SE, PO Box 47990, Tumwater, 98504-7990,
(360) 236-4106, <http://www.sboh.wa.gov> (co-located with Department of Health)

Agency Responsibilities

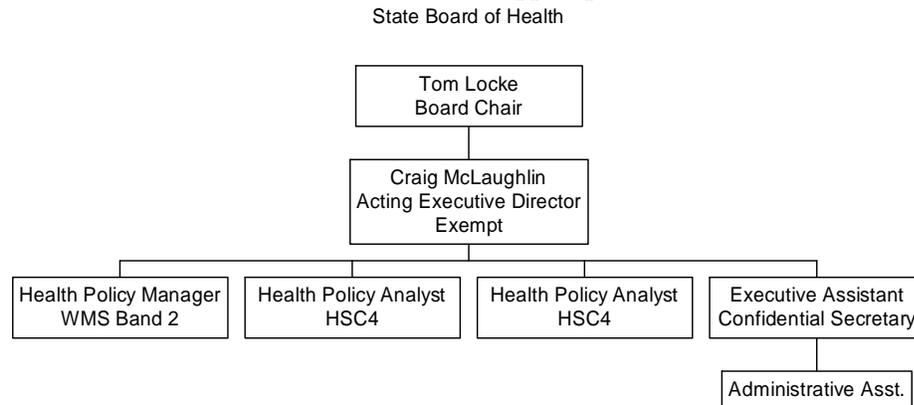
- Adopt rules governing most traditional public health activities (food code, drinking water standards, communicable disease control, septic regulation, water recreation, school immunizations, abatement of nuisances, sanitation, vital statistics, etc.)
- Write the State Health report every two years as a strategic guide for health-related agencies to use when preparing budgets and request legislation
- Provide policy recommendations to the secretary of health and develop and recommend policies to improve the public's health.
- Serve as a public forum to gather citizen input and expert advice on health policy.

Statutory Authorities (Partial List)

- Washington State Constitution, Article XX, Section 1
- RCW 43.20.050—General powers and duties, includes state health report, public drinking water, environmental conditions in public facilities, nuisances and environmental hazards, isolation and quarantine, control of infectious and noninfectious diseases, advising the secretary, and requirement that state and local officers, officials and employees enforce rules
- RCW 43.70.520—Consult on Public Health Improvement Plan
- Chapter 28A.210 RCW—Rules for requiring vaccinations for school entry; school auditory and visual screening standards; school screenings for scoliosis
- RCW 75.05.090 and 110—Physicians required to report communicable diseases
- Chapter 70.58 RCW—Information required on birth and death certificates and other rules concerning issuing certificates
- Chapter 70.83 RCW—Mandatory testing of newborns for genetic conditions
- RCW 70.108.040—Health and safety standards for outdoor music festivals
- Chapter 69.06 RCW—Permits for food handlers
- Chapter 70.24 RCW—Numerous rules around sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS
- RCW 70.28.032—Due process for involuntary confinement to treat tuberculosis
- Chapter 18.39 RCW—Health standards for funeral directors and embalmers
- RCW 64.33.010 and 69.43.070—Clean up of environmental hazards (meth labs)
- RCW 69.30.030—Shellfish rules and regulations
- RCW 35.67.020, 35.92.020, 57.08.005, 36.94.020, 35.88.020—Regulation of on-site septic systems
- RCW 70.116.050, 70.118.050, 70.119A.060, 8.25.280—Regulation of water systems
- RCW 70.104.055 and .057—Pesticide poisoning, reports and medical education
- RCW 16.770.010—Control of animals to prevent the spread of diseases by pets
- RCW 70.05.120—Remove local health officer or administrator who neglects or refuses to obey SBOH rules
- RCW 70.46.090—Establish guidelines for local boards of health and counties operating a health district
- RCW 59.20.190—Rules setting health and safety standards for mobile home parks

Organization and Budget

- **Budget:** 2003-05 biennium funding \$907,832 General Fund-State
- **Board composition:** Nine members appointed to three-year terms by the governor; they represent consumers, city elected officials, county elected officials, local health officers, and health and sanitation; secretary of health or designee serves as tenth member; Governor selects chair from among the nine appointed members
- **Staffing:** 5.6 FTE (5.5 FTE staff plus Board member time); 2 statutory exempt positions (executive director and confidential secretary); 1 WMS policy manager; 2 classified policy advisers (1.5 FTE); 1 classified administrative support person



Most Pressing Issues or Challenges Facing the Agency

- **HIV/AIDS rules:** The Board has been working on changes to the rules for sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS that it created after passage of the 1988 AIDS Omnibus Act. The act and related rules handle HIV/AIDS very differently from other diseases. Public health and medical professionals have argued this “exceptionalism” reduces the number of new diagnoses. Many people living with AIDS and their advocates argue these protections must continue because of stigmatization, discrimination and privacy concerns. This is likely to be controversial. Adoption is expected in March 2005. Legislation may be introduced, particularly around efforts to detain people who knowingly put others at risk.
- **Septic regulation:** The Board expects to adopt new regulations for small on-site sewage systems in December 2004 or January 2005. The Governor, members of Congress, and legislators have expressed an interest in strong rules that ensure systems on marine shorelines are operated and maintained properly, and that environmental issues are addressed. The Board’s authority to address environmental issues is limited. The broadest authority rests with local government. Many local health jurisdictions say operation and maintenance programs are extremely labor intensive and not highly effective. These programs are unpopular with many commissioners. There is likely to be legislation on this issue, including request legislation from Governor Locke.
- **School environmental health:** The Board has begun work on revising the environmental health and safety standards for schools. The primary impetus for this new work was complaints from parents, students and teachers about air quality problems in some schools. Other stakeholders said sections are out of date. As part of the rule review, the Board will consider rules related to lead in school drinking water—there is a lot of public concern about this issue, especially in Seattle. Rule making will be difficult because there are limits to what we know about molds, building sickness, and low-level lead exposure. Public concern is greater than might be justified by the best available science. This process will not be completed until late 2005.
- **Staffing and resources:** Funding cuts have forced the Board to cut staff and reduce meetings from one per month to seven or eight a year. This makes it difficult to perform required work.

Board Member Listing by Board Position

HEALTH, STATE BOARD OF (HS125)

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Agency 303 - Department of Health | Senate Conf. N | Positions: Maximum 010 |
| Authority Governor, statute | Public Disc. N | Minimum 000 |
| Authoriztn. RCW 43.20.030 | Term Length 036 | Actual 010 |
| Rem. Auth. GP | Meetings/Yr. 08 | |

| Pos. # | Name and Address | Status | Race | Appointed | Expires |
|--------|---|--------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| 002 | Chu, DPM, Charles (Dr.) 5456 156th Avenue SE Bellevue, WA 98006 | A | AP | 07/02/2003 | 07/02/2006 |
| | | Terms Served | 03 | | |
| | | Position | a member | | |
| | | Comments | Health/Sanitation Expert | | |

| Pos. # | Name and Address | Status | Race | Appointed | Expires |
|--------|---|--------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| 003 | Osaki, Carl 3520 NE 189th Place Seattle, WA 98155 | A | AP | 07/02/2001 | 07/02/2005 |
| | | Terms Served | 03 | | |
| | | Position | a member | | |
| | | Comments | Health/Sanitation Expert | | |

| Pos. # | Name and Address | Status | Race | Appointed | Expires |
|--------|--|--------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| 004 | Manning, Frankie 1660 Colombian Way South S-118 Seattle, WA 98108 | A | AA | 07/02/2004 | 07/01/2007 |
| | | Terms Served | 01 | | |
| | | Position | a member | | |
| | | Comments | Health/Sanitation Expert | | |

| Pos. # | Name and Address | Status | Race | Appointed | Expires |
|--------|---|--------------|--------------------------|------------|------------|
| 005 | Gray, Edmund (Dr.) 860 East First Avenue Colville, WA 99114 | A | C | 07/02/2003 | 07/01/2006 |
| | | Terms Served | 03 | | |
| | | Position | a member | | |
| | | Comments | Health/Sanitation Expert | | |

| Pos. # | Name and Address | Status | Race | Appointed | Expires |
|--------|---|--------------|----------------------|------------|------------|
| 006 | Tonasket, Mel PO Box 150 Nespelem, WA 99155 | A | NA | 02/11/2004 | 07/01/2007 |
| | | Terms Served | 01 | | |
| | | Position | a member | | |
| | | Comments | Health Care Consumer | | |

| Pos. # | Name and Address | Status | Race | Appointed | Expires |
|--------|--|--------------|---|------------|------------|
| 007 | Locke, Thomas H. (Dr.) 223 E 4th Street Port Angeles, WA 98362 | A | C | 07/02/2001 | 07/02/2005 |
| | | Terms Served | 04 | | |
| | | Position | a member | | |
| | | Comments | Local Health Officer Wa St Assoc of Counties | | |

Board Member Listing by Board Position

HEALTH, STATE BOARD OF (HS125)

| Pos. # | Name and Address | Status | Race | Appointed | Expires |
|--------|--|--------------|--|------------|------------|
| 008 | Crump, David (The Honorable) 24115 E Broadway Court Liberty Lake, WA 99019 | A | C | 07/31/2002 | 07/01/2005 |
| | | Terms Served | 01 | | |
| | | Position | a member | | |
| | | Comments | Local Health officer Wa Assoc of Cities | | |
| 009 | Edmonds, Carolyn (The Honorable) 660 NW 178th Place Shoreline, WA 98177 | A | C | 07/31/2002 | 07/01/2005 |
| | | Terms Served | 01 | | |
| | | Position | a member | | |
| | | Comments | Wa Assoc of Counties | | |
| 010 | Lake, Linda K. 1901 Post Alley Seattle, WA 98101 | A | C | 07/02/2001 | 07/02/2004 |
| | | Terms Served | 01 | | |
| | | Position | Chair | | |
| | | Comments | Health Care Consumer | | |