



Technical Advisory Group (TAC) - Food Safety Meeting Minutes

Date: July 12, 2024
Time: 9:00 - 10:00am
Location: Phone Conference via Microsoft Teams
Attendees: Brigette Holland, Craig Alexander, Dave Petersen, Starr Cooney, Jordan Boldt, Eric Atlas, Kevin Sanderson, Erendira Hernandez

Discussion Topic	Additional Content & Notes
Welcome and Roll Call; Intros, if new attendees (All) (10 minutes) 9:30 - 9:40	Meet and Greet -- display TAC Bio slide. Please submit a photo and short bio!
CCPH Staffing and Program Updates (10 minutes) 9:45 – 9:55	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Field Inspector started June 12 to backfill the position vacated by retiree retired. Anticipated release for independent inspections around October.• Many department programs finished an internal physical move to occupy a smaller footprint. Office space utilized by food safety will be shared space, no individual desks.• Temporary event season in full swing<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ L&I placarding requirement smoother than in previous years○ Applicant report L&I review times spanning 4- 6 months.○ L&I review for mobile units involve many codes relating to safety (gas systems, fire suppression, ventilation systems, electrical, etc.)○ No reciprocity option• Plan reviews very heavy, 30 – 40 assigned to each plan reviewer (~ 25 more ideal). Plan review ~60% higher than projected for 2024. Even with this very large volume, first review comments provided within 3 weeks of submittal is at 74%.• Inspections: conducting ~300/month.• Plan review staff have provided plan review “how to” sessions at Fourth Plain Forward (FPF promoted). There have been 2 Spanish, and 2 English presentations.• Plan review staff offering in-person office hours at the Fourth Plain Community Commons twice each month throughout the rest of the year.• DOH survey on Cottage Food – shared with contacts, encouraged participation.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ DOH is looking for input on people who hold cottage food permits, interest in cottage food permits, and community members that might have involvement in cottage foods.○ DOH is considering proposal for 2026 legislative session to move Cottage food permitting from WSDA to DOH. Information available at: https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/food/food-worker-and-industry/food-safety-rules/cottage-food-operations-proposed-legislation
Clark County Food Establishment Background Survey 2024 Update (20 minutes) 9:55 – 10:15	<p>Clark County food establishment communication outreach survey (available in multiple languages) https://clark.wa.gov/public-health/printable-handouts-and-signs</p> <p>Survey has been disseminated one time, through newsletter only. Voluntary responses not as high as desired. Inspectors will soon be handing out post cards soliciting survey completion. Hoping also to apply for a fall intern.</p> <p><u>Respondants to date:</u> Chuukese, Russian, Ukrainian: 0 English: 32 – 8 replies of possible interest in TAC participation Korean: 2 Simplified Chinese, Vietnamese: 1 each Spanish: 5</p> <p>Multiple kind comments offered in free form comment field.</p>
Industry Updates (15 minutes) 10:15 – 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Challenges<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Staffing shortages and turn over a continual struggle.○ Continually needing to do more with less.○ Some are focusing on training and policy to assist with faster and easier onboarding and training. Trying to impress taking food safety seriously.● Successes<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ CCPH presence at vendor meetings has proven helpful
Fee Schedule (2025) Review (15 minutes) 10:15 – 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Fees increases throughout. Primary factors are volume and results of a county-wide wage assessment.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 2024 work volume exceeded projections. With even modest projections for 2025 more staff are needed in both plan review and inspection. 2025 fee schedule includes adding two additional positions (volume projections indicate 4 are needed).○ The program is 100% fee supported.○ Only 2 FTE positions in the program support “greater good”/non-fee generating work that is not specifically associated with plan review or standard inspections. Examples of such work includes: complaint



	<p>follow-up and FBI investigation; DFDO; FDA Retail Standards; Public Education (60 hours)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Fee schedule/budget process next step: September 25 BOH meeting fee ordinance consideration; public hearing. Listen in or comment if you are interested: https://clark.wa.gov/councilors/clark-county-council-meetings
10:30 Adjourn	

Guiding Principles

1. *A commitment to food safety that ensures minimum risk of foodborne illness;*
2. *Promoting public access to safe and healthy food;*
3. *Flexibility to anticipate future changes and needs;*
4. *Commitment to support food agriculture and markets;*
5. *Increased local control of food sources;*
6. *Integrity of food safety surveillance activities;*
7. *Cooperation and coordinated efforts among government agencies, food industry, coalitions, and citizens for assuring safe food production, storage, and handling.*