

Pima County Board of Health Minutes  
March 28, 2018  
Abrams Building, Room 1108  
3950 S. Country Club Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85714

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Dr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 3:06 P.M.

Attendance was as follows:

Board Members:

Mr. Bin An - Absent

Mr. Richard Elías - Absent

Mr. Matthew T. Emich - Absent

Mr. Rene Gastelum

Mr. Charles Geoffrion

Ms. Mary Lou Gonzales

Dr. Paul Horwitz, President

Mr. Mike Humphrey

Mr. Miguel Rojas

Dr. Gail Smith

Ms. Carolyn Trowbridge, Vice President

**A quorum was established (6)**

Non-Board Members:

Dr. Marcy Flanagan, Pima County Health Department Director

Ms. Paula Mandel, Pima County Health Department Deputy Director

Presenters:

Dr. Shane Snyder, Ph.D. Professor: University of Arizona

Dr. Sasha Hawman, Tucson Community Partners Integrated HealthCare,  
Housing Program Manager

Pam Moseley, Tucson Community Partners Integrated HealthCare,  
Housing Program Coordinator

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Gastelum led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. MINUTES ADOPTION**

- Adopted Board of Health February 28, 2018, minutes.

The motion was made and seconded (Dr. Horwitz / Mr. Geoffrion) that the February 28, 2018, minutes be adopted as written. Motion carried 7-0.

4. **BOARD OF HEALTH**

- Board Bylaws – Dr. Horwitz reported on his meeting with the Pima County Attorney’s Office to talk about the bylaws and meeting attendance requirements. According to the bylaws, member attendance is to ensure a quorum and members who fail to attend three consecutive meetings are considered resigned. Additionally, Board meeting agendas are disseminated ten days prior to Board meetings and changes can be made to the bylaws by Board members followed a review by the County Attorney’s Office. Alternate means to participate in Board meetings is annotated at the bottom of meeting agendas in compliance with ADA rules.

5. **DIRECTOR’S UPDATE**

- Dr. Flanagan attended the National Association of County and City Health Officials conference in Washington, DC last month and provided a summary of the meetings and information she received during the conference. A main topic during the conference was President Trump’s intent to decrease public health funding for the CDC. Dr. Flanagan was able to meet with representatives from Congresswoman McSally’s office and Senator McCain’s office where she shared materials and information supporting the importance of CDC funding and how appropriations are earmarked to flow into local communities. Without these funds, emergency preparedness would be negatively impacted when responding to events such as Zika, Ebola, and when other infectious disease outbreaks/events occur. Dr. Flanagan extended the invitation to Congresswoman McSally and Senator McCain to visit and tour the Health Department. Congresswoman McSally’s office has already expressed an interest. Pima Animal Care Center has extended an invitation for the Board to hold the next Board meeting at Pima Animal Care Center to include a tour of the new facilities. Board members discussed and voted to hold the April 2018 Board meeting at Pima Animal Care Center’s new facilities.

- Vital Records Revenue – A recent change made by ADHS within the DAVE system requires funeral homes to make payment at the time of request for death certificates. This is a change from allowing funeral homes to pay via invoices. Although funeral homes are frustrated, they will continue to provide this service as a courtesy for their clients. Mr. Gastelum inquired why the State made this change. Dr. Flanagan responded that it is how the State has interpreted the statute to ensure compliance.

- Oral Health in Pima County – The El Rio Clinic is planning to no longer provide oral health service to the community; therefore, Pima County Health Department will be the only grant funded provider offering oral health screenings and fluoride treatment. Currently the PCHD budget for these services is \$230,000 and \$1.2 million has been proposed beginning July 2018. PCHD is planning to contract with local dentists and dental hygienists to augment this change and ensure eligible residents are served.

- Arizona Local Health Officer’s Association Board met on March 15, 2018 and updates from that meeting include: The State is planning to allocate funding for local jurisdictions to create an Overdose Fatality Review Board. The Health Department is responsible for identifying members to serve on the Board. Dr. Flanagan noted that in addition to a member of this Board, other potential representatives include local physicians, medical examiner’s office, poison control, law enforcement, and epidemiology.

6. **UNREGULATED COMPOUNDS IN DRINKING WATER:**

Dr. Horwitz introduced Dr. Shane Snyder, Professor with the University of Arizona, who gave a presentation about Unregulated Compounds in Drinking Water. Dr. Snyder

reviewed information regarding contaminants found in drinking water, such as chemicals and pharmaceuticals historically resulting in negative impacts. In the past, these compounds were treated by wastewater treatment plants that were not as technologically advanced as they are now. This resulted in marine life and birds becoming affected by this water as it drained into aquifers, lakes, and rivers. Overtime, the feminization of seagull embryos and fish led to concerns for potential negative impacts to humans and the need to implement more comprehensive screening of wastewater. These screening techniques included indicator analyses such as activated carbon, fluorescence, and ozonation. Dr. Snyder believes utilization of On-Line/Real-Time sensors are the future for treating wastewater to ensure drinking water is safe for future generations. Dr. Snyder shared that California has adopted this comprehensive model for screening the state's water. In closing, Dr. Snyder believes that Tucson and Pima County take great efforts to ensure the community drinking water is safe and benefits from advances of improved screening processes for potential contaminants in water which, overtime, will continue to be refined and improved upon for future generations.

**7. TCPH HOMELESS PRESENTATION:**

- Dr. Horwitz introduced Sasha Hawman and Pam Moseley, the Housing Program Manager and Coordinator with Tucson Community Partners Integrated Healthcare who gave a presentation about City of Tucson and Pima County collaboration to end homelessness. The collaborative is funded by HUD and has an \$8.6 million budget to provide supportive permanent housing, rapid rehousing, transitional housing, safe haven, and homeless management to mitigate homelessness. A five-year tracking and data review revealed a decreasing trend of homelessness due to community involvement and education. Dr. Smith inquired if some of the eligibility involves asking if the clients are undocumented. Ms. Moseley responded that HUD does not require the resident to be a citizen. Dr. Horwitz inquired if a large percentage are mentally ill. Mr. Hawman explained that not all are mentally ill, some are victims of domestic violence and some can be the perpetrator. Dr. Horwitz inquired if screens are performed to protect the community from disease when a homeless person is provided housing. While TCPH does not conduct testing, a client can be referred to El Rio for medical care and behavioral health services.

The criteria for a homeless person to receive assistance includes self-refer through an application and screening process on the TCPH website. Dr. Smith inquired how a homeless person obtains this information if they do not have access to a computer. Ms. Moseley responded that information is also available at schools, hospitals, and other locations as they continue to expand coordinated efforts. Dr. Smith suggested this information be shared with soup kitchens, shopping centers, and Pima Animal Care Center which have resources and contacts available to aid homeless persons with pets. In closing, Ms. Moseley added that TCPH continues to market and advertise this vital service and shared examples of materials that increase awareness of the programs and services that are provided to help homeless persons.

8. **CALL TO AUDIENCE:**

There was not enough time for a call to audience.

9. **SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS:**

Dr. Horwitz announced the next meeting will be held at the new PACC facility located at 4000 N. Silverbell Rd. Agenda items not addressed will be tabled due to insufficient time.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 P.M.