

Pima County Board of Health Minutes
January 23, 2019
Abrams Building, Room 1108
3950 S. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85714

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 2:59 P.M.

Attendance was as follows:

Board Members:

Mr. Bin An – Absent

Mr. Richard Elías – Absent

Mr. Rene Gastelum-Absent

Mr. Charles Geoffrion, Vice President

Ms. Mary Lou Gonzales

Dr. Paul Horwitz, President

Mr. Mike Humphrey

Mr. Miguel Rojas

Dr. Gail Smith

Ms. Carolyn Trowbridge

A quorum was established (7)

Non-Board Members:

Dr. Francisco García, Assistant County Administrator, Pima County

Dr. Marcy Flanagan, Pima County Health Department Director

Ms. Paula Mandel, Pima County Health Department, Deputy Director

Presenters:

Ms. Mary Kinkade, Program Manager, Pima County Health Department,

Mr. Nicholas Cogdall, Special Staff Assistant Sr., Pima County Health Department

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mr. Charles Geoffrion led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. MINUTES ADOPTION

- Adopted Board of Health December 5, 2018 minutes.

The motion was made and seconded (Mr. Rojas / Dr. Smith) that the December 5, 2018, minutes be adopted as written. Motion carried 7-0

4. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

- Dr. Flanagan updated the Board on the potential impacts to the Health Department's Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program as a result of the federal government shutdown. This program is one of the largest programs provided by the Health Department and is largely funded with federal dollars. Currently, WIC program funding

will continue until the end of February 2019. Should the shutdown continue beyond February 4, the State's Health Officers have a tentative plan to convene a conference call in order to discuss a statewide layoff plan for WIC employees. Pima County's administration has been apprised of the financial impacts as well as the obligations needed to sustain WIC operations beyond February 28, 2019. Some basic statistics regarding the WIC program:

- Statewide, the recipients receive approximately \$250,000/day through EBT cards for nutritional food.
 - Locally, the figure is approximately \$70,000/day.
 - Collaboration with local foodbanks will help to provide resources for our WIC recipients.
 - Clients in the WIC program are receiving regular status updates.
 - Pima County wide currently has 60 employees who are funded through this program.
- Dr. Flanagan introduced Ms. Paula Mandel, Deputy Director for the Health Department who provided the Board with an update on the Hepatitis A outbreak. As reported at the previous Board meeting, the first Hepatitis A outbreak occurred as a result of seafood purchased from suppliers based in Mexico. A second outbreak of Hepatitis A occurred within Pima County that is disproportionately affecting high-risk community members who are homeless and use illicit drugs. As of January 22, 2019, Pima County has 40 confirmed cases. Approximately one week ago, the Health Department established an Incident Command System (ICS) to respond to the second Hepatitis A outbreak. Organizing response efforts using the ICS allows for effective tracking and management of critical resources that include operations, planning, logistics, and finances needed for the response. Several outreach activities have occurred within the community and at the jail in order to investigate and arrange preventative and prophylaxis intervention care. These outreach activities will continue until the number of confirmed Hepatitis A cases decreases.
 - Dr. Flanagan updated the Board about Health Department efforts to assist family units seeking asylum in the US. Since January 7, 2019, the Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency has released 423 family units to non-governmental agencies where the family units stay approximately three to four days before relocating to southeast and northeast regions of the country. The Health Department is contacting the agencies receiving the families to offer assistance with services that might be needed, such as flu vaccinations. Health Department staff are also reaching out for donations from vaccine manufacturers to help the non-governmental agencies with immunization efforts.

5. TOBACCO 21 UPDATE:

- Dr. Flanagan provided the Board with an update regarding the Tobacco 21 initiative. Currently, efforts are underway to gather community feedback and to draft the ordinance language that will include schedule and licensing fees and is expected to be presented to the Pima County Health Department Board of Supervisors and the Pima County and City of Tucson Attorney's. Approximately 20-30 tobacco retailers attended the first public meeting held at City Hall. Feedback received during the meeting included concerns related to the cost of the license and potential disadvantages if the adoption and enforcement of the ordinance is inconsistently applied to the jurisdictions and Tribal Nations within Pima County. If the Tobacco 21 ordinance is not applied to all of Pima County, tobacco retailers within different jurisdictions could realize a potential loss of as

much as \$750,000 in revenue. The retailers requested an economic impact study be conducted following reports that retailers in the Cottonwood, Arizona experienced a ten percent loss of revenue as a result of adopting Tobacco 21 ordinance in their community. As part of ensuring a broad and consistent adoption, the retailers recommended that the Tobacco 21 ordinance be introduced and adopted by the State versus by the separate jurisdictions where local laws differ.

During the most recent Arizona Local Health Officer Association meeting a representative from the Arizona Public Health Association gave a report about three legislations currently in discussion at the State level.

1. Expansion of the Smoke Free Arizona Act to include electronic cigarettes
2. Include electronic cigarettes in all legislative language
3. Increase the legal minimum age to purchase tobacco and nicotine products to 21 years of age.

Dr. Flanagan offered the assistance of the Health Department to all of the Board of Supervisors who might be interested in hosting a community forum on this topic in their district.

Dr. García updated the Board on discussions that occurred with the City of Tucson and Pima County leaders. As a result of those meetings, several considerations were identified:

- The ordinance language will not be the identical because currently the City of Tucson has a license and fee schedule and Pima County does not
- The cost is not been determined and will depend upon the Board of Supervisors decision
- The City of Tucson and Pima County will need to establish an Intergovernmental Agreement for enforcement delegation
- According to the State and the Attorney General's Office there cannot be any cross subsidy between Smoke-Free Arizona and the enforcement of the Tobacco 21 initiative

Dr. García encouraged Board members to consider attending the community meetings within consideration of open meeting laws. Pima County has tentatively scheduled a community forum to occur on January 25, 2019 at 3:00 pm in City Hall. Also the week of February 4, 2019 and a report summarizing the comments and feedback will be presented to this Board and the BOS subsequent to the meeting.

6. HEALTHY PIMA/2020 CENSUS UPDATE:

- Dr. Flanagan introduced Ms. Mary Kinkade, Program Manager with the Pima County Health Department who provided information regarding the 2020 Census which was prepared by Ms. Mary Carter, the Regional Partners Director for the Pima Association of Governments (PAG), regarding the importance of conducting the 2020 Census. Benefits and considerations for stakeholders and general public include:
 - Conducting the Census is mandatory
 - Ensures equitable representation for the State of Arizona in the US House of Representatives
 - Ensures a strong voice for the State of Arizona

- Provides an accurate population count that financially benefits our state through the appropriate allocation of federal funds needed to support state and local programs
- Attract community-based programs and economic growth to the state and region
- An inaccurate count may result in the potential loss of millions of dollars for state and local agencies

Successful messaging is critical and engaging community stakeholders to help provide consistent messages that help to educate about the need and value of ensuring an accurate population count is important. In particular, many community stakeholders are able to support effort to reach hard to count populations such as non-English speaking, young children, low-income persons, undocumented immigrants, racial and ethnic minorities, and highly mobile persons.

The Pima Association of Government is seeking a pledge of commitment from community organizations to share the importance of completing and submitting Census forms. These forms will be available beginning March of 2020 through April 1, 2020. After April 1, 2020, bureau representatives will focus efforts towards counting those who have not returned their forms. All Census forms are due by June 2020.

The goal is for the Census Bureau to develop a community action plan, which focuses on getting actionable messaging about the importance and value of completing the Census forms and to ensure that the period between March and June 2020 the message is amplified to reach as many people as possible during this critical time period.

Some important information regarding the upcoming US Census:

- The question of citizenship has not been asked since 1950. A federal challenge is underway to remove this question from the 2020 census
- Those incarcerated for more than six months will be counted through that institution
- Forms can be submitted with just the number of those residing in the home can be submitted without completing the rest of the fields
- Ms. Kinkade introduced Mr. Cogdall, Special Staff Assistant Sr. with the Pima County Health Department who provided an updated for the Board on the Healthy Pima initiative. Presently, Healthy Pima members have assembled ten different taskforce groups who are working on priorities identified within the Community Health Improvement Plan and are meeting monthly. The 2018 Community Health Needs Assessment is being finalized and expected to be presented to the Board and the community in the near future. Upon completion of the community assessment work will begin to identify new priority areas for the next three years.

Board member, Mr. Rojas inquired if data regarding the homeless in Pima County is included in the Community Health Needs Assessment. Dr. Flanagan explained that information and data regarding the homeless population is gathered through an annual count and is used to apply for specific grants that fund programs addressing health concerns for this population and is not part of the Community Health Needs Assessment. Agencies such as, the City of Tucson, El Rio, Pima County Health Department, Pima County Department of Environmental Quality, and other community-based organizations

who have expertise and relationships with the homeless population collaborate resources to build programs and services.

7. **CALL TO AUDIENCE:**

There were no speakers from the audience.

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

Dr. Horwitz reminded the Board to email him with items for the agenda.

9. **ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:40P.M.