

Pima County Board of Health Minutes
December 13, 2017
Abrams Building, Room 1108
3950 S. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85714

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Dr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

Attendance was as follows:

Mr. An - Absent
Mr. Elías - Absent
Mr. Emich - Absent
Mr. Gastelum
Mr. Geoffrion
Ms. Gonzales
Dr. Horwitz
Mr. Humphrey
Mr. Rojas - Absent
Dr. Smith
Ms. Trowbridge - Absent

A quorum was established.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

3. **MINUTES ADOPTION**

- Adopted Board of Health October 25, 2017 minutes

The motion was made and seconded (Mr. Geoffrion / Dr. Smith) that the October 25, 2017 minutes be adopted as written. Motion carried 6-0.

4. **BOARD OF HEALTH**

○ HEP A Update – Board of Health concerns regarding County Administrator’s Response :
Dr. Horwitz opened discussion on the Hepatitis A letter from the Board of Health to the County Administrators. Mentioning his disappointment in the response from the County Administration, the Board of Health feels dismissed by their concern. Mike Humphrey and Dr. Gail Smith add, the Board concern was not addressed. Sanitation specifically is imperative to assist in the solution. Placing handwashing stations and mobile bathrooms are two inexpensive ideas that have been presented. The Board showed concern there is no action plan in place. Mr. Huckleberry’s letter lacked an action plan or response regarding current and specific actions undergoing at the Pima County Health Department.

Deputy Chief Medical officer Dr. Carlos Perez-Velez, addressed the Board of Health members on the activities Pima County Health Department staff are engaged in to monitor and reduce the risk of an outbreak occurring in Pima County. He assures Dr. Horwitz and members of the Board that Pima County Health Department has identified this potential risk as a priority and has created an action plan.

Director of Pima County Health Dr. Marcy Flanagan provided a brief update summarizing plans and response identified and allocated should an outbreak occur mindful of the unique circumstance existing in the homeless population. Dr. Marcy Flanagan confirmed the appropriate plan and procedures are actively in progress in collaboration with El Rio Health Center highlighting aspects of the response plan for the Board. Personal protection kits are being distributed to homeless individuals to aid in personal hygiene and sanitation on a weekly basis from ten different shelters and congregate meal sites. Vaccines are being ordered through the Centers for Disease Control Prevention (CDC). Approximately 400 doses have been designated for the Pima County Health Department through El Rio Health Center with Arizona Department Health Services approval. Director Dr. Marcy Flanagan confirmed the plan and procedures are active and in progress. Dr. Horwitz stated he will report to the Board after meeting with the County Administrator to inquire about Pima County's response and state agreement concerning the risk of Hepatitis A.

5. **DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

- BOH Schedule and ALHOA Schedule:

Director of Pima County Health Dr. Marcy Flanagan shares with the Board no change to the schedule will be made concerning conflicts of ALHOA meetings and Board of Health. The regular 4th Wednesday of every month will stand for Board of Health.

- DAVE System: (Vital Records)

Dr. Marcy Flanagan addressed the Board informing of revenue impact and gave example of Maricopa County's estimated 50% reduction in revenue. The Governor's office has made a verbal commitment to Arizona Department of Health Services and local jurisdictions to keep them informed if in the event the Health Departments and programs are hindered and are experiencing issue with providing service for the communities. Dr. Flanagan will bring budget numbers to the next Board of Health meeting to show Pima County's impact on revenue. Mr. Humphrey inquired asking is Pima County Health Department experiencing funeral delays as of late. Dr. Flanagan confirmed and informed the Board, Department of Environmental Quality provided a provision for crematories to conduct cremations at night in order to accommodate the demand for service and reduce delays.

6. **HEP A PRESENTATION**

- Dr. Carlos Perez-Velez Deputy Chief Medical Officer, introduced Catherine O'Grady, epidemiologist for Pima County Health Department. Ms. O'Grady informs the Board of data statistics concerning Hepatitis A. Her presentation included updates regarding outbreaks in the homeless population and drug dependent persons nationwide. Since 2012 Pima County has an average of twelve cases per year. Six cases have been reported for 2017 finding Pima County has not had an increase since 2012. Dr. Carlos Perez-Velez described a clinical presentation with a brief over view of the transmission possibilities of Hepatitis A and the risk factors. Mentioning Hepatitis A is caused by a virus and can be transmitted by the fecal oral route, person to person or after consumption of contaminated food or water. Most outbreaks Arizona has documented are directly related to contaminated food issue. Risk factors are related to poor sanitation as well as sexual contact in the effected person's home. Infant and young children are exposed in a daycare setting as they are unable to control their sanitary environment and hygiene. He described symptoms that occur with effected persons with nausea, anorexia, abdominal

discomfort, malaise, jaundice, fever and pruritus (itching). Advanced symptoms can cause complicated liver injury ultimately causing colic hepatitis, relapsing hepatitis and autoimmune hepatitis. There is no treatment other than supportive care. Prevention with a two dose vaccine is extremely effective.

He closes with the disease is severely underfunded concerning all the strains of Hepatitis A, B and C. He adds we either pay now and use the funding proactively or pay later with treatments. He submits this issue is an economic problem and a homeless population issue to be addressed. He urges the Board to address the homeless issue aggressively.

❖ **NOTE: Items of the agenda were moved up due to time availability and losing quorum.**

7. SMOKING ORDINANCE UPDATE

- Gregory Rivera Program manager for Smoke Free Arizona, gave a brief update on Tobacco ordinance is moving forward in a procedural process with procurement. He stated through County policy, the department is reviewing all organizations and surveys in order for most efficient data collection and provide the best service available. New studies on the national side have found there are no safe levels of exposure of e-cigarettes. This data supports in the effort to build a case with the Vape- Free Indoor Act. Initiative. In the following months Gregory Rivera will provide more of an update as he can show more movement in the program process. He mentions the support of the Board is needed to continue.

8. Potential Health Impact's to Pima County from Global Warming Update:

- The topic was tabled due to insufficient time to present and discuss

9. DEQ HOMELESS POPULATION PROTOCOL PRESENTATION

- The topic was tabled due to insufficient time to discuss

10. WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT INTERNSHIP INITIATIVE

- The topic was tabled due to insufficient time to discuss

11. AUTO PULLOVER PROTOCOL SAFETY STICKER PRESENTATION

- This topic was tabled due to insufficient time to discuss

12. CALL TO AUDIENCE

There were no speakers from the audience.

13. SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Horwitz gave a summary of the agenda items.

❖ **Items 8, 9, 10 and 11 were tabled due to loss of quorum and time availability.**

The October 25, 2017 Minutes were adopted as written. The motion carried unanimously 6-0.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:15p.m.