

Pima County Board of Health
Minutes
April 24, 2013
Room 1108, Abrams Building
3950 S. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85714

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Dr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Mr. Schlueter called the roll as follows:

Mr. An - absent
Mr. Elías - absent
Mr. Gastelum
Mr. Geoffrion
Ms. Gonzales
Dr. Horwitz
Ms. McComb-Berger
Mr. Rojas
Dr. Smith
Mr. Stopani - absent
Ms. Trowbridge - absent

A quorum was established.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. MINUTES ADOPTION

- Adopt Board of Health February 27, 2013 Minutes

The motion was made and seconded (McComb-Berger/Rojas) that the February 27, 2013 Minutes be adopted as written. The motion carried 7-0.

4. COMMUNITY CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION CONFERENCE AND PROJECT

Dr. Barbara Warren from Physicians for Social Responsibility addressed the Board on the risks and potential ramifications of climate change; the need for dialogue on this topic; and the climate change conference which will be held at the Tucson Convention Center on September 20 and 21, 2013. She provided four handouts: Prospectus for Project on Addressing Public and Community Health Impacts of Climate Change for Southwestern Communities; The Climate Reality Project; Potential Health Effects of Extreme Weather; and a Pima County Resolution in Support of a Community-Wide Conference on the Health Impacts of Changing Climate in the Southwest. Planning groups have been activated and are working toward addressing six areas of vulnerability as they relate to climate change. These areas are health services preparedness; mental health and spiritual wellbeing; food security; education for children in schools; engaging vulnerable communities and neighborhoods; and cross cultural / cross border issues. One of the speakers at the conference will be Eric Klinenberg, author of Heat Wave: A Social Autopsy of Disaster in

Chicago, which is about the 1995 heat wave in Chicago during which hundreds of people died. Ms. Warren asked for the Board's endorsement, participation and requested they encourage others to participate in the conference. The conference cost is \$35, but there are scholarships available. The conference already has approximately 30 co-sponsors. Ms. Warren indicated the County has already made a significant monetary co-sponsorship contribution, and invited the Board of Health, at the Board of Supervisors' request, to join with the County as a co-sponsor associated with the County and its financial contribution.

The motion was made and seconded (Rojas/Gastelum) that the Board join with the County (Board of Supervisors) as a co-sponsor. The motion carried 7-0.

5. YOUTH TOBACCO CONTROL EFFORT – PROPOSED LOCAL TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSING ORDINANCE

Health Department Director Francisco García introduced this item by saying in less than one generation our country has greatly reduced its percentage of smokers. However, to further improve these numbers there is general consensus for the need for improving barriers to make it difficult for youths to start smoking. The purpose of this agenda item is to generate dialogue with, and solicit feedback and support from the Board on this topic and a collaborative youth tobacco control effort including pursuit of a County licensing ordinance.

Dominick San Angelo, Executive Director - Southern Arizona, for the American Lung Association, addressed the Board. Mr. San Angelo said the mission of the American Lung Association (ALA) is to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease; The ALA's goals are to eliminate tobacco use and tobacco-related lung disease; to improve the air we breathe so it will not cause or worsen lung disease; and to reduce the burden of lung disease on patients and their families. Mr. San Angelo introduced Christian Stumpf, Regional Director of Public Policy, American Lung Association of the Southwest, who utilized the attached PowerPoint presentation to address the Board on the local tobacco retail licensing proposal. Mr. Stumpf was careful to mention that the youth tobacco control effort was a collaborative effort that also included the American Heart Association and the American Cancer Society. The most effective strategies to reduce tobacco death and disease have included three components: comprehensive smoke free / tobacco free laws; regular and significant increases in tobacco taxes; and fully funded, evidence based tobacco prevention and cessation programs. Now licensing is being viewed as a fourth strategy component. The city of Tucson is the only local jurisdiction in Arizona with a licensing requirement. Arizona does not have a statewide licensing law. The Board was supportive of the initiative, but mentioned concerns about enforcement and small business resistance.

The motion was made and seconded (Horwitz/Gastelum) that the Board endorse the pursuit of a tobacco retail licensing ordinance focused on protecting our youth. The motion carried 7-0.

6. LIBRARY NURSE PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Dr. García discussed that as a County Health Department one of the things the Department does is provide services to more vulnerable members of our community, he then heralded the Library Nurse program as an innovative way in which dedicated staff are reaching these vulnerable populations. Community Health Services Division Manager Kathleen Malkin indicated that approximately a year and a half ago the library approached the Health Department about putting a social worker in the library, but Department staff suggested a Public Health Nurse would be a better fit, and in January of 2012 the program started with one nurse. Ms. Malkin introduced Lead

Library Public Health Nurse Daniel Lopez who utilized the attached PowerPoint presentation to inform the Board on the Library Nurse program. The Board was also provided with the attached news articles pertaining to the program. Currently there are a total of six nurses who work seven libraries, but combined only provide one full time equivalent (FTE) at these libraries. From January 1, 2012 to April 22, 2013 library nurses have recorded 3,967 nursing, case management and educational interventions. This figure includes all interventions, even when there were multiple interventions for one person.

7. HEALTH DEPARTMENT REORGANIZATION

Dr. García discussed that the Department has gone through a self-assessment process to be able to articulate in a vision and mission statement what the Department optimally aspires to be. He referred to the Strategic Connections handout which presented the redefined vision statement as “A Healthy Pima County: Everyone. Everywhere. Everyday.” And the mission statement is “To ensure the health, safety, and well-being of our community through leadership, collaboration, and education.” The handout detailed the aspirational tenets as: Client-focused; Community-centered; Evidence based; and Inegrated. Dr. García also went over a new Department functions diagram (attached). The divisions are represented as outer circles, with cross cutting functions in a large centered circle, business and administrative functions in a smaller inner circle, and the vision statement in the diagram’s center. Dr. García stressed that the reorganization is not a result of the Department doing anything wrong; it is designed to enable the Department to provide optimal service.

8. CALL TO AUDIENCE

There were no speakers from the audience.

9. SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Horwitz summarized items from the meeting. The items identified were:

- The Board endorsed the upcoming climate change conference;
- Endorsed the pursuit of a tobacco licensing ordinance;
- Learned about the innovative Library Nurse Program;
- And heard about the Department’s evolution of reorganization.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.