Health Center (HC) Board Minutes
July 22, 2020

The Health Center Board met via Go To Meeting.

Present: Consumer Members:  Lee Herrington (Co-Chair), Filipo Chappelle, Wm. Darrel Gardner, Celia Lee, Cynthia Guerrero
Community Members:  Emily Casarez, Sylvia Barnard, Arianna Castellanos, Jason Prystowsky
Non-Voting Member:  Douglas Metz, Health Center Executive Director
Guests/Speaker:  None

Agenda Items

I. Call to Order
Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Herrington at 12:00pm.

II. Review and Approve Minutes from the June 24, 2020 Meeting
Mr. Chapelle motioned that the minutes from both the April and May Board meetings be approved by the HC Board; Mr. Gardner seconded. No public comments were made.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

III. Roll Call, Sign In and Quorum Established.
Ms. Johnston requested the virtual attendees do a roll call and verified that a quorum was established.

[Dr. Prystowsky joined the meeting at 12:06pm]

IV. Public Comment: None

V. Old Business: None

VI. New Business: None

VIII. Standing Reports:

Ms. Jacobson began her presentation with the June month-to-date and year-to-date totals for revenue and expenditures, which are both below budget at an overall 96.8 percent. As June 30th marks the end of the 19/20 fiscal year, Ms. Jacobson was happy to report that the fiscal year has been closed with a balanced budget. While Medi-Cal and State/local funds were $3.7M under budget in revenue, Public Health was overbudget in Medicare, ADAP and the Federal 330 Grant by $1.7M. Expenditures that were under budget for the year include pharmaceuticals, indirect costs and salaries and benefits, while physician fees and other office expenses continue to be overbudget. While Public Health received HRSA and stimulus funds, Ms. Jacobson credited the health center and pharmacy staff for their increased efforts to provide much-needed services for County patients during the pandemic.

Mr. Chapelle motioned that the Board approve the June monthly ,Year-to-Date and Fiscal Year-end financial reports; Mr. Gardner seconded. No public comments were made.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

2. Policy Review Committee

Mr. Chapelle motioned that the policies presented in April be approved by the Board; Ms. Casarez seconded. No public comments were made.

Motion Carried Unanimously

[Ms. Barnard joined the meeting at 12:17pm]

3. Provider Appointments-Dr. Baldwin

Dr. Baldwin shared with the Board that the new pediatric provider, Dr. Kara Garcia will be replacing Dr. Dodds at the Carpinteria Health Center on August 3rd. Dr. Garcia is relocating from private practice in Pennsylvania and is a great addition to the team.

Dr. Prystowsky motioned that the Board approve Dr. Kara Garcia for initial appointment; Ms. Castellanos seconded. No public comments were made.

Motion Carried Unanimously.


Ms. Gomez began her monthly report with an overview of the improvement measures, including the new measure: Pediatric Depression screening and intervention. This measure was identified by the Medical Quality Improvement Committee for patients aged 12-17. Depression screening for this age group should be completed annually and the baseline for this measure begins at 58.53% with a goal of 60%.

Diabetes Control/A1C: Continues to hover just under the goal, with a slight uptick as in-person visits have increased.

Hypertension: Very small improvement from the previous month, but an overall decrease as many visits were taking place remotely and blood pressures were unable to be monitored.

Depression Screening: Another slight dip in compliance for the month but an overall increase for the year. As in-person visits resume and workflows for telehealth are put in place to address this, we should continue to see improvement.

Breast Cancer Screenings: Another slight decrease from the previous month due to limited visits and cancellations of screening tests. Health Center staff will continue to work with patients on improved compliance.

Patient Satisfaction (Wait time): Slightly above the national average but a small decrease from the previous quarter.

As preventative services start re-opening at local facilities and the County health centers, we anticipate continued progress. No public comment.

5. Executive Director’s Report-Dr. Metz

Dr. Metz referred the Board members to his report and highlighted that during June both the Carpinteria and Franklin Health Centers increased their patient volume by 14% and 30%, respectively. Overall, the health centers have been successful at quickly adapting to virtual and telehealth visits leaving the visit totals just above what they were in fiscal year 17/18, which is remarkable considering how much the pandemic has affected the community. Of the goal of 500 patient visits per day across all health centers, PHD is at about 81%, and 50% of all visits are virtual. Prior to the pandemic, the health centers were at about 91% of the target visits. No public comments were made.

6. COVID 19 Update-Mr. Gamble

Mr. Gamble provided a real-time update on the COVID19 situation in Santa Barbara County. Currently there are 5,124 total cases, 295 of which are active and 32 deaths have been reported. As the state and county began to open, surges of cases appeared which required additional closures of certain business sectors. Hospitalizations for COVID have increased dramatically and are being monitored by both the county and state. Public Health is working with with city and community organizations to help mitigate the spread of this disease, but everyone needs to do their part in staying safe and keeping others safe. The state-run testing sites through Optum Serve have proved
to be challenging, with major delays in not only lab results, but obtaining appointments as well. To supplement this, PHD is working to expand prioritized testing targeted for those who are contacts of confirmed cases, healthcare workers and those who live or work in congregate living facilities. As North County has been one of the hotspots for COVID, targeted outreach and planning efforts with various agencies are underway. There were no public comments.

Dr. Baldwin also informed the Board that many of the employee physicians in the health centers donated their remaining annual budget for continuing medical education units in favor of purchasing pulse oximeters for their patients diagnosed with COVID. This was an inventive and generous idea that will help patients monitor their oxygen levels at home.

VII. Member Announcements: None

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:59pm.