Health Center (HC) Board Minutes  
November 20th 2019

The Health Center Board met in the third-floor conference room at the Santa Barbara Health Care Center.

Present: Consumer Members:  Christopher Hutton, Lee Harrington, Stephen Ferrara, Richard Osbourne  
Community Members:  Skip Szymanski (Chair) Emily Casarez, Arianna Castellanos  
Non-Voting Member:  Douglas Metz, Health Center Executive Director  
Staff:  Kendall Johnston, Gustavo Mejia, Elvia Lopez (by phone), Paola Hurtado, Ralph Barbosa, Michael Camacho-Craft (by phone), Melissa Gomez  
Guests/Speaker:  Cynthia Guerrero

Agenda Items

I.  Call to Order
   Meeting was called to order by Chair Szymanski at 12:16pm when the quorum was established.

II.  Old Business:
   1.  Board Member Self-Evaluations
      Dr. Metz reminded the Board members in attendance to submit their annual self-evaluations to Kendall Johnston if they have not done so already.

III.  New Business:
   1.  Resignation of Board Member, Judy Taggart-Dr. Metz
      As briefly discussed at the October meeting, Ms. Judy Taggart has resigned from the Health Center Board.
      Mr. Ferrara motioned that the Board accept Ms. Taggart's resignation effective November 20, 2019; Mr. Herrington seconded.
      Motion Carried Unanimously.

   2.  Proposed Board Member, Cynthia Guerrero-Dr. Metz
      As Ms. Guerrero was present at the October HC Board meeting and introduced herself at that time, introductions were not required.
      Ms. Castellanos motioned that the Board approve the appointment of Cynthia Guerrero to the Health Center Board; Ms. Casarez seconded.
      Motion Carried Unanimously.

   3.  Nominations of Board Officers-Dr. Metz
      Dr. Metz reviewed the list of current nominations for Chair and Vice-Chair being Skip Szymanski and Lee Herrington, respectively. There were no other additions or objections to the nominations and the Board will vote on the appointments at the December meeting.
IV. Review and Approve Minutes from the October 23rd Meeting
Chair Szymanski requested that the closed session portion of the minutes be amended to include
that the meeting concluded at 1:17 “and there was nothing to report out”

Mr. Herrington motioned that the minutes from the September 25th meeting with the aforementioned
amendment be accepted by the Board; Mr. Hutton seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

VIII. Standing Reports:

1. October 2019 Financial Report-Mr. Mejia
Mr. Mejia briefly reviewed some of the fiscal highlights that were shared with the attendees prior to
the quorum being established. Highlights include that October was a good month for Medi-Cal
revenue and on track for the time of year. October is a month with 31 days and no holidays so totals
may looks skewed compared to other months with not as many clinic days. November and December
tend to be lower due to the holidays but PHD is hopeful that the health centers will rally in January
and through the 3rd quarter. It was noted by Dr. Metz that the overages in physician fees pertain only
to those who are independent contractors, including specialists and those brought on board to cover
staff physician vacancies.

Mr. Hutton motioned that the HC Board approve and accept the October 2019 monthly report; Ms.
Casarez seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

2. Policy Review Committee
Mr. Herrington and Mr. Hutton shared with the Board that the policy review committee has reviewed
the 12 policies presented for the month of November and that there were no issues. After a brief
discussion of what the policy review committee entails, Ms. Casarez volunteered to join as the third
member. Chair Szymanski requested that staff check the HC Board By-Laws for anything pertaining
to subcommittees and appointment of subcommittee members.

Mr. Herrington motioned that the Board approve and accept the policies as written, Mr. Hutton
seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

Ms. Gomez provided a brief refresher of the types of measures that Public Health is currently
focusing on for improvement and a chart showing how Public Health numbers relate to HRSA
national averages. The diabetes blood sugar control measure is within half a percent of reaching the
goal and Ms. Gomez announced that PHD is involved in learning collaborative to improve DM control
in patients who are experiencing homelessness. There has been a 6% increase in the asthma
measure since the start of the year as the EHR team and providers continue to work on improved
asthma action plans and training on diagnosis codes. The hypertension measure saw an overall 3%
increase but still falls short of the benchmark and goal. Notably, the depression screening and
intervention measure saw an increase of 2.5% from the previous month and staff is encouraged by
the progress despite having a long way to go to reach the goal. The Mammography measure still
appears to be low and staff will continue to work to increase compliance with outside entities as
mammograms are not available at the health centers.

4. Executive Director’s Report-Dr. Metz
Dr. Metz referred the Board members to the director’s report in the Board packet. Each of the health
centers participated in the statewide Great Shake Out earthquake drill on October 17th. Additionally,
as Public Safety Power Shutoffs continued to affect areas of Santa Barbara County, staff turned into
disaster service workers so as to prepare for the impacts of loss of electricity for vulnerable populations.

Dr. Metz highlighted that the statewide advocacy against Governor Newsom’s proposal to cut 340b Pharmacy funds is ongoing and that Mr. Gamble and Ms. Jacobson were absent for this meeting as they were attending an important conference in Sacramento regarding this very issue. If the proposal were to move forward, Santa Barbara County would lose $4.5M and would need to cut services at the health centers as well as staff.

Dr. Metz also noted in his report that the Carpinteria Health Center Administrator recruitment is currently under review for the final 2 candidates and a decision would be made early next week after staff input is collected.

Dr. Metz concluded his report with commendation to the Santa Barbara and Lompoc Health Centers for a robust number or patient visits per day during the month of October. Those two sites showed significant improvement despite the overall goal not being met.

V. Member Announcements

- Ms. Casarez announced that the Food Action Network would be holding a community forum at the Santa Barbara Public Library on December 4th and that a North County meeting would be held later on today-all details in the Lompoc Valley Community Health Care Organization newsletter.
- Dr. Metz reminded the attendees of the importance of providing RSVP’s before each meeting so staff can ensure that the appropriate amount of food to order, ultimately reducing unnecessary costs.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:58pm.