Health Center (HC) Board Minutes  
September 25th, 2019

The Health Center Board met at the PHD Administration building at 300 N. San Antonio Road in Santa Barbara.

**Present:** Consumer Members: Christopher Hutton, Filipo Chapelle, Lee Harrington, Celia Lee, Stephen Ferrara, Richard Osbourne, Wm Darrel Gardner  
Community Members: Skip Szymanski (Chair) Emily Casarez, Jason Prystowsky, Arianna Castellanos, Sylvia Barnard  
Non-Voting Member: Douglas Metz, Health Center Executive Director  
Staff: Kendall Johnston, Gus Mejia, Elvia Lopez, Paola Hurtado, Elvira Briones-Arellano, Ralph Barbosa, Dana Gamble, Polly Baldwin, Jeanie Sleigh, Michael Camacho-Craft, Amber Bermond, Melissa Gomez  
Guests/Speaker: Larry Fay

**Agenda Items**

I. **Call to Order**  
Meeting was called to order by Chair Szymanski at 12:02pm and quorum established.

II. **Review and Approve Minutes from the August 28 Meeting**  
There were no requested revisions to the August meeting minutes.

Mr. Chapelle motioned that the minutes from the August 28 meeting be accepted by the Board; Mr. Gardner seconded.

**Motion Carried Unanimously.**

[Dr. Prystowsky joined the meeting at 12:04; Mr. Fay joined the meeting at 12:06]

III. **New Business:**

1. **2019 Community Health Assessment-Mr. Gamble (out of agenda order)**

   Mr. Gamble briefly spoke about the Community Health needs assessment for 2019. This year, the Public Health Department is partnering with Cottage Health to provide a joint needs assessment of the community, which is inclusive of all areas within Santa Barbara County. Once the report is completed, it will be published on the Cottage Health website and Mr. Gamble will present the final product to the Board at that time.

2. **Environmental Health Services Presentation-Mr. Fay (out of agenda order)**

   Mr. Larry Fay, director for Environmental Health Services introduced himself to the Board and described throughout his Powerpoint presentation what services EHS provides. Mr. Fay explained that there is growing understanding of the relationship between people and their environment in regards to chronic conditions being reported throughout the County. There are 4 main divisions in EHS: Community Health, Tech Services, HazMat, and the Pharmaceutical Take Back program. The Community Health division includes what many consider the main purpose of EHS: monitoring the safety of retail food, public swimming pools, body art facilities, sewage discharges, rodent complaints, detention facilities and emergency evacuation shelters. Technical Services include solid waste facilities, water-well permitting, domestic water systems up to 200 connections, waste water and related review for land use. The Hazmat division deals with leaking underground systems and site
remediation, which ensures that property is safe for residents to develop. The pharmaceutical take
back program is relatively new (about 18 months) and requires pharmaceutical manufacturers to
provide free medication disposal kiosks throughout the County.

The EHS program has a budget of $6.8M and is supported primarily by permit and service fees. Some grants include CalRecycle, Ocean Water Sampling through the State Water Board, and LUFT.

VIII. Standing Reports:

1. August 2019 Financial Report-Mr. Mejia

Mr. Mejia presented the financial statement narrative for August 2019 in Ms. Jacobson’s absence. Mr. Mejia explained that while still being early on in the fiscal year, for the month of August there is a deficit of $245,940. August is a month with 31 days and no holidays, which skews the monthly budget slightly so salaries and benefits appear higher than what is budgeted as the annual budget is divided evenly by 12. The opposite effect takes place during months with less than 30 days such as in February. Additionally, quarterly internal charges from the IT department were paid in full for August, resulting in higher expenditures month-to-date but will balance out at the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Hutton motioned that the HC Board approve and accept the August 2019 financial report; Mr. Gardner seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

[Dr. Baldwin joined the meeting at 12:29pm]

2. Policy Review Committee-Ms. Taggart

In Ms. Taggart’s absence, Chair Szymanski discussed the 13 policies presented to the policy review committee during the month of September.

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

Motion Carried Unanimously.

3. Provider Appointments-Dr. Baldwin

Dr. Baldwin introduced 2 new practitioners to the Board; Dr. Alex Weinstein and Andre Papajohn, LCSW. Dr. Weinstein will be volunteering in the Urology clinic at the Santa Barbara Health Center and Andre Papajohn will be providing mental health services in Carpinteria through a contract with Pathpoint. A lively conversation about the needs for specialists in PHD ensued, resulting in Chair Szymanski requesting to continue the conversation at the October Board meeting.

Mr. Herrington made the motion to approve the aforementioned provider for initial appointment; Dr. Prystowsky seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.


Ms. Gomez began her presentation with a brief review to the quality measures for 2019. Diabetes blood sugar control has remained fairly stagnant but meets the benchmark and PHD will continue to work towards increased compliance. The goal for the Asthma measure was increased to 87% based on the success from improved action plans and training on diagnosis codes. The hypertension measure was adjusted from 70% to 65%, which is a more realistic goal but still above the benchmark for the SAC application.

While several of the health centers have been working specifically on improving the depression screening and intervention and seeing improvements locally, as a whole this measure has remained stagnant. To address this, the OCHIN EPIC team has worked with PHD to develop new workflows which are being rolled out to staff at the health centers. Breast Cancer screenings have seen over a
7% increase this year so far and patient satisfaction for Quarter 2 stands at 83.90%, a slight increase from Quarter 1.

[Ms. Barnard joined the meeting at 12:44]

5. Executive Director’s Report-Dr. Metz
Dr. Metz referred the Board members to the director’s report in the September Board packet. The HRSA SAC grant continuation application reviewed at the August Board meeting was submitted 9/25 prior to today’s meeting. Dr. Metz announced that supplemental funding for Behavioral Health support at the health centers was obtained in the amount of $167,000.

Dr. Metz shared with the Board that the National Health Center Week events in August were well attended with Lompoc bringing in over 325 people in attendance along with 30 participating partners.

Public Health is assessing potential impacts related to Governor Newsom’s executive order pertaining to the pharmacy 340b program and will be joining other FQHC’s in the state to advocate against implementation. If executed, approximately 3-4 Million would be cut from the County’s budget, which would result in the cessation of certain services locally.

IV. Member Announcements
None.

IX. Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 1:15pm