

Pima County Board of Health
Minutes
December 7, 2011
Room 1108, Abrams Building
3950 S. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85714

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Dr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 3:11 p.m.

Mr. Schlueter called the roll as follows:

Ms. Allen
Mr. An - absent
Dr. Brumm
Mr. Elías
Dr. Fulginiti
Ms. Gonzales
Dr. Horwitz
Mr. Rojas - absent
Mr. Stopani
Ms. Trowbridge

A quorum was established.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Allen led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. MINUTES ADOPTION

- Adopt Board of Health September 28, 2011 Minutes

The motion was made and seconded (Fulginiti/Gonzales) that the September 28, 2011 Minutes be adopted as written. The motion carried.

- Nominating Committee Members Adopt September 28, 2011 Nominating Committee Minutes

The motion was made and seconded (Brumm/Horwitz) that the September 28, 2011 Nominating Committee Minutes be adopted as written. The motion carried.

4. PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF BY-LAWS TO ELECT BOARD OFFICERS AT THE END OF THE CALENDAR YEAR AND/OR CHANGE LENGTH OF TERM

Dr. Horwitz pointed out that subsequent to discussion establishing this Agenda item it was discovered that the Board's By-Laws verbiage on the election of Board officers was taken directly from Arizona Revised Statutes and therefore, cannot be amended.

5. REPORT FROM NOMINATING COMMITTEE AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Dr. Horwitz, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported that the Nominating Committee, having polled the membership, had arrived at nominees for President and Vice President. The nominees were Dr. Horwitz, unopposed, for President, and Dr. Brumm and Carolyn Trowbridge for Vice President. Ballots were distributed to the Board members, who then voted. Dr. Horwitz was reelected President and Ms. Trowbridge was reelected Vice President.

6. SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION REPORT ON STATUS OF BARGAINING WITH PCOA FOR ALL

Dr. Horwitz called upon Maya Castillo from the Service Employees International Union (SEIU). Ms. Castillo presented a handout covering details related to former Pima County, Pima Health Systems attendant care workers, who were transitioned to Bridgeway Health Solutions and then to PCOA for All (PFA), and SEIU's bargaining with PFA on behalf of these employees. Ms. Castillo asserted that PFA is not bargaining in good faith and said SEIU has filed unfair labor practices charges against PFA, with the National Labor Relations Board. The main point of emphasis in the discussion on this item was that SEIU is bargaining to move these employees from a wage of \$9.60 per hour to \$10.00 per hour. SEIU's position is that PFA can afford this nominal increase. Ms. Castillo asked the Board for a letter of support for the attendant care workers.

PFA attendant care worker Argentina Puckett addressed the Board. Ms. Puckett said she works to take care of her disabled son and has done so since 2001. Initially she did not receive any pay, then after several months she started at about \$8.00 per hour. She said she and her fellow attendant care workers have been making the same \$9.60 wage for seven years. She stressed that attendant care work is skilled and demanding work and asserted that without attendant care workers the patients would need to be cared for in a nursing home which would be more expensive for the County or State.

In response to a question, Mr. Elías stated Pima County has a good relationship with SEIU. He said there is no collective bargaining agreement, but there is a meet and confer agreement between the County and SEIU.

Dennis DeMaio, Lead Bargainer with SEIU, spoke to clarify bargaining rules. He said if an employer says they cannot afford a proposal then they are required to produce financial information to back up that claim. Mr. DeMaio stated that PFA did not initially provide the financial information. He said that once the financial information was provided it shows that PFA has chosen to pay more in rent and has budgeted money for furniture.

The motion was made and seconded (Fulginiti/Elías) that the Board send a letter of support saying that the Board believes patient care should be the primary concern of PFA and that the Board supports the SEIU proposal unless there are compelling reasons otherwise. The motion carried.

7. PROPOSED ORDINANCE FOR FEE WAIVER / REDUCTION FOR TEMPORARY FOOD PERMITS

This item was tabled due to a principle speaker being unable to attend.

8. RECOGNITION OF DEPARTING BOARD MEMBER LIDIA ALLEN'S SERVICE

Ms. Allen is stepping down from the Board with this being her last meeting. She was recognized by the Board as someone who was methodical, well organized and able to cut straight to important questions. Mr. Elías, referring to Ms. Allen's recognition by the Board of Supervisors on December 6, 2011, said that the Supervisors' appreciation was very sincere, and he called Ms. Allen an outstanding member of the Board.

9. BOARD REPRESENTATION FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING

Health Department Director Sherry Daniels said she had contacted Dr. Horwitz seeking Board representation for strategic planning related to Department accreditation and Ms. Trowbridge had volunteered to serve in that capacity. Accreditation is a lengthy process, which includes developing a strategic plan for the next three years. The Department has already done a community health assessment and has involved a number of community stakeholders. The strategic planning process will begin in January; Ms. Daniels will keep the Board apprised of the progress; and the final product will be presented to the Board for endorsement.

10. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Ms. Daniels said the only health related legislative item of note so far is a House Bill to expand Senate Bill 1598, which passed in the last legislative session. The legislation deals with noticing the public, timely permitting and code compliance. The Department will be working with the County Attorney's Office concerning this legislation and will keep the Board apprised.

Mr. Elías interjected that the Board of Supervisors recently passed their legislative agenda and there are no specific bills mentioned. The agenda supports positions of equity in funding.

11. COMMUNITY HEALTH ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT AND DISCUSSION RELATED TO LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dr. Horwitz reported the Committee had discussed the need for better communication on issues as they arise and that Ms. Daniels presented a communication plan, which the Committee approved of, for communication on both exigent and routine issues. The plan includes Board members receiving e-mails and the President receiving occasional phone calls. At times talking points will be provided to help the Board effectively respond to questions from members of the community and to ensure the Department and Board are sharing a congruent message.

12. STATUS OF HAND WASHING ORDINANCE TO ADD CHAPTER 8.22 AND SUBSECTION 8.08.50 F. TO PIMA COUNTY CODE

Dr. Brumm, Chair of the Hand Washing Committee, reported that the hand washing ordinance was unanimously rejected by the Board of Supervisors. In response to questions he said his take on the perceptions expressed by the Supervisors ranged from the proposal being too intrusive to the initiative requiring more vetting with impacted businesses.

Discussion included that there needs to be more dialogue with stakeholders such as the Restaurant Association and event organizers. It was suggested that a stakeholder committee be formed and that the stakeholders participate in writing the proposed code. Additionally, there could be a Board of Supervisors' rule prohibiting a defeated item from being reintroduced for a year, which needs to be researched.

13. INTRODUCTION OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT FY 2010/2011 ANNUAL REPORT

Ms. Daniels provided the Board with copies of the Department's 2010/2011 Annual Report for their perusal and anticipated discussion at the January meeting.

14. CALL TO AUDIENCE

Speakers from the audience participated in the discussion on item 6.

15. SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS

Ms. Daniels summarized action items from the meeting. The action items identified were:

- A letter to PCOA for All will be drafted in accordance with the approved motion in item 6.
- Ms. Trowbridge will be the Board representative for the Department's strategic planning committee and staff will be in contact.
- The communication plan was endorsed and will be activated going forward.
- Staff will confer with the County Attorney's Office before reintroducing the hand washing issue to the Board of Supervisors within a year and will consider how to engage stakeholders to support and help write a hand washing ordinance.
- The Annual Report will be on the agenda for discussion in January.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:33 p.m.