

Pima County Board of Health
Minutes
January 26, 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 3:00 p.m.

Mr. Schlueter called the roll as follows:

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

A quorum was established.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. MINUTES ADOPTION – BOARD OF HEALTH

- Adopt Board of Health December 8, 2010 Minutes

The motion was made and seconded (Allen/Fulginiti) that the December 8, 2010 Minutes be adopted as written. The motion carried.

4. COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR HUCKELBERRY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
BUDGET DISCUSSION

County Administrator C. H. Huckelberry provided handouts and reviewed them with the Board. Referring to a chart in his handout, he pointed out that Health Department revenues have gone from approximately \$4.5 million in fiscal year (FY) 2002/03 to \$8.0 million in the proposed FY 2011/12, and the General Fund support has grown from \$6.6 million to \$8.1 million during the same timeframe.

Mr. Huckelberry mentioned the \$1.0 million Health Department FY 2010/11 fund balance reduction and said that fund balances should be about five percent of the budget and the State frequently looks at fund balances as a source of revenue. In order to balance its budget, the State has started charging counties for services the State once covered. The State has charged Pima County \$48.8 million since FY 2008/09. Additionally, State shared revenue to Pima County was just under \$138 million in FY 2006/07 and has dropped to \$108.5 million in FY2010/11. Furthermore, most of Pima County's revenues come from property taxes and County assessed property values have declined at an unprecedented rate and property values generally lag two to three behind the economy. The County maintains a General Fund balance of \$25 million and a Stabilization Funds with \$77 million to ride out the current economic downturn.

Mr. Huckelberry responded to a number of questions and comments from the Board. When asked about the Board's role, he expressed that policy was where he felt the Board could be most useful and pointed out that State mental health and indigent health service cuts will have a major impact that will need to be addressed. In response to concerns about successive cuts to the Department budget he pointed out that the overall County budget has gone down by much greater percentages. Mr. Huckelberry discussed a general hierarchy for County departments, with law enforcement on top, followed by health, then the courts, and ending with Parks and Recreation on the bottom. Mr. Elías interjected that the County administration continually looks at and discusses the budget, and that the County wants to stay as liquid as possible at the highest level to be able to address issues, regardless of department. There was a concern about trying to support the Department with increased fees and Mr. Huckelberry stated that the Health Department will always require General Fund support. Deputy County Administrator Dennis Douglas stated that the Health Department budget is not a full reflection of the County's commitment and investment in community health and cited the psychiatric hospital currently under construction and the upcoming inclusion of a diabetes clinic and family community medicine program in the Abrams Public Health Center as examples of major health initiatives outside the Department.

5. UPDATE ON THE COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO THE RECENT TRAGEDY / MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Health Department Director Sherry Daniels reviewed the mental health response related to the January 8, 2011 Tucson shootings. She began by saying that there has been planning between the Officer of Emergency Management, community partners and the Health Department to help define roles for such an occurrence. A regional critical incident stress team from Northwest Fire Department responded immediately and the Red Cross responded to Congresswoman Giffords' office in Tucson. To address the broader community need, the Community Partner of Southern Arizona (CPSA) bought in community providers to staff help lines, set up support groups and post information. CPSA's efforts are still on-going. There are no figures available yet regarding the response, but an after action report is expected in approximately 60 days.

6. MINUTES ADOPTION – BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Budget Advisory Committee adopts January 14, 2011 Minutes

The motion was made and seconded (Brumm/Gonzales) that the January 14, 2011 Budget Advisory Committee Minutes be adopted as written. The motion carried.

7. REPORT FROM THE BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Dr. Brumm, Chair of the Budget Advisory Committee, addressed the Board on this item and detailed budget packets were provided to the Board. The FY 2011/12 Department budget was reduced 1.5 percent from the FY 2010/11 amount. Dr. Brumm referred to the Department as leaner but functional, but pointed out that there have been no employee raises for three years despite inflation. Ms. Daniels was asked to highlight recent improvements. She stated syphilis cases are down 35 percent from four years ago and the immunization rate for children 24 to 36 months years of age presenting at Department clinics who have received all recommended immunizations has risen from 40 percent to over 70 percent.. Demand for services is generally down, including a 5 percent decline in tuberculosis screenings and a decline in back-to-school immunization clinic participation. Ms. Daniels also reported that Consumer Health and Food Safety food establishment inspections are up to an average of just below 1.5 inspections per establishment per year.

The motion was made and seconded (Allen/Brumm) that the Board endorse the FY 2011/12 Budget as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

8. MEASLES CASE RESPONSE BRIEFING

Ms. Daniels briefed the Board that a young adult with the measles presented at a Tucson emergency department approximately a week and a half ago. The patient was isolated fairly quickly and the hospital staff all had documented immunity. All probable or suspect cases have been ruled out. Incident Command has been activated for a week and a half and staff has made hundreds of phone calls to those potentially exposed at the emergency department. Notifications went out to hospitals, pharmacies, schools, child care centers and physicians.

9. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE RETIREMENT OF HEALTH PROMOTION AND EDUCATION DIVISION MANAGER KAREN MARTIN

Dr. Horwitz read a letter (attached) from him to Ms. Martin commending her for her long distinguished career with the Department. Those present shared a number of complimentary comments regarding Ms. Martin, who expressed her appreciation for the opportunities she had to learn and grow and for the trust given to her.

10. UPDATE ON PRINTING OF BADGES

Ms. Daniels informed the Board that equipment problems have delayed progress on generating identification badges for the Board.

11. ESTABLISHING THE NEXT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING DATE

After open discussion, Dr. Horwitz established the next Board meeting will be held on February 16, 2011.

12. CALL TO AUDIENCE

Ms. Jane Schwerin, President of People for Animals in the Prevention of Cruelty and Neglect and member of the Pima Animal Care Center Advisory Committee, addressed the Board regarding proposed fee changes at the Pima Animal Care Center. She said she was against raising license fees for altered animals and would rather see fees raised for unaltered animals. Dr. Horwitz asked if Ms. Schwerin could come back at the next meeting when those fees will be addressed.

13. DIRECTOR'S SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS

Due to time constraints there was no summation of action items.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.