

Pima County Board of Health Minutes  
December 4, 2019  
Abrams Building, Room 3108  
3950 S. Country Club Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85714

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

Dr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

Attendance was as follows:

Board Members:

Mr. Bin An – Absent

Mr. Richard Elías – Absent

Mr. Rene Gastelum

Mr. Charles Geoffrion, Vice President

Ms. Mary Lou Gonzales – Arrived after roll call

Dr. Paul Horwitz, President

Mr. Mike Humphrey

Dr. Kathryn Kohler

Mr. Miguel Rojas

Dr. Gail Smith – Arrived after roll call

Ms. Carolyn Trowbridge – Arrived after roll call

**A quorum was established (6)**

Non-Board Members:

Dr. Francisco García, Deputy County Administrator, Pima County – Absent

Dr. Bob England, Pima County Health Department Interim Director

Ms. Paula Mandel, Pima County Health Department, Deputy Director – Absent

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mr. Geoffrion led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. **MINUTES ADOPTION**

- Adopted Board of Health & Nominating Committee Minutes October 23, 2019.

The motion was made and seconded (Mr. Rojas / Mr. Gastelum) that the October 23, 2019, minutes be adopted. Motion carried 8-0.

4. **DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**

- Dr. England updated the Board on reorganizational changes that will be made that affects the Senior Leadership by adding two key positions; budget and communications. These key positions fall under the Cross Functional Operations Division.
- Dr. England suggested to the Board that moving the location of the Board of Health meetings downtown might allow for greater attendance from Board of Supervisor, Richard Elías, who is a member of the Board of Health. Making this location change might make attendance more convenient.

- Dr. Horwitz indicated that it will be more difficult for staff to attend for presentations due to transportation downtown. Dr. England stated that staff will make themselves available wherever and whenever meetings are held.
- Dr. Horwitz stated that Supervisor Elias' office is represented by Keith Bagwell, Supervisor Elias' Chief of Staff, and attends most meetings.
- Dr. Kohler inquired how Supervisor Elias' position on the Board is made. Dr. England responded that per Arizona Revised Statute, one member of the Board of Supervisors is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to represent the Board of Supervisors on the Board of Health.
- Mr. Rojas indicated that parking and traffic downtown can be very difficult.
- Dr. Horwitz requested that Mr. Bagwell inquire if Supervisor Elias could participate via teleconference as the Board values his participation.
- Dr. Horwitz will place moving the Board of Health downtown on the January 2020 agenda for discussion.

5. **NEW DIRECTOR POSITION**

- Dr. England updated the Board that after a national search, reviewing 50 applications, conducting 10 individual phone interviews, two second interviews (there were three but one was unable to proceed due to family reasons), the candidate that was offered the position declined. Dr. Bob will contact the candidate who was unable to proceed with the second interview for a determination of status. In the meantime, the process may begin again with a national search. Furthermore, Dr. England and Dr. Horwitz will review the applications received and re-evaluate their qualifications and experience.
- Dr. England will continue as Interim Director through the spring 2020 or until a candidate is selected.

6. **VAPING UPDATE**

- Mr. Geoffrion shared with the Board that the Pima County Health Department released a television ad on vaping which was well produced, informative, and is making a difference.
- Ms. O'Brien shared with the Board that the Real Deal Vaping campaign which began in March 2019, and partners with the School Superintendents Office, is a youth driven campaign that created the storyline to include dialogue for the commercial. The commercial was produced by Cox Media both in English and Spanish and targets parents and youth and brings awareness to vaping and to the services and resources the Health Departments provides. Ms. O'Brien will update the Board with commercial and radio matrix data to include reach and visibility at future Board meetings. Ms. O'Brien will update the Board on current and future legislation at the State level.
- Mr. Geoffrion shared statistics from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that there are 2,290 cases from 49 states reporting lung injuries related to vaping. There have been 47 deaths, zero in Arizona. 68% of cases are male, 77% under 35 years of age, 83% involve the use of Tetrahydrocannabinol (THC). The number of new cases are trending downward so the public awareness is starting to make a difference. The CDC is concerned with the use of Vitamin E acetate being used as a thickening agent and when inhaled may effect normal lung function however a causal agent has not been identified.

- Dr. England shared with the Board to be mindful of epidemiological curves trending down as pathology report findings have found many different characteristics of vaping related lung injuries.
- Mr. Humphry inquired how the Health Department will be involved with the City Council passing the Tobacco 21 initiative. Ms. O'Brien shared that the Health Department has met with city staff and have provided educational resources and recommendations. The Health Department has offered assistance with any City community outreach. At this time, there is nothing formal between the County and City.

7. **PRESENTATION OF GREATER ARIZONA BICYCLE ASSOCIATION AWARD**

- Elaine Mariolle, Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety Program Coordinator, presented the award to Wayne Cullop and Bob Willman with the Greater Arizona Bicycling Association (GABA) for the generous contribution of over 200 hours of expert bicycle repair services provided by the GABA team volunteer mechanics for the Health Department's middle school bike program. Because of GABA's on-going work, the fleet of 145 bikes used in seven to ten middle schools are kept in excellent condition: this keeps kids on bikes and helps the program run smoothly.

8. **PRESENTATION – PARTNERING & COMMUNICATION**

- Dr. England gave a presentation on Partnering and Communication. The Health Department management staff understand the importance of partnering and communication in building and maintaining community partnerships. There are several ways to partner through networking, coordinating, cooperating, collaboration, and letting go.

The best ways to partner are through collaboration and letting go. Examples of collaboration include community organizing and sharing funding streams with community partners. Examples of letting go include returning funding to the source to enhance another campaign and transferring funding to a community partner.

Reasons to not let go are quality, efficiency, access to particular populations, need for absolute safety net, and maintaining capacity. Reasons to let go are quality, efficiency, services provided that can't be done elsewhere, easier access, and freeing up resources to do other stuff.

As public health is not health care there are opportunities for collaboration and letting go leaving more time for disease control, home visitations, working with other agencies, assuring vaccination rather than giving shots, increasing mobile clinics to underserved areas, working on healthcare system changes. In order to successfully accomplish collaboration and letting go, effective communication is required. Understanding the audience while communicating is essential for success i.e. audience world views.

9. **CALL TO AUDIENCE**

- There were no speakers from the audience.

10. **SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS & PROPOSAL OF FUTURE ITEMS**

- Dr. Horwitz reminded the Board to email him with items for the agenda.
- Dr. Horwitz requested that any presentations available be provided to the Board prior to the meetings to review before the meeting.

**11. ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 4:26 P.M.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2019 at 3:00PM