

Pima County Board of Health Budget Subcommittee Meeting Minutes  
May 12, 2022

**Virtual MS Team Meeting**  
3950 S. Country Club Road  
Tucson, Arizona 85714

**1. CALL TO ORDER:**

Mr. Geoffrion called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M.

Attendance was as follows:

Board Members:

Mr. Charles Geoffrion, Chairman

Mr. Mike Humphrey

Ms. Carolyn Trowbridge

Supervisor Matt Heinz, Ex Officio Member - Absent

**A quorum was established (3)**

Non-Board Members:

Dr. Don Gates, Health Department Budget Manager

Mr. David Higuera, Chief of Staff, Pima County Board of Supervisors District 2

**2. Review & Discuss Budgetary Requirements in Support of the Request for a \$6M Increase to the Pima County Health Department Fund**

- Mr. Geoffrion asked Dr. Gates to provide a list of detailed budgetary requirements to justify the request made to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for a \$6M increase to the Pima County Health Department (PCHD) General Fund.
- Mr. Humphrey requested that the list include \$50,000 to \$100,000 to build a programming strategy to address gun violence prevention in the community. Mr. Humphrey can provide data and statistics to support the condition of violence in Pima County and will get that information to Mr. Geoffrion.
- Dr. Gates shared the areas of interest for PCHD expansion needs include, but are not limited to:
  - The development and maintenance of an ethical decision-making and ethics review process for public health;
  - An expansion of health policy support to facilitate the development of organizational and community-based policies to improve community health and remove barriers to healthy choices;
  - The establishment of dedicated liaisons specifically skilled and developed to interact with local municipalities, jurisdictions, and Native American governmental entities to facilitate communication and rapid interaction for public health issues, needs, and objectives;
  - The need to establish an emerging threats response team to develop subject matter expertise and programmatic action on climate-based health risks, including the primary causes of mortality and morbidity;
  - Establishing healthcare-acquired infection monitoring and mitigation to support congregate care sites, long-term care facilities, and other healthcare locations;
  - The development of subject matter expertise for non-communicable diseases with specific areas of focus including cardiovascular disease, diabetes, obesity, and respiratory disease;
  - Improving data development, aggregation, analysis, and presentation in support of non-communicable and communicable disease programming;

- Staffing expansion for the Consumer Health and Food Safety group to meet the FDA standards for numbers of inspections, visits, etc.
- Dr. Gates noted that the funding attributed to these areas of expansion are being reviewed by PCHD senior leadership and he does not have the authorization to release information related to this in a formal document at this time.
- Mr. Higuera shared that at the BOS meeting on May 9, 2022; County Administrator Leshner recommended that, starting with FY24, the BOS open up the entire budget process in December of each year for input, discussion, and deliberation from the BOS regarding their priorities for the General Fund for the following year's budget. This change will greatly facilitate the ability to advocate effectively for more General Fund funding for the Health Department moving forward.

**3. Summation of Action Items and Proposal of Future Agenda Items**

- Mr. Geoffrion will review the information over the weekend and will email Dr. Horwitz to ask him to request that the Board of Health members reach out to their supervisors to educate them about this issue before the BOS meeting on May 17, 2022.

**4. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 P.M.