

1. CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 3:02 pm.

Attendance was as follows:

Mr. An -
Mr. Elías - Absent
Mr. Emich -
Mr. Gastelum -
Mr. Geoffrion -
Ms. Gonzales -
Dr. Horwitz -
Ms. McComb-Berger - Absent
Mr. Rojas -
Dr. Smith -
Ms. Trowbridge -

A quorum was established.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Dr. Smith led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. MINUTES ADOPTION

- Adopt Board of Health February 25, 2015 Minutes

The motion was made and seconded (Mr. Gastelum/Mr. Rojas) that the February 25, 2015 Minutes be adopted as written. The motion carried 8-0.

4. COMMUNICABLE DISEASE UPDATE

Dr. Francisco García, Health Department Director, addressed the Board to give an update on Syphilis. Dr. Garcia informed the Board that the Pima County Health Department sent out an alert on Ocular Syphilis cases. One case of Ocular Syphilis has been reported and confirmed in Pima County. Dr. Garcia stated that the County's strategy was to have the contact information for all the Chief Medical Offices of the large practices, Hospitals, and the FQHC to keep everyone informed of Ocular Syphilis. The confirmed case was discovered through one of the County's FQHC partners who were able to get that individual into care quickly. Dr. Garcia said the current Syphilis rate this year continues to be about one quarter of where we were last year during the same time period. Also there have only been 2 cases of Syphilis among women.

The Department continues to utilize non-traditional outreach and advertising methods to reach the outbreak's target demographics. Dr. Garcia briefly discussed to the Board the synthetic

cannabis issue referred to as “Spice”. He informed the Board of a whole new class of synthetic agents that were being sold legally. There are two types of categories, which are the synthetic adenoids which is marijuana-like substances produce in a chemistry lab and the aynthetic herbal incense made from potpourri. The County is working with local law enforcement about strategies we may use to decrease the usage among the community. Dr. Garcia said that some individuals are experiencing a chronic reaction like high blood pressure, heavy breathing and a drop in blood pressure causing the person to pass out. And it’s mostly men between the ages of 20-30 years old. The side effects are usually over so fast that by the time the emergency personal arrive the individual will come to and leave the scene. There have been no deaths within Pima County but out of the 48 cases, 3 of them have resulted in ICU stays.

5. BOARD OF HEALTH SCHEDULE

Dr. Francisco García, Health Department Director, spoke to the Board about making a decision on how often the Board should meet on a yearly basis. He understands how difficult it may be to come together each fourth Wednesday of every month. Dr. Garcia requested to have the meetings every other month with having the ability to still call the President of the Board to conduct an emergency meeting if needed. The Board discussed their opinions and came to a conclusion to stay with the monthly meeting arrangement. The Board also spoke about the summer schedule and decided to not have a meeting on June 24, 2015 and meet on July 22, 2015.

The motion was made and seconded (Dr. Horwitz/Ms. Trowbridge) to not have a meeting on June 24, 2015 and will meet on July 22, 2015. The motion carried 8-0.

6. BUDGET & BILLING UPDATE

Dr. Francisco García, Health Department Director, introduced Garrett Hancock, Business Operations Division Manager to give an update on the Health Department’s budget and billing. Mr. Hancock spoke about Health Department’s current challenges with the budget for Health and PACC, and goals for the future, better understanding of budget process and terms, and provision and review of monthly budget status by bureau and unit. Mr. Hancock stated that with respect to the current budget difficulties at PACC, the incremental costs of housing a greater number of pets for a longer period of time, such as additional medications, food, sanitation supplies, microchips, and spay/neuter services, were not addressed in the original increase awarded by the BOS in November 2013. These costs began to accrue, and as a result, PACC was projecting to be over budget for FY2014-15 by \$300,000. Fortunately, the Health Bureau is running under budget and has transferred \$300,000 in expenditure authority to PACC this year (FY2014-15) to address the overage.

Additionally, there was discussion about the City of Tucson disputing part of the PACC budget allocated to the City. The issue is the budget costs that impact the City after it is too late for the City to include the additional costs in its budget. That issue is being addressed through County Administration. PACC is also making other changes designed to reduce amount of overtime pay among staff by hiring additional positions, and to decrease the expenses related to surgeries and medicines by hiring an additional supervising veterinarian to absorb a significant amount of the surgery volume, as well as developing a more cost-effective formulary for use at PACC. Mr. Hancock also stated the county is in process to create a plan to start billing our clients for the services that we provide, coinciding with the implementation of electronic health records. If an individual has insurance, our plan is to bill that insurance for services, and for those with no insurance, we will continue to have a sliding fee scale to accommodate low-income clients.

The motion was made and seconded (Dr. Horwitz/Ms. Trowbridge) that the Board endorses the budget as submitted by the staff. The motion carried on unanimously 8-0.

The Board also briefly discussed the Pima Animal Care Center drop off fee, which is to charge a \$70.00 fee to drop an animal off at PACC and \$30.00 fee if that individual calls ahead to drop off. Dr. García stated that individuals who live within city limits are required to pay the drop off fee and anyone outside city limits will not be reasonable for this fee. The County is in discussion with the City of Tucson to renew the IGA that will expire on June 30, 2015.

The motion was made and seconded (Dr. Horwitz/Ms. Trowbridge) that the Board is accepting the PACC Acts recommendation not to move forward with the PACC drop off fee. The motion carried on unanimously 8-0.

7. TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSING

Dr. Francisco García, Health Department Director introduced, Gregory Rivera, Program Manager of Tobacco and Chronic Disease Prevention. Mr. Rivera stated that over the last year and a half the County has been working with the American Lung Association's Southern Arizona Chapter on getting a local Tobacco Retail Licensing Ordinance in place. He discussed three different graphs showing the percentages of; Adults 18 years and older who smoked between 2006-2010 / Youth Grades 8,10, and 12 Indicating Cigarette Use in the Past 30 days between 2006-2012 / and Youth Grades 8,10, and 12 Indicating Cigarette Use in the Their Lifetime between 2006-2012. Mr. Rivera informed the Board that the CDC recommends a three part, evidence-based approach to preventing tobacco use among youth. The first is to increase the unit price of tobacco products. The second is conduct mass-media education campaigns in combination with other community interventions. The third is to mobilize the community to restrict minors access to tobacco products in combination with additional interventions such as, active enforcement of retailer sales laws, retailer education with reinforcement and stronger local laws directed at retailers.

The Health Department is currently working with the Arizona Attorney General's Office to ensure retailers do not sell tobacco products to minors. The County recruits youth volunteers from schools or programs they work with to go out with the Arizona Attorney General's Office to conduct compliance inspections of tobacco retailers around Pima County. The youth attempt to buy tobacco products from tobacco retailers to see if retailers comply with current State tobacco laws. Approximately 21% of inspected tobacco retailers in Pima County have sold to youth in the past 6 months. Rates appear to be steadily increasing annually. Mr. Rivera also shared GIS maps of retailer inspection results by zip and supervisory district that displays data from 2010-2014. Clerks that fail an inspection by way of selling a tobacco product to a minor, can receive a fine up to \$300 and the establishment up to \$1,000. Mr. Rivera stated that this data/information is only regarding cigarettes and not chew or electronic items.

Mr. Rivera stated that the County would like to propose a tobacco retail license ordinance that would require all tobacco retailers in Pima County to obtain a license to sell tobacco/nicotine products at the cost of \$300 per establishment, per year. This would allow the County to identify all tobacco retailers and fund compliance efforts. Key points that were highlighted were; Tobacco establishment cannot be located within 1,000 feet of a school and any current establishments located within 1,000 feet of schools will be grandfathered in. If the license lapsed, it will not be able to be renewed – Licensed tobacco retailers would be progressively penalized

for each failed inspection by way of license suspension; non-licensed retailers would also be progressively penalized by way of monetary penalties; and Pima County Health Department would administer the licensing program and utilize both department personnel along with a team of multi-jurisdictional law enforcement agents to enforce local, state, and federal tobacco laws in relation to tobacco sales to minors.

The motion was made and seconded (Dr. Horwitz/ Ms. Gonzales) that the Board will endorse the County's approach and concept ordinance in principle and direct us to work out the details with our legal counsel. The motion carried on unanimously 8-0.

8. CALL TO AUDIENCE

There were no speakers from the audience.

9. SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Horwitz gave a summary of the agenda items.

Four motions were made:

1. Motion was made to not have a meeting on June 24, 2015 and will meet on July 22, 2015. The motion carried 8-0.
2. Motion was made that the Board endorses the budget as submitted by the staff. The motion carried on unanimously 8-0.
3. Motion was made that the Board is accepting the PACC Acts recommendation not to move forward with the PACC drop off fee. The motion carried on unanimously 8-0.
4. Motion was made that the Board will endorse the County's approach and concept ordinance in principle and direct us to work out the details with our legal counsel. The motion carried on unanimously 8-0.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.