

Pima County Board of Health
Minutes
August 28, 2013
Room 1108, Abrams Building
3950 S. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85714

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Dr. Horwitz called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

Mr. Schlueter called the roll as follows:

Mr. An
Mr. Elías
Mr. Gastelum
Mr. Geoffrion
Ms. Gonzales
Dr. Horwitz
Ms. McComb-Berger - participated on speakerphone
Mr. Rojas - absent
Dr. Smith - participated on speakerphone
Mr. Stopani - absent
Ms. Trowbridge

A quorum was established.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. MINUTES ADOPTION

- Adopt Board of Health May 22, 2013 Minutes

The motion was made and seconded (Horwitz/Gastelum) that the May 22, 2013 Minutes be adopted as written. The motion carried 9-0.

4. INTRODUCTION OF NEW BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBER BIN AN

Dr. Horwitz said the Board appreciated K. C. An's years of service on the Board of Health, and then introduced and welcomed new Board member Bin An, who replaced his father on the Board.

5. PIMA ANIMAL CARE CENTER AND ANIMAL CARE CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE UPDATE

Health Department Director Francisco García began by saying animal issues are frequently seen in the media, and continued by saying that one of our animal care goals is to minimize euthanasia. He said, as a community we need to create a system to minimize unwanted pets.

Dr. García then introduced Pima Animal Care Center Manager Kim Janes who addressed the Board.

The Pima Animal Care Center (PACC) Advisory Committee is a very active body established by Pima County Code. Its purposes include serving in an advisory capacity to the Board of Supervisors and manager of the Pima Animal Care Center. The Advisory Committee has prepared a report for the Board of Supervisors, which Mr. Janes discussed for the Board. In the last fiscal year PCAA has gone from approximately 75 volunteers to over 300. PACC handles over 21,000 animals every year and this is the first year PACC was able to save, rescue, redeem or adopt out, more animals, over 12,400, than were euthanized, approximately 11,000. This is significant; however, approximately 7,000 of the 11,000 could be saved going forward if there are more resources available to rehabilitate these animals. A community alliance called the Pima Alliance for Animal Welfare has been formed to move our community forward on animal welfare issues.

Significant issues include that PACC cannot respond to all calls; of the over 36,000 service calls, staff was only able to respond to 31, 307. Spay and neuter policy and funding are also significant issues. Goals in the report include increasing licensing compliance; increasing the capacity to rehabilitate sick and injured homeless pets; increasing low cost shot clinics; increasing responsible owner education and outreach activities to increase spay/neuter awareness; and increase funding to community low or no cost spay/neuter programs. The Committee recommendations included: the County continue to invite other jurisdictions to participate in spay/neuter funding; the Board of Supervisors support the next PACC bond proposal; and the Board of Supervisors support the Pima Alliance for Animal Welfare.

After Mr. Janes' presentation the Board of Health discussed various aspects of the report. Dr. Smith, who serves on the Advisory Committee, said she is impressed with PACC staff and the increase in volunteers. Additionally, Mr. Elías commended PACC staff for their dignity and professionalism in the handling of a recent suicide of an inmate worker at PACC. Discussion then focused on support for the PACC bond proposal for an entire new animal care facility, which is currently being considered by the Bond Committee.

The motion was made and seconded (McComb-Berger/Smith) that the Board support the Animal Care bond proposal and endorse the Advisory Committee Report recommendations. A letter stating such will be sent to the Board of Supervisors. The motion carried 8-0. Mr. Elías abstained from the vote.

6. OVERVIEW OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT ORAL HEALTH PROGRAM

Dr. García prefaced this item by saying he wants the Board to be able to see what the Department does; and pointed out that the Department's oral health program is in every school district in our jurisdiction. He introduced Division Manager Anne Davis, who then introduced Program Coordinator Margaret Perry, who went over the attached PowerPoint presentation.

Dental decay is the most common chronic childhood disease. The current oral health grants focus on reducing decay and increasing preventative services in low income children. The Arizona School-Based Sealant Program provides education screening, sealant placement referral and case management to second and sixth grade children, with parental consent. The

program is funded by a grant from the Arizona Department of Health Services. This program operates in schools with a 50 percent or greater eligibility in the free and reduced cost school lunch program. In fiscal year 2012-2013 1,265 children received sealants. The First Smiles Matter program is funded by a grant from First Things First and provides screening referral and topical fluoride for children through five years of age. In 2008 national data indicated that the decay rates for children ages two through four was the highest ever. The First Smiles Matter program partners with childcare centers and other venues to find children in the target age group and pregnant women. In fiscal year 2012-2013 3,341 screenings and fluoride applications were provided. The majority of the clients are uninsured or underinsured; however, that is not a requirement to receive services through this grant.

7. PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANNING

Dr. García introduced Program Manager and Strategic Integration Team Lead Louie Valenzuela who addressed the Board on this topic. The Department's Public Health Emergency Preparedness program is funded by the CDC and has been in existence since 2001. At that time Public Health was a new entity at the emergency management table. Originally the program was focused on specific bioterrorism threats, but has since expanded its focus; however, many of the original key concepts from bioterrorism preparedness also apply to other exigent circumstances. Early recognition or surveillance, crisis communications, mass medical countermeasures, and mass casualty management are concepts touched on by Mr. Valenzuela. Program success highlights include a 2002 Tucson Convention Center mass dispensing clinic which could dispense over 1,000 doses of antibiotic within one hour and the 2007 implementation of a mail biohazard detection system. In 2011 the Department's Emergency Preparedness program was recognized as Project Public Health Ready by the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). Another highlight was the 2009 H1N1 response, which included a large vaccination clinic at the then Tucson Electric Park. New program challenges on the horizon include heat and climate change; the need for a health emergency operations center; mass fatality management and internal continuity of operations planning. Continuity of operations is a concept introduced County wide in 2009 and involves maintaining essential services when things go wrong. It can be as simple as how to handle things when the phones go out to more complicated circumstances such as managing the inability to use an entire building. A lot of planning involving external partners has taken place, but more focus needs to be given to Department staff going forward.

8. FORMING OF NOMINATION COMMITTEE FOR BOARD OF HEALTH OFFICERS

Dr. Horwitz discussed that every year a Committee is formed to contact all the Board members to determine who is interested in serving as President and Vice President for the Board; then the Committee reports back to the full Board for officers to be elected. Dr. Horwitz, Ms. Trowbridge and Ms. Gonzales volunteered to serve on the Committee.

9. REMINDER ABOUT CLIMATE SMART SOUTHWEST CONFERENCE

Dr. Horwitz reminded the Board of the about Climate Smart Southwest Conference, which will be on September 20 and 21, 2013. Board members were provided conference particulars in writing.

10. DISCUSSION ON TOUR OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT FACILITIES FOR BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

Dr. Horwitz referred to a previous Board meeting wherein there was discussion on Board members touring Department facilities. Dr. García said this idea is still in the works in addition to the possibility of having a Board meeting at the Theresa Lee Clinic or North Office. One of the aims is to show the Board the type of experiences our clients get.

11. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

Due to time constraints this item will be carried over to the next meeting.

12. CALL TO AUDIENCE

There were no speakers from the audience.

13. SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Horwitz summarized items from the meeting. Action items included:

- The Board passed a motion to support the Animal Care bond proposal and endorse the Advisory Committee Report recommendations. A letter stating such will be sent to the Board of Supervisors.
- The Nominating Committee will need to contact Board members about who is interested in serving as President and Vice President, then meet briefly and report back to the full Board.
- The Health Department will explore options on getting the Board into various Department facilities through tours and/or meetings at other Department venues.
- Item 11 from this agenda, Public Health Implications of the Affordable Care Act, will be carried over to the next meeting.

Texting while driving was brought up as a potential future agenda item, but not for next month's meeting.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.