

Pima County Board of Health Minutes
February 28, 2018
Abrams Building, Room 3108
3950 S. Country Club Road
Tucson, Arizona 85714

Approved

March 28th 2018

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

Mr. Richard Elías

Mr. Matthew T. Emich - Absent

Mr. Rene Gastelum

Mr. Charles Geoffrion

Ms. Mary Lou Gonzales

Dr. Paul Horwitz, President

Mr. Mike Humphrey - Absent

Mr. Miguel Rojas

Dr. Gail Smith

Ms. Carolyn Trowbridge, Vice President

A quorum was established (9)

Non-Board Members:

Dr. Francisco García, Pima County Assistant County Administrator - Absent

Dr. Marcy Flanagan, Pima County Health Department Director - Absent

Ms. Paula Mandel, Pima County Health Department Deputy Director

Presenters:

Mr. Charles Geoffrion, Board of Health Member

Dr. Don Gates, Pima County Business Operations Program Manager

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. MINUTES ADOPTION

- Adopted Board of Health January 24, 2018, minutes.

The motion was made and seconded (Dr. Smith / Ms. Gonzales) that the January 24, 2018, minutes be adopted noting that Ms. Gonzalez has volunteered for the MAMA Program. Motion carried 9-0.

4. BOARD OF HEALTH

- Board Bylaws – Dr. Horwitz reviewed the Board bylaws with the members addressing that the lack of consistent attendance is making quorums hard to obtain as six members are

required, that missing three consecutive meetings can remove members, and the agenda is required to be issued 10 days prior to the next scheduled meeting. Dr. Horwitz will ask the County Attorney's office if the 10-day agenda requirement can be reduced to five days. Dr. Horwitz also mentioned the Open-Meeting Laws, and reminded Board members to not reply to all on emails but rather reply to the sender only.

Dr. Horwitz did not question the members' dedication but would like to encourage more attendance and communication to ensure the meetings are functioning efficiently. If a member feels that serving on this board is not a good fit, let their Board of Supervisor member know and a replacement will be found. Dr. Horwitz understands that everyone's time is valuable and appreciates their time.

5. DIRECTOR'S UPDATE

- Ms. Mandel, shared that Dr. Flanagan is in Washington, DC, to learn about legislation on Public Health and funding. These topics will be shared at the next meeting.

- Influenza Update (H3N2):

Ms. Mandel, gave an update that the Center for Disease Control and Prevention is reporting a decrease in the number of confirmed influenza cases nationwide however, Arizona still reports widespread status. Between February 11 and February 17, 2018, Arizona had 983 lab confirmed cases. Pima County has confirmed 2,716 cases which is decreasing from 266 cases two weeks ago to 51 reported cases to date. The highest percent affected are those of 65+ years old. However, the pediatric population has reported more deaths during the last two years. The Health Department continues to work with media to inform residents to get the influenza vaccine, avoid using the emergency room for influenza and influenza like symptoms, and the importance of good handwashing. The Health Department is building cross-functional teams that will work together to provide education, outreach, investigation and prevention activities throughout the community. Services are provided for all without question of citizenship. Additionally, Ms. Mandel, briefed the Board that the Center for Disease Control and Prevention uses data from the southern hemisphere to create the vaccine formula used in the US, however because the virus adapts and changes as it spreads it is not an exact science.

6. GLOBAL WARMING UPDATE:

- Dr. Horwitz introduced Mr. Geoffrion who presented on global warming and how climate changes can negatively impact the residents of Pima County with floods, fires, poor indoor/outdoor air quality, diseases, and increased fatalities. 2017 was the hottest year in recorded history. According to the U.S. Global Change Research Program, climate change is a significant threat to the health of the American people with heat-related illnesses, cardiopulmonary illness, food, water, and vector-borne diseases, and other stresses. Social and demographic factors also affect residents as more people are located in vulnerable areas, live in more densely populated urban areas, and the impact of poverty raises health risks. The disruption of essential infrastructure such as communications, power delivery, water/sewerage, and transportation are essential to maintaining access to health care and emergency response services. Extreme conditions resulting from climate changes increases these risks especially to the experiencing increased frequency and intensity of drought, wildfires, and flash floods. As a community, it is important to explore more effective methods to combat climate changes associated with global warming that include

identifying better technology (such as, less coal and more solar use) over the next 10-20 years.

7. **2018/2019 BUDGET UPDATE:**

- Dr. Horwitz introduced Dr. Gates, who presented an update regarding current year budget and the proposed budget for the Health Department. This fiscal year 2017/2018, the health fund for the department is budgeted \$15,921,113, expenses incurred to date are \$8,008,295 and projected to finish the year at \$13,661,312 in expenditures. This is a result of expenditure savings in personnel, pharmaceutical supplies, and external services. The health Department is experiencing revenue shortfalls in clinical services while consumer health and vital registration revenue remains on target. Dr. Gates reported the Health Department receives general fund subsidies to offset operational expenditures. The proposed budget for fiscal year 2018/2019 has an increase of \$200,000 in general fund subsidies. This increase in general fund subsidies is due to an increase of IT expenses totaling over \$400,000. The additional \$200,000 provides funding to cover a portion of the IT increase.

- Dr. Horwitz inquired if personnel expenses include retirement plans. Dr. Gates provided information that personnel expenses include all costs of employing an individual.
-
- Dr. Horwitz asked what could be causing the clinical services revenue dip. Dr. Gates indicated this may be due to clients obtaining health insurance and prefer to go to their primary care physician.

- **CALL TO AUDIENCE:**

- There were no speakers from the audience.

- **SUMMATION OF ACTION ITEMS AND PROPOSED AGENDA ITEMS:**

- There was insufficient time for the meeting summation however, Dr. Horwitz reminded the Board members to reply to him with agenda items, requests for presentation and length of time needed, and their ability to attend the meeting.

- **ADJOURNMENT:**

- The meeting adjourned at 4:55 P.M.

