1. CALL TO ORDER:

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

Attendance was as follows:

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

A quorum was established.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

3. MINUTES ADOPTION

- Adopt Board of Health January 25, 2017 Minutes

The motion was made and seconded (Mr. Geoffrion / Mr. Rojas) that the January 25, 2017 Minutes be adopted as written. Motion carried 9-0.

4. DIRECTOR’S UPDATE

Dr. Francisco García, Health Department Director stated the County Vector team is still out setting up mosquito traps and the amount of traps has increased every year just in case of a Zika Virus outbreak the County can be prepared. Dr. Garcia has received a few requests from some citizen neighbor groups that are concerned about the possibility of an inaccurate number of Cancer and Congenital Anomalies cases in the old TCE area. Pima County is researching this information to determine how accurate this information may be. Dr. Garcia stated that Pima County and Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) has a draft report in the works and once it is completed it will be brought to the Board for there review.

The County also has plans to meet with a small group from that TCE area community and there will also be a meeting for the community, which will be called a Teach In, that will allow the community to come in and ask questions. Dr. Garcia informed the Board that the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) initiated, this past month, a program of lead testing for the drinking water in schools in Arizona. The plan is to test 7,000 schools across the state. Dr. Garcia is concerned on how the water is being collected from each school and which water source each location is using. Dr. Garcia has spoken to all the Pima County School Superintendents, school nurses and Tucson Water about this issue and the County is in the process of creating informational material for schools, teachers and parents.

5. GOVERNANCE IN ACTION TRAINING FOR BOARD OF HEALTH MEMBERS

Approved March 22, 2017
Dr. Paul Horwitz, Board of Health President, introduced Board member Charles Geoffrion to address the Board on Governance in Action for Public Health training. Mr. Geoffrion stated he was looking on information to better understand his role as a Board member and he came across this Governance training and felt it would be a great learning opportunity for all the Board members to take. This training is intended to develop Board of Health members to have a shared understanding of their role in public health in order to most effectively draw upon their diverse expertise.

Its goals is to equip new Board of Health members with a basic understanding of public health and provide them with practical suggestions for supporting the work of local public health agencies and their leadership. The course is divided into seven video modules, each about 10-15 minute long. Each module is accompanied by a list of suggested resources for further exploration, optional discussion topics to review with Board of Health officers, and examples of Board of Health in action to demonstrate the six functions of public health governance. Dr. Garcia stated he is in favor of this training and the County would take care of the total cost of the training and provide a location where the Board could gather and take the training in a small group if needed.

A motion was made and seconded (Mr. Rojas / Dr. Smith) that Dr. Garcia would pay/enroll the Board for the Governance in Action Training and provide the Board with the information to take the training. All Board members have to complete the training no later than May 1, 2017. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

6. HEALTH DEPARTMENT BUDGET UPDATE

Dr. Francisco García, Health Department Director, introduced Garrett Hancock, Business Operations Division Manager, who informed the Board of the current status of the Health Department Budget. Mr. Hancock began his budget update by addressing the preceding conversation about water quality, offering to provide a historical account of El Pueblo Clinic’s efforts related to the trichloroethylene contamination, in which he was very involved. He then presented a brief PowerPoint that showed that Health and Health Grants are projected to come in well under budget for this Fiscal Year, and PACC was projected to come in at or very close to budget. Garrett indicated there were some residual impacts both from the employee raises and from the new Consumer Health and Food Safety fee schedule that would continue to impact budget figures for the remainder of the fiscal year. He then presented next year’s (Fiscal Year 17-18) budget, which between Health, Health Grants and PACC, increased $1,176,089 (mostly in the area of Health Grants) to a total of $37,170,237.

A motion was made and seconded (Dr. Smith / Mr. Rojas) to have Health Department staff draft a resolution, which would be reviewed and approved by the Board of Health. The resolution would be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration and approval, which would request that our Federal funding for Title X and other key health programs not be cut in the face of possible defunding of the Affordable Care Act and for the Board of Supervisors to forward on to our Congressional representatives. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

7. ORAL HEALTH UPDATE

Dr. Francisco García, Health Department Director Introduced Margaret Perry, Program Coordinator, and Alicia Thompson, Southern AZ Oral Health Coalition Coordinator, to address the Board on Oral Health. Ms. Perry and Ms. Thompson spoke about how important Oral Health is to overall health and informed the Board of two unexpected tragedies. On February 25, 2007 a young boy died from meningoencephalitis and subdural empyema, which was caused by a lack of timely diagnosis and preventive dental care and lack of access to care. In February 2017, a more recent death, a man only 26
years of age died from the same issue. Tooth decay is a chronic bacterial infection that can be passed on to others by any saliva sharing behavior and is almost 100% preventable. Ms. Perry went over the three grant funded programs, which the Health Department provides to the community. The County was awarded a grant to provide dental sealants in schools from the AZ Department of Health Services (ADHS) in 2004, First Things First grant in 2009, and the Delta Dental Foundation of AZ grant from 2016-2018.

Ms. Perry stated that dental sealants are very effective in preventing tooth decay in permanent molars which the County provides to the community through the ADHS, Arizona School-based Sealant Program. The County goes out to different schools and gives 2nd and 6th grade children dental sealants, which prevent 80% of cavities in the back teeth, where 9 in 10 cavities occur. The research has shown that 60% of children, ages 6-11 years do not get dental sealants and children from low-income families are 20% less likely to get dental sealants than children from higher-income families. The School based Sealant program is one of only two evidence based community strategies to reduce dental decay, community water fluoridation is the other. This program is provided at Amphi, Flowing Wells, Marana, Sunnyside and Tucson Unified School Districts. The number of children screened in 2013-2017 are always consistent between 900 and 1,000. There has been a slight decrease in the number of children who received sealants. This occurred when ADHS changed the criteria for tooth selection based on their decreased AHCCCS reimbursement.

National data shows decay rates in children ages 2-4 was the highest ever. The First Smiles Matter (FSM) program was designed to address this issue. The Pima South Regional Partnership Council funds the First Smiles Matter Grant; after identifying, that unmet oral health needs was a priority in their region. The grant was designed as a collaborative program to reach outlying and underserved areas in Pima County, from Vail to Ajo. The FSM Program provides screening, referral and topical fluoride for children 0-5 years of age and educational information is given to parents and expectant mothers. Of the children that have been screened 46% have pre cavities, 21% have untreated decay, 25% treated decay and 1% are urgent. Pima County has 31% of untreated tooth decay in 3rd grade children according to an ADHS survey conducted in 2015.

The Southern Arizona Oral Health Coalition, made up of concerned individuals and agencies, was revitalized with the Delta Dental Grant of AZ Foundation grant. Monthly meetings are held to address the unmet oral health issues in our communities. The group has been successfully creating a vision and mission statements to have communities free from tooth decay and other oral diseases through collaboration, education and changing policy. Oral diseases, which range from cavities to oral cancer, cause pain and disability for millions of Americans each year, and may even cause death. However many children and adults still go without simple measures, such as fluoridation and sealants, both have been proven to be effective in preventing oral disease and reducing dental care costs.

A motion was made and seconded (Dr. Smith / Ms. Trowbridge) to reach out to Tucson Water regrading fluoridating the water and to have Health Department staff draft a letter to send to the State Legislators urging they support the HB2442 Dental Coverage for Pregnant Women. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

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.
The January 25, 2017 Minutes were adopted as written. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

Three motions were made:

1. Dr. Garcia made a motion to pay/enroll the Board for the Governance in Action Training and provide the Board with the information to take the training and have all Board members complete the training no later than May 1, 2017. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

2. A motion to have Health Department staff draft a resolution was made. The resolution would be reviewed and approved by the Board of Health and eventually forwarded to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration and approval. This resolution would request that our Federal funding for Title X and other key health programs not be cut in the face of possible defunding of the Affordable Care Act and for the Board of Supervisors to forward on to our Congressional representatives. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

3. A motion was made and seconded (Dr. Smith / Ms. Trowbridge) to reach out to Tucson Water regrading fluoridating the water and to have Health Department staff draft a letter to send to the State Legislators urging they support the HB2442 Dental Coverage for Pregnant Women. The motion carried unanimously 9-0.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:05p.m.