



ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION

MEETING OF January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014

MINUTES

The mission of the Public Health Commission shall be to review and assess emerging health needs; initiate and improve health and disease prevention programs and policies; make recommendations regarding opportunities for building community capacity as related to public health priorities; and advocate for adequate resources and increased County action to improve community health.

Attendance Record (P = Present, A=Absent):

Dist.#	Member Name	Term Exp.	01/09/14	03/13/14	05/08/14	07/10/14	09/11/14	11/13/14
1	Aisha Wahab	12/20/13	A					
1	Diana Marroquin	01/12/12	A					
1	Raymond Grimm	09/17/15	P					
1	Joseph T. Smith	11/26/15	A					
2	B. Lokelani Wilson	10/01/14	A					
2	Stella Jane Torrez	10/04/13	A					
2	Ken Russell Coelho	12/04/14	P					
2	Subru Bhat	09/17/15	A					
3	Michael Kent	04/17/14	A					
3	Louie Martinez	10/09/14	A					
3	Jim Meyers	11/05/15	P					
4	Michael Campbell	10/01/14	P					
4	Angela Smith-Romero	07/12/13	P					
4	Gwendolyn McClain	11/26/15	P					
4	Julie Williamson	07/12/13	P					
4	Gloria Crowell	06/30/14	A					
5	Ana Jackson	11/01/13	A					
5	Larry Platt	11/01/13	P					
5	Norma Ward	12/17/15	A					
At-Lrg	Wale Adeniji	11/26/15	P					
At-Lrg	Justin Rausa	11/26/15	P					
At-Lrg	Andrea DuBrow	11/26/15	A					
At-Lrg	Kelvin Chan	11/26/15	P					

Staff:

- Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Alameda County Public Health, Community Health Services, Director
- Carmen Drake, Alameda County Public Health, Office of the Director

Guests:

- Arezo Sayid, Program Coordinator, Afghan Elderly Assoc. & Perinatal Intern, Stafford University
- Nathalie Hughes, Citizen

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes could not be approved as we did not have a quorum.

## COMMISSIONERS UPDATES

Commissioner Meyer has been sworn in, and is now official. All of the folks we have recommended for appointment have been appointed. Carmen is waiting for official documentation to be sent from the Board of Supervisors before sending welcome letters and meeting information to the new commissioners. We have spots already open in Districts 3 and 5, and a spot opening up in District 2. These are positions to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors. However, we can make a recommendation, if we have one. Send your recommendation to Commissioner Williamson.

## 6 MONTH VS. 12 MONTH MEETING SCHEDULE

A survey was disseminated to commissioners to get their feedback on whether to stick with the current 6 meeting per year schedule (with every other month being a steering committee meeting), or go back to meeting every month. Those in favor of the 6 month schedule thought it would increase the likelihood that commissioners will be active, and provides more time for subcommittee meetings. Those in favor of meeting every month thought it would provide more opportunity to address items, rather than put them in the parking lot, ensure meetings are more representative of all districts, rather than just certain ones, and would increase the influence of the commission, and their voting power. A 12 month schedule is quite a bit for those who sit on committees. But, on off months the steering committee meetings are held, and quite a few people attend those anyway. But, no decisions can be made at those meetings because the whole group isn't there. So, items have to be 'shelved' and then brought up at a future meeting, if there is time. Commissioners would like to get a sense of the historical perspective on this from Commissioner Jackson. The vote on this will have to be postponed until we have a quorum.

## PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Director of Community Health Services, Alameda County Public Health Department, attended on behalf of Dr. Davis. She shared that the Accreditation Coordinator, Dani Taylor, has ended her time with the department (she is a retiree and, by law, can only work a set number of hours). No replacement has been identified yet. A new position is being established, which takes some time. The hope is to have someone in place before the next commission meeting. Aspects of the accreditation process include the Community Health Assessment, a Workforce Development Plan, Quality Improvement Plan, and Community Health Improvement Plan. The Community Health Assessment process is being laid out. A review has been completed of the many city and county assessments done in the last 5 years. That data has been analyzed to determine where gaps exist (areas that weren't looked at all, weren't looked at deeply enough, populations that weren't engaged fully, etc). Competencies have been developed as a first step for the Workforce Development Plan. Those competencies are being reviewed internally, and will need to go through the Meet and Confer process with the unions, as they will eventually be embedded into job descriptions. Some staff has already been trained in quality improvement. Staff will also be trained in the competencies. A letter will be sent to the Chair of the Commission inviting one commissioner to participate on the Public Health Advisory Committee. A few commissioners are interested in serving on the advisory committee. A process will need to be developed to determine who will be selected. There will be other opportunities to assist (e.g. the Community Health Improvement Plan).

A Chronic Disease Prevention Plan is being developed for Alameda County. We've never had one before. That plan will be a very large component of the Community Health Improvement Plan. Commissioner Grimm expressed concern that the plan does not seem to address the needs of senior adults. The Steering Committee (of which Stephen Sidney was a member) made the decision that they wanted the plan to be about primary prevention. That decision means there is a certain group of people they will focus on, mostly. The plan focuses on premature death (age 65 and under), and before people actually get the disease. The group also decided they wanted the focus to be on early disease management. However, the Community Health Improvement Plan will be a comprehensive plan that will have to address the whole range of things.

Interviews for the Deputy Director have concluded. No selection has been made yet. We don't have a timeframe for the start of the new deputy. However, Dr. Davis is filling the position with a sense of urgency.

## POSSIBLE SENIOR HEALTH COMMITTEE

At the last two meetings there has been discussion of possibly starting a Senior Health subcommittee. Community member Nathalie Hughes wrote a proposal to begin the subcommittee, and volunteered to act as the chairperson. Because this item was not on the agenda, no discussion or vote could take place. Commissioners requested this item be put on the next agenda for discussion and possible vote.

## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Oral Health – The Board of Supervisors commissioned a study on the impact of sugar-sweetened beverages on Alameda County's health and economy. A contract is now in process. And today was a focus of the Oral Health Subcommittee members. The report should be complete by the end of January (or February). Hopefully the report will provide grounds for further action, in terms of helping to implement policy recommendations. The committee will review the recommendations and determine which ones they want to get involved in helping to carry out. Commissioner Platt assisted the Public Health Department with interviews for a candidate that would help support the subcommittee. Not sure what decision was made on who will be hired.

Hypertension – Commissioner Coehlo will meet with Stephen Sidney to get an update on meetings with Contra Costa Medical Association, and lots of other new things happening.

Nominating Committee – Stella Torrez has resigned from the committee, Louie Martirez doesn't attend the meetings, and lots of other things are happening. So, Commissioner Williamson will look at where we are, talk with her co-chairs, look at the list of applicants developed during the recent recruitment process, determine if folks are still interested, and make a recommendation to the commission. If you have any recommendations, please let Julie know. The committee should confirm the status of openings with Carmen before making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors.

Youth – Trying to schedule a meeting in February or March with Mario Balcita, the coordinator for youth work with the Hope Collaborative and East Oakland Building Healthy Communities, who will help the commissioners better understand how to select youth for the committee. Strategizing about the possibility of using the newly opened seat in District 2 (Stella Torrez resigned) to appoint a young person to the commission, using a targeted recruitment in the Hayward Unified School District, the REACH Ashland Youth Center, and Youth Uprising. Need to confirm whether we are legally able to appoint youth before doing any recruitment. The youth commission needs to be developed first. The young person appointed would act as a liaison between the two commissions.

Maternal & Child Health – No update.

Tobacco – Agreed to support a petition related to the TransPacific Partnership free trade act being negotiated right now. We did sign it. It went forward. But, the United States really hasn't budged in opposing Malaysia's exclusion of tobacco from protections of the act. Today, the TransPacific Partnership bill was introduced in congress, and it does not include the Malaysian provision of excluding tobacco from protections. So, that's something we may want to follow up on. Our letter was referenced in a press release sent out by Ellen Shaffer, Co-Director, Center for Policy Analysis.

Health In All Policies – Commissioner Platt suggested Supervisor Carson's annual meeting of all District 5 commissions might be a good avenue through which to organize something. He can introduce the idea, if the committee gives him something to say. He can also pass out Commissioner Williamson's business card, and ask those interested in joining the subcommittee to give her a call. The annual meeting is January 30<sup>th</sup>. Supervisor Carson is very supportive of using a health lens to make decisions in other policy areas. The Place Matters Initiative is his project, essentially. The first step of this committee will be to adopt a resolution, and to get the Supervisors to adopt a health in all policies resolution.

All commissioners are welcome to join the subcommittees above. We do ask that you join at least one.

## COMMISSIONER ORIENTATION

Maybe in March we can do a new commissioner orientation? We had one in February of last year. Commissioner Campbell saved everything from the last one. At the December meeting, it was suggested the orientation could take place on February 13<sup>th</sup>, in place of the Steering Committee. No one has been identified to spearhead this effort. Commissioner Campbell will talk to Carmen about helping to coordinate this. Commissioner Grimm suggested we could do another bus tour as well, some time down the road, since we have a lot of new commissioners.

## VETERANS HEALTH

Commissioner Meyers spent 24 years in the Air Force, a lot of that working Veterans Administration Department of Defense issues. He was disturbed to see a report published last September about the lack of adequate services, including timely health care benefits and pension payments. If this is something the Commission would be concerned about, he would like to encourage the commissioners to read the report. And, he will keep an eye out over the next several meetings and bring things to the Commission to see if they would be interested in taking a closer look at them. He believes there are holes that these veterans fall through that are part of the commission discussions. But, he isn't sure what his role as a commissioner would be. If you have any input on how we've discussed services around veterans in the past, please let him know. Kimi made a recommendation that Commissioner Meyers share this with Dr. Davis as a possibility, in terms of a vulnerable population that is usually left out, so a more focused looked at the health of veterans can be included in the process for the Community Health Assessment and the Community Health Improvement Plan.

## COMMISSION WEBSITE

Commissioner Rausa would like to get the log in ID and password for the Commission WordPress site so he can assist with keeping the information on the site updated. Commissioner Campbell will ask Carmen to share that information with Commissioner Rausa.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

A week from Saturday a memorial services will be held for Dr. Frank Staggers at 11am at Cathedral of Christ the Light. Come early because it will be crowded.

### UPCOMING MEETINGS:

**Steering Committee**  
**March 13th, 2014**  
**6:00pm to 8:00pm**  
**Trustee Conference Room**  
**San Leandro Public Library**  
**300 Estudillo Avenue**

Respectfully submitted by: Carmen Drake

If you would like to RSVP for the next meeting, please do so at [phcommission@gmail.com](mailto:phcommission@gmail.com).

Please visit the Public Health Commission blog at <http://acphc.wordpress.com/> for information on how to become a member, bylaws, meeting schedule, and more.