

ALAMEDA COUNTY LEAD POISONING PREVENTION PROGRAM

**JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
MEETING MINUTES**

August 24, 2006

Attendance:

Voting Directors: Ken Bukowski, Henry Chang, Jr., Beverly Johnson, Betty Olds

Non-Voting Directors: Gwen Hardy, Alice Lai-Bitker

Alternates: Ruben Briones, Nancy Templeton, Lyn Dailey

Staff: Mark Allen, Maricela Narvaez-Foster

Others: None

The meeting was called to order at 9:45 a.m.

1) **Open Forum**

No public comment.

2) **CSA Fee Increase Update**

Mr. Allen reported that the Program's Ad Hoc Committee, convened by Supervisor Lai-Bitker and including JPA Board members Bukowski and Johnson, would be meeting with the consultants immediately following the JPA Board of Directors' meeting. Mr. Allen said he and Ms. Foster had a productive meeting with the representatives of Tramutola and Evans/McDonough in preparation for their first meeting with the Ad Hoc Committee, and they would be presenting a draft of the polling survey questions for discussion and review.

2) **Director's Report**

Mr. Allen responded to the Board's request for more information on the case of a lead poisoned child who was case managed by the Program with the assistance of Director Chang's office. The suspected source of the poisoning is the Chinese herbal remedy, Pak-Cheong Tong's Hou-Cho Powder. The lead content of the powder was 19 ppm, which is quite high, as the reporting limit is three ppm. At the suggestion of the Program's Public Health Nurse, the family discontinued the use of the powder and the child's blood lead level has dropped steadily. The powder is an already known source of lead and is listed in the California Department of Health Services' Compendium of Asian Patent Medicines; consequently, there was no need to report it to the state as a new source.

Mr. Chang said if the program can provide him with a list of Chinese remedies with lead in them he would share it with the Chinese Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Foster said she would provide him with a copy and would share it with Asian Health Services as well. Mr. Chang asked if a similar listing existed for traditional medicines from Latin America. Ms. Foster said the Program has such a listing, but it is much less comprehensive.

Mr. Allen reported the Program has rebounded well from its July problem in which only four In-Home Consultations (IHCs) were completed. Eighteen IHCs were completed in August with one week left in the month and additional site visits pending. On July 1, 2006, the beginning of the new fiscal year, it was estimated that 20.8 IHCs

would have to be completed each month to meet the annual objective. Now that figure is 22.4 IHCs per month. The August results indicate that these objectives may be within reach.

Ms. Foster reported to the JPA Board on the recent agreement with the Oakland Housing Authority (OHA), finalized August 15, to contract with the Program for the provision of Healthy Homes' visual assessments, basic environmental treatment, and in-home education for tenants of Oakland Housing Authority properties. Ms. Foster said the OHA fee for service contract is a direct outgrowth of the successful collaboration with the OHA during the successful implementation of the Program's HUD Healthy Homes Demonstration Grant.

Mr. Allen said he believed this Healthy Homes collaboration was unique in the country, and had prompted the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to invite the Program's Environmental Services Manager, Dennis Jordan, to present the Program's experience at its December 2006 Healthy Homes Conference in Atlanta. The CDC is paying the cost of travel for Mr. Jordan. Ms. Johnson asked whether the OHA's initiative extended to privately-owned Section 8 properties and Mr. Allen said no, just to OHA owned units.

Mr. Allen asked Mr. Briones from Supervisor Alice Lai-Bitker's office to report on the press conference called by Supervisor Lai-Bitker and scheduled for the next day. Mr. Briones circulated a copy of the press release announcing the press conference in support of Assembly Bill 1953 at the Yuk Yau Child Development Center in Oakland, at 1 p.m., on Friday August 25. He repeated the Supervisor's invitation to the JPA Board of Directors to join her; Assemblywoman Wilma Chan, author of the bill; William B. Patterson, Board President of the East Bay Municipal Utility District; and others, in support of the legislation that would reduce the allowable lead content in water pipes and plumbing fixtures.

3) **Approval of Minutes**

Action: The Board approved the minutes for June 22, 2006 and July 20, 2006.

Moved: Mr. Chang **Seconded:** Ms. Olds **Ayes:** 4

4) **Program Operations Committee**

a) **Minutes (August 10, 2006)**

b) **Health and Housing Services Report**

Mr. Allen reviewed the Health and Housing Services Report. There were no questions regarding this report.

5) **Administration and Finance Committee**

a) **Minutes (August 10, 2006)**

6) **Announcements by Board Members**

Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

PROGRAM OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2006

Attendance:

Voting Directors: Ken Bukowski, Henry Chang, Jr., Betty Olds

Non-Voting Directors: Gwen Hardy

Alternates: Rubén Briones

Staff: Mark Allen, Paul da Silva

Others: None

Absent: Beverly Johnson

1) **Open Forum**

No public comment.

2) **CSA Fee Increase Update**

Mr. Allen reported on the Ad Hoc Committee meeting held earlier that morning to review the proposed telephone survey to elicit voters' opinions about raising the County Service Area fee. He said if the Committee had additional comments regarding the survey, he would forward them. And he would also forward the draft survey to County Counsel for review. Mr. Allen said the consultants felt confident that if they received the final comments by September 20th, they would be able to meet the original timeline and report on the results of the poll/survey on October 12th.

3) **Director's Report**

Mr. Allen informed the JPA Board that Assistant County Counsel Brian Washington would be attending the September 28, 2006 General Board meeting to participate in the discussion on the relative roles and responsibilities of the JPA and the County.

Mr. Allen said East Bay MUD's representative, Trina Horner, requested a letter of support for Assembly Bill 1953, reducing lead in plumbing. He drafted a letter urging the Governor sign AB 1953, which the Board reviewed and Mr. Bukowski signed it as chair.

4) **JPA Board Meeting Minutes**

Mr. da Silva to lead the discussion on a new format for the minutes. He circulated several different formats for recording minutes, suggesting that a summary version similar to the formats used by the City of Alameda and the Alameda County Planning Department could be utilized for less involved meetings and also placed on the website. He said for more complex meetings or discussions a lengthier version could be transcribed, with only a summary uploaded onto the website. The JPA Board agreed.

5) **Health and Housing Services Report**

Mr. Allen and the JPA Board Members reviewed the Health and Housing Services Report. There were no questions regarding these reports.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

September 14, 2006

Attendance:

Voting Directors: Ken Bukowski, Henry Chang, Jr., Betty Olds

Non-Voting Directors: Gwen Hardy

Alternates: Rubén Briones

Staff: Mark Allen, Paul da Silva

Others: None

Absent: Beverly Johnson

1) **Open Forum**

No public comment.

2) **Director's Report**

Mr. Allen asked Mr. da Silva to give a presentation on a recent news development regarding lead poisoning in China. Mr. da Silva said that Leadnet.com, a network of agencies, non-profits and advocates, carried a notice to all subscribers informing them of an incident involving a smelter in the Gansu province in China. He said the smelter had lead poisoned 879 residents of that region, with the youngest victim being five months old. He said this incident was reported in MSNBC.com, Yahoo news, The Australian, The China View & Asian News. Mr. da Silva circulated articles from some of these publications to the Board members. He provided Councilmember Chang, who will soon be traveling to China, with a packet of these news articles.

Meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.