

Sonia E. Melara, M.S.W.
President

Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Vice President

Cecilia Chung
Commissioner

David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner

Belle Taylor-McGhee
Commissioner

**HEALTH COMMISSION
CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN
FRANCISCO**

**Edwin M. Lee, Mayor
Department of Public Health**



Barbara A. Garcia, M.P.A.
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MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, May 7, 2013, 4:00 p.m.

101 Grove Street, Room 300 or Room 302

San Francisco, CA 94102

1) CALL TO ORDER

Present: Commissioner Sonia E. Melara, MSW, President
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D.
Commissioner Cecilia Chung
Commissioner David J. Sanchez Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner Belle Taylor-McGhee

The meeting was called to order at 4:01pm.

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF APRIL 23, 2013.

Action Taken: The minutes of the April 23, 2013 Health Commission meeting were unanimously approved.

3) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Barbara Garcia, Director of Health, gave the report. The full report can be viewed at:
<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp>

New Director of Human Resources

Please join me in welcoming Ron Weigelt as the new Director of Human Resources. Ron comes to us from Seattle King County Public Health Department where he served as the Director of Human Resources for the past 10 years. Ron brings many essential skills, innovations and experiences to his new position. As a positive change agent, he participated as a subject matter expert in Seattle King County's transition to PeopleSoft in 2012, and introduced new processes for human resources that improved customer service and was equally popular among staff. A certified Senior Human Resources Professional since 2003, he also has extensive experience as a labor negotiator. We look forward to having Ron help us as we move toward integration, certification and the many exciting challenges that lay ahead for our department.

Restaurant Worker Diagnosed with Typhoid Fever

On Friday, May 3, Communicable Disease Control issued a health advisory and a media alert that a restaurant handler who worked at the Nordstrom Café in Stonestown Galleria was diagnosed with typhoid fever. We believe the infectious disease was acquired by the individual during a trip outside of the United States. In addition to informing the clinical community and the media, the Department also worked closely with

Nordstrom to ensure the health and safety of their staff and the public. I am pleased with the coordination of this incident both within the Department and also with the many outside agencies and individuals that required notification and follow up. A copy of the press release is posted on the Department's website.

Avian Influenza A: H7N9 Health Advisory Updated

On May 1, based on updated guidance from CDC and CDPH, SFDPH Disease Prevention & Control updated its Influenza A:H7N9 Health Advisory for San Francisco Clinicians regarding treatment, infection control, case definition and laboratory testing. The Health Alerts/Advisories page is at <http://www.sfdcp.org/healthalerts.html>. Cases continue to be reported in multiple provinces in China and one human case was detected in a person from Taiwan who had traveled to China. There is currently no evidence of sustained human-to-human transmission and no cases have been reported in the USA. This is an evolving situation which we are closely monitoring, and will provide additional updates to clinicians and the public periodically as information changes. A document containing FAQ for the public about Avian Influenza A:H7N9 was developed jointly by the Community Health Promotion, Disease Prevention and Control and Public Health Emergency and Preparedness Branches. It is currently available in English at <http://www.sfdcp.org> and will shortly be available in Spanish and Chinese. It has been a busy couple of weeks for communicable disease control

MHSA Innovations: 12N Project Begins Rolling Out

Chapter 12N of the San Francisco Administrative Code requires all City departments to provide lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender sensitivity and anti-stigma training to all staff who have direct contact with youth, or whose work directly affects youth. The 12N ordinance specifies that the training must include issues faced by: LGBT youth with disabilities, LGBT youth with mental health issues, LGBT youth with HIV, Immigrant LGBT youth, LGBT youth of color, sexually abused LGBT youth, runaway and homeless LGBT, and LGBT youth from non-accepting households. The 12N work committee worked diligently to develop a youth-inspired training video on LGBTQ sensitivity issues, supporting documents, and pre/post evaluation. The City and County of San Francisco is committed to its LGBTQ youth community, and mandates that the City's service providers engage youth in a manner that fosters respect and dignity, self empowerment, a safe space, cultural sensitivity and competency, compassion, acceptance, and tolerance.

The video has begun rolling out in a series of workshop-oriented screenings. The next screenings are scheduled for Friday, May 24th and Friday, June 21st, 1-3 p.m. at 25 Van Ness, Room 610. If the Commissioners would like to attend any of the upcoming workshops, please contact Norman.Aleman@sfdph.org, or 255-3553, in the office of Health Equity, Cultural Competency and Workforce Development.

2013 National Transgender Health Summit, May 17-18th in Oakland

The Center of Excellence for Transgender Health and the World Professional Association for Transgender Health invite health care providers, health and human service professionals, mental health professionals, health administrators, researchers, students and advocates to attend the [2013 National Transgender Health Summit](#) on May 17-18th in Oakland, CA. Programming includes plenary sessions by world-renowned experts in the field of transgender health care, training tracks for medical and mental health care providers interested in building their skills for working with transgender patients and clients, a research track for the dissemination of cutting edge developments in the field of transgender health, and a transgender health policy institute. Full program information is available online at <http://transhealth.ucsf.edu/summit>. CME and CEU course credit is available.

DPH Awarded Four University Community Partnership Grants

We have been informed by the University of California that the University Community Partnerships (UCP) Council has awarded UCP Partnership Grants to four Department of Public Health programs. The awardees represent a broad range of partnership projects that serve diverse communities throughout San Francisco,

involve most schools at UCSF, and include a mix of students/learners, faculty and staff members. Congratulations to all of the programs who will be recipients of these \$2500 grants.

1. *Painting Healthier Smiles*, Child Care Health Project and Child Health & Disability Prevention Program
2. *Cribs for Kids*, Maternal Child Adolescent Health, Public Health Nursing
3. *Healthy Transitions for Older Adults Pilot Project*, Jail Health Services
4. *Patient Voices in Wellness Promotion*, San Francisco General Hospital's Community Wellness Program

More information on the grants program is available at <http://partnerships.ucsf.edu/partnership-grants>.

Whistleblower Program

This is a reminder that the City's Controller's Office operates a Whistleblower Program, open to all members of the public as well as any City employee. The Whistleblower Program is an important option in that it allows anyone, whether anonymously or self-identified, to report suspected cases of abuse, waste, fraud or other activities that may be unethical or illegal. Details about how to contact the program appear in the footer of all Director Reports and I have directed staff to make it a permanent link on the DPHnet *Fast Facts* page. The Department fully supports the Whistleblower Program and staff who use it to report issues they want to bring to the attention of the Controller's Office.

SFGH to Screen *The Waiting Room* Documentary

The acclaimed documentary *The Waiting Room*, which follows the stories of several patients and providers in the emergency room at Oakland's Highland Hospital, will be screened at SFGH on May 15, at 5 p.m., in Carr Auditorum. The event is sponsored by the hospital's Community Wellness Program. The film will be shown again on June 1 at the Bayview Opera House, followed by a panel discussion featuring Supervisor Malia Cohen and SFGH trauma surgeon Dr. Andre Campbell. We invite the Commissioners, staff and members of the public to attend one of the special screening events. We appreciate the efforts on behalf of the Community Wellness Program to make this documentary available to us.

SHARP Interns Arrive

The Center for Learning and Innovation (CLI) within the Population Health Division, has accepted six undergraduate scholars into the Summer HIV/AIDS Research Program (SHARP), an internship program designed to encourage underrepresented students to pursue careers in HIV-related research. On behalf of the entire Department, we welcome Ali Zahir, Aminta Kouyate, Erikan Obotetukudo, Lexi Adsit, Nathan Kim, and Nneka Okeke. The program runs from June 3rd through August 23rd. Please save the date for the SHARP Symposium on Friday, August 16th, noon - 3:30 p.m., where the scholars will present on their research projects. For more information about SHARP, go to www.sharpinternship.org.

Tomas Aragon, DPH Health Officer, gave a brief update of the recent Typhoid Fever case. The case involved a food worker who contracted salmonella while on a trip outside of the United States. DPH food inspectors have since inspected the food facility and found that no other restaurant workers were ill.

Dr. Aragon also gave an update on A:H7N9 influenza. This bird flu is very rarely transmitted to humans; however when it is transmitted, it may be fatal. He stated that there have been cases of transmission to humans in China. Dr. Aragon added that the concern is that human to human transmissions could result in an influenza epidemic.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow commended the DPH for its timely and effective health notices to the provider communities. He suggested that the DPH may consider adding email distribution in addition to faxes. Dr. Aragon stated that the DPH is working with the San Francisco Medical Society to distribute notices via email.

Director Garcia stated that the DPH may also utilize communication with its contractors on these types of health-related issues when necessary.

4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no general public comment.

5) FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Commissioner Chow chaired the meeting and stated that the Committee recommended that the full Health Commission approve the May Contracts Report, the request for the new contract with Evoked Potential Associates, and the request for site approval for relocation of the Bayview Hunters Point Health and Environmental Resource Center. He also stated that the Committee held a public hearing on the Laguna Honda Hospital (LHH) paratransit services; there were no other providers present who stated that they had interest in operating the LHH paratransit services.

6) CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items were unanimously approved:

- MAY 2013 CONTRACTS REPORT
- REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW CONTRACT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,200,000 WITH EVOKED POTENTIAL ASSOCIATES LLC, AN AFFILIATE OF SPECIALTYCARE, INC TO PROVIDE INTRAOPERATIVE NEUROMONITORING SERVICES FOR SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL FOR THE TERM OF MAY 1, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 30, 2015 (24 MONTHS).
- REQUEST FOR SITE APPROVAL FOR RELOCATION OF THE BAYVIEW HUNTERS POINT HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCE CENTER (HERC)

**7) PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE SAN FRANCISCO HEALTH CODE
ARTICLE 22A (MAHER ORDINANCE)**

Kelly Prezter, Deputy Director, Legislative and Government Affairs for the Office of the Mayor, and Stephanie Cushing, Principal Environmental Health Inspector, gave the presentation on the proposed amendments which expand the boundaries and types of projects for which soil and groundwater testing is required.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow asked if there is a size requirement that activates the DPH to assess a site. Ms. Cushing stated that when at least 50 cubic yards of soil are moved or if a building permit is needed then the DPH will assess the site unless there is a waiver filed for the property.

Commissioner Sanchez asked if there is surveillance of the underground creeks running through San Francisco. Ms. Cushing stated that there are seven water basins in San Francisco that the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission monitors. Ms. Prezter stated that the proposed amendments relate to areas that are known to have possible environmental issues.

8) DPH BUDGET FY 2013-2014 and FY2014-2015

Greg Wagner, Chief Financial Officer, gave the presentation on the final proposed DPH Budget. He stated that based on the Health Commission requests at the April 23, 2013 meeting, several programs that provide a specific service in which there is no other capacity in the service system, have been removed from the budget reduction list. The total amount of these contracts is \$334,066.

Director Garcia stated that there is an additional contract to be restored: Dolores Street Community Services Supportive Services at Casa Quezada contract for \$81,356. Mr. Wagner stated that with the addition of this contract, the amount taken out of the proposed reductions is approximately \$415,000.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Melara asked for clarification on the formula used to determine which contracts were removed from the reduction list. Director Garcia stated that criteria included: if the contract was under \$500,000, the type of service provided, and/or whether the DPH was the sole funder.

Commissioner Taylor-McGhee asked for an update on discussions with the Mayor's Office regarding structural issues in the budget. Mr. Wagner stated that the Mayor's Office has worked closely with the DPH. The current City 5-year budget plan includes the DPH deficit in the overall City General Fund deficit. Mr. Wagner stated that the total size of the current DPH structural deficit is almost \$50 million.

Public Comment:

Michael Siever, San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF), stated that he is not in support of the proposed cuts to the Stonewall program because they will be detrimental to the program which has helped many gay and bisexual men in San Francisco. He added that alcohol and substance use is a cause of current HIV transmission rates in San Francisco.

Ken Campbell, previous SFAF Stonewall client, stated that he is not in support of the proposed cuts to the Stonewall program. He stated that program helped him stop using substances and enabled him to now be in school to be a drug and alcohol counselor.

Adam Carrico, UCSF Assistant Professor, stated that he is not in support of the proposed cuts to the Stonewall program. He has been collaborating with the Stonewall Project for two years. Data show that the program's clients have increases in undetectable HIV viral loads and lower use of substances in addition to lower sexual risk taking.

AJA Monet, stated that he is not in support of the proposed cuts to the Stonewall program . He was a client of the program and is now a contributing member of society and will soon be going back to work; he attributes his growth to the program.

Eve Meyer, San Francisco Suicide Prevention, thanked the Health Commissioners for removing San Francisco Suicide Prevention from the list of contracts to be reduced. She urged the Commissioners to pass the budget under protest that other organizations must have their contracts reduced.

Courtney Mulbery Pearson, SFAF, stated that she is not in support of the proposed cuts to the Stonewall program. She stated that people who are in treatment adhere better to HIV medication regimes. She added that SFAF is hoping to find ways to get reimbursement for Stonewall services when the American Care Act is enacted in 2014.

Deena Lahn, San Francisco Community Clinic Consortium (SFCCC), stated that she is not in support of the proposed budget because reductions in SFCCC contracts will result in a reduction of clinic services to special needs populations such as lesbian, transgender, Latino, and women with children.

Bob Bennet , Family Service Agency, stated that not giving community based organization contractors a cost of living increase and reducing their contract budgets each year will decimate the service system. He added that the amount of cuts for all the community based organizations is equal to the cost of living increase for UCSF physicians.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:

Commissioner Chow stated that work force reforms are necessary to address future DPH budget issues. He stated that the Affordable Care Act (ACA) requires enhanced care to a larger population but does not include funding to cover all the required services and added that community based organizations are a vital part of the

San Francisco services system. He also stated that proposed budget maximizes DPH funding in an attempt to get the receive the highest level of reimbursement. He added that it is an uncomfortable balance and that he is hoping that larger agencies will continue to work with the DPH to minimize the impact of the budget reductions.

Commissioner Sanchez thanked the DPH and its partners for the ongoing work to find solutions to structure issues in the budget and to insure continued high quality of care delivered to San Franciscans in need. He added that it is good news that the Mayor's Office has made strides to work with the DPH to address structure budget issues.

Commissioner Melara stated that the Health Commission has been given the task of approving a budget reflecting responsible planning decisions to pass on to the Mayor's Office. She agreed with Commissioner Chow that it is an uncomfortable balance of making budget reductions in an effort to maximize future revenue. She encouraged those in attendance who made public comment to visit the Board of Supervisor's budget hearings to make a plea on behalf of their programs and services to specific populations. She added that the bulk of problems in the DPH budget are structural issues related to City work-force agreements.

Action Taken: The DPH Budget FY 2013-2014/ FY 2014-2015 was unanimously approved.

9) **OTHER BUSINESS**

JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS

COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING

Commissioner Melara stated that the June 4, 2013 full Health Commission meeting will be cancelled due to quorum issues. She asked Mr. Morewitz to contact all the Health Commissioners to determine whether there will be quorum for the July 2, 2013 full Health Commission meeting.

10) **CLOSED SESSION**

- A) Public comments on all matters pertaining to the closed session
- B) Vote on whether to hold a closed session (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.11)
- C) Closed session pursuant to Evidence Code Sections 1157(a) and (b); 1157.7; Health and Safety Code Section 1461; and California Constitution, Article I, Section 1

Personnel Evaluation: Mark Morewitz, Health Commission Executive Secretary

- D) Reconvene in Open Session

Action Taken: The Health Commission voted not to disclose discussion of the items in Closed Session.

11) **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:14pm.