

**MINUTES
OF THE
HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING**

**Tuesday, June 3, 1997
3:00 p.m.**

**at
101 Grove Street, Room #300
San Francisco, CA 94102**

1) CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Health Commission was called to order by President Edward A. Chow, M.D., at 3:05 p.m.

Present: Commissioner Debra A. Barnes
Commissioner Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner Roma P. Guy, M.S.W.
Commissioner Ron Hill
Commissioner Lee Ann Monfredini
Commissioner Harrison Parker, Sr., D.D.S.
Commissioner David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.

2) APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 20, 1997

Action Taken: The Commission unanimously adopted the minutes of May 20, 1997.

3) CONSENT CALENDAR OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

(Commissioner Lee Ann Monfredini)

(3.1) DPH - Approval of Department's Annual Report of Memberships in professional organizations for FY 1996-97, and approval of a resolution to the Board of Supervisors amending Administrative Code to add organizations to the Department's list.

(3.2) **DMS-CMHS** - Request for approval of the FY 1996-97 Performance Contract between the State Department of Mental Health and the Department of Public Health, Division of Mental Health Services.

(3.3) **CHS-AIDS** - Request for retroactive contract renewal with San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) in the amount of \$214,426 for the provision of HIV/AIDS prevention services for the period of July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997. (DPH contracted with SFAF for services totaling \$3,537,875 during FY 1995-96).

(3.4) **CHS-AIDS** - Request for sole source approval and four-year contract renewal with San Francisco AIDS Foundation (SFAF) in the amount of \$131,149 per year for the provision of HIV/AIDS telephone hotline services, for the period of July 1, 1997 through June 30, 2001. (DPH contracted with SFAF for services totaling \$3,537,875 during FY 1995-96).

(3.5) **DMS-CSAS** - Request for retroactive first modification to the contract with Iris Center: Women's Counseling and Recovery Services, Inc. (IRIS) in the amount of \$95,460 for the provision of day treatment and outpatient services to women and their children for the period of April 1, 1997 through June 30, 1997. (DPH contracted with IRIS for services totaling \$1,056,725 during FY 1995-96).

(3.6) **DMS-CSAS** - Request for retroactive approval of the resolution authorizing DPH/CSAS to enter into the FY 1996-97 Combined Negotiated Net Amount and Drug Medi-Cal Hold Harmless Agreement with the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, in the amount of \$17,066,667, for the period of July 1, 1996 through June 30, 1997.

(3.7) **DMS-CSAS** - Request for approval of the resolution authorizing DPH/CSAS to enter into the FY 1997-98 Combined Negotiated Net Amount and Drug Medi-Cal Hold Harmless Agreement with the State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, in the amount of \$15,930,495, for the period of July 1, 1997 through June 30, 1998.

Action Taken: The Commission unanimously approved the Consent Calendar of the Budget Committee.

4) **DIRECTOR'S REPORT** (Provides information on activities and operations of the Dept.).
(Sandra R. Hernández, M.D., Director of Health)

Department's Budget for FY 1997-98

The Mayor delivered his FY 1997-98 budget to the Board of Supervisors yesterday. I am pleased to report that several high priority health initiatives, approved by the Commission, were funded by the Mayor. The Department received \$8.3 million in new General Funds for substance abuse treatment, which includes:

- an augmentation for the treatment on demand plan;
- annualization of the partial year supplemental funded this year; and
- replacement of lost grants and revenues for substance abuse treatment services.

The budget also funds another important public health initiative aimed at improving the childhood immunization rate in San Francisco. In addition, General Fund dollars were allocated to fully fund fringe

benefits at SFGH, to continue discharge planning and case management services to patients in our jails, and to replace expired grants and other revenue decreases.

With new revenues certified by the Controller, the Department was funded to:

- continue the full implementation of mental health managed care;
- to increase lead investigation and abatement;
- to increase our pharmaceutical budget; and
- to fund our operating costs at SFGH consistent with the census of the past year.

In addition, by reallocating Health Department resources and by using prior year unexpended Ryan White funds, we will be able to fully fund the current level of services provided to persons with HIV in the new fiscal year.

As you know, the census at SFGH continues to exceed what we estimated for next year. If this trend continues, it may trigger a need for additional staff and other operating expenses over the coming year.

The Department will continue to aggressively identify and capture new revenues to fill funding gaps over the next fiscal year. Specifically, we will work with the State Legislature, the State Department of Health Services, and the California Association of Public Hospitals to increase our financial return from the SB 855 and SB 1255 programs. We will continue to work to increase eligibility for MediCal and Medicare reimbursement which, depending on the payor mix, may yield additional revenues next year. To the extent that the Department is successful in generating additional revenues from these programs, the Mayor and his fiscal office have agreed to permit us to apply such revenues to correct potential soft spots in our budget.

All in all, next year's budget represents a very strong commitment to public health and to San Franciscans. It will allow us to implement many exciting and needed public health services in the Department of Public Health. I am sure that in the long run, the City will be better off having made these investments.

The Board of Supervisors will deliberate on the Mayor's budget during the next several weeks. The Board's budget hearing for the Health Department will be held on June 19, and final action is expected to be taken by the Board in early July.

Director, Department of Public Health Resigns Post

As you know, I have spent my entire professional career, both as a physician and as an administrator, in the Department of Public Health hospitals, clinics, and programs. These thirteen years have been formative, challenging, and extremely rewarding. Beginning with my work in the AIDS Office, I learned that the single most important principle in effective public health outcomes is the relationship with the community.

During my tenure, I have worked at making our programs and the Department overall responsive and accountable to all San Francisco communities. This Department is the finest in the country, if not the world. This is true from the front-line workers to the Executive Management team. It has been a real privilege to

have had their support, commitment and loyalty. Together we have set a new standard, one for which the City should be proud.

Commissioners, including all of you, I have served under 19 Health Commissioners, each of you having provided yet another means for community input and participation. As the official policy-makers of the Department you have shown confidence in me and the team during those critical times when we have had to make tough decisions and take risks. I want to thank you personally and for the Department for your unwavering support during those most challenging times.

After much soul searching, I have decided that the time has come for me to resign as Director of Health. I will be leaving effective July 31, 1997, after seeing our 1997-98 budget process through completion. I will continue to chair the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Committee on Universal Health Care until that work is done and a final report is submitted to the Mayor. Also, at the request of the Mayor, I will continue on the Board of Directors of the San Francisco Health Plan as his representative. You should know that regardless of where my professional path takes me, I will always be a believer in this Department's mission and all it's work in seeing this mission become a reality. Thank you.

Each Commissioner gave comments of appreciation and support to Dr. Hernández for her outstanding leadership in the City as the Director of Health. Former Health Commission President Arthur M. Jackson and former Commission Vice President Margel Kaufman gave their words of praise for Dr. Hernández. Mr. Jackson and Ms. Kaufman were part of the Commission which appointed Dr. Hernández in 1994.

5) **PRESENTATION OF THE ANNUAL VIDEO DISPLAY TERMINAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT**

Larry Meredith, Ph.D., Health Promotion and Prevention Services, gave the history, background and purpose of the Video Display Terminal Advisory Committee. He reported that the 1996 report discusses the current status of the ordinance, previous Committee recommendations, and reviews recent research on VDT-related health effects. Also included is an update on Federal and State legislation on VDT regulations and recent advances in work station and protective equipment. Finally, recommendations for further action are proposed.

A copy of the report if available in the Commission Office.

Dr. August Colenbrander, a member of the VDT Advisory Committee, pointed out to the Commission that many of the recommendations from previous annual reports have not been implemented; and the Advisory Committee urges that these recommendations be funded and implemented.

Dr. Hernández commented that due to the many competing needs for funding in the Department, some of the recommendations have not been addressed; but that is not to say that these recommendations are not important.

President Chow thanked the staff for presenting the report. The report will now go to the Board of Supervisors.

6) **PRESENTATION OF THE SKILLED NURSING FACILITY CITYWIDE LONG-TERM CARE BED STUDY**

The following persons presented an overview of the San Francisco Nursing Facility Bed Study: (Attachment A).

Tony Wagner, Executive Administrator, Laguna Honda Hospital
Deputy Administrator, CHN
Martin Diamond, Chairman of the San Francisco Section of the Hospital Council
Bill Haskell, Health Care Consultant
Nathan Nayman, Vice President of the Hospital Council

A copy of the complete report will be given to the Commissioners.

In the Summer, the Council will sponsor a symposium on this important issue. This report is the first step to be used as a tool in planning for the future.

Dr. Hernández pointed out that data should be used for planning around the policy issues raised by this study. She stated that the Long-Term Care Task Force (AB 1040) will be a critical part of the planning.

Commissioner Guy emphasized the need to include disabilities as well as age.

Commissioner Chow pointed out that an explanation is needed for the figure of 1,090 total potential acute beds available for conversion to nursing facility coming down to 271 acute beds available for conversion.

The report indicated the hospitals explain that limited acute care bed space is available for conversion to nursing facility beds for the following reasons:

- census numbers reflect midnight activity only
- the expansion or consolidation of health care programs
- mergers
- research space
- unfinished strategic planning processes
- participation in regional delivery systems
- a need to retain surplus acute care beds in San Francisco
- beds are governed by organizations that solely determine their availability

The Commission thanked the Council and the Department for collaborating to produce this study.

7) **OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

8) **DISCUSSION AND VOTE PURSUANT TO SUNSHINE ORDINANCE SECTION 67.11(A) AS TO WHETHER TO CONDUCT A CLOSED SESSION ON ONE ITEM:**

- A. Possible closed session held pursuant to Brown Act Section 54956.9(c) and Sunshine Ordinance Section 67.11.

Public Comment: D. Steve Harris

Because Mr. Harris' comments did not refer to the subject matter on the agenda for the closed session, President Chow ruled Mr. Harris' comments as out of order.

Action Taken: The Commission unanimously voted to go into closed session.

- 1) Conference with Legal Counsel: consideration of a proposed settlement of the grievance filed by Local 21 on behalf of Ray Rivera in the amount of \$34,161.20.

Action Taken: The Commission unanimously voted to approve the proposed settlement of \$34,161.20 for Ray Rivera.

- B. Discussion and vote pursuant to Brown Act Section 54957.1 and Sunshine Ordinance Section 67.14 on whether to disclose discussions held in closed session.

Action Taken: The Commission unanimously voted not to disclose discussions held in closed session.

7) **OTHER BUSINESS/PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Sandy Ouye Mori
Executive Secretary to
the Health Commission

Attachment (1)