

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
HEALTH COMMISSION**

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, December 14, 2009 (County Board of Supervisors Chambers)

Members Present: Pam Heatherington (Chair), Jesse Arnold, Lynn Enns, Ed Guereña, Gina Kirk, David Odell, Susan Warren
 Members Absent: Penny Chamousis (excused), Martin Craven, MD, DDS (excused), Pamela Munson (excused), Dawn Williams (excused)
 Staff Present: Penny Borenstein, MD, Health Officer, Jean White (Recorder)
 Speaker: Barry VanderKelen, SLO County Community Foundation

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action	Who/When
1. Call to Order	Meeting called to order by Chair Heatherington at 6:00 p.m.	<i>Call to order</i>	<i>Chair Heatherington</i>
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes of November 9, 2009 approved as written.	<i>November minutes approved</i>	<i>Arnold/Enns/All</i>
3. Public Comment	David Broadwater , Center for Sludge Information (CSI), provided a copy of the comments he submitted to the SLO County Planning Commission, supporting the Planning Commission's recommendation to include a prohibition of application of sewage sludge to open space lands in SLO County in the Draft <i>Conservation and Open Space Element</i> . Chapter 7 of the Draft establishes this prohibition under Policy OS 2.4, stating "The County should prohibit disposal of biosolids on open space lands." In keeping consistent with other proposed County ordinances, Mr. Broadwater is also recommending that language be added to prohibit <u>composted biosolids</u> on open space lands. Mr. Broadwater will be attending the Planning Commission's hearing on conservation and open space elements this Thursday to reiterate his recommendation. This item will go to the Board of Supervisors for their approval in early 2010. Mr. Broadwater suggested the commission add this as a future agenda item in order to have an opportunity to make a recommendation to the Board.	<u>Handout:</u> <i>Copy of Mr. Broadwater's written comments regarding Policy 2.4 of the Draft Conservation and Open Space Element</i>	
4. Overview of Non-Profit Organizations in SLO County	Barry VanderKelen, SLO County Community Foundation , provided a Power Point overview of the nonprofit community in San Luis Obispo County. He explained that in the IRS code, there is provision for 29 different types of nonprofit organizations, and that the 501(c)3 is the only one that allows donors to receive a tax benefit. There are approximately 1100 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations in SLO County, with 43% having revenues less than \$25,000. The total revenue for SLO County nonprofits is \$389 million, with 20% coming from outside the County. Mr. VanderKelen talked about the effects of the recession on nonprofits and what is needed to allow nonprofits to recover. 80% of nonprofits have lost financial support and 40% are reporting worsening financial conditions over the past 6 months. In order for nonprofits to recover, government funding needs to stabilize. Government agencies are outsourcing services to nonprofits to be more cost efficient. Fewer people are trying to serve more people. Mr. VanderKelen explained how volunteers are part of the answer, but volunteers cost money to orient, train and supervise. The Community Foundation encourages people to partner with an existing agency, rather than starting their own, to be most efficient and effective. The SLO County Community Foundation was founded in May 1998 and works to improve the quality of life of all residents in SLO County by making grants, providing support services to		

nonprofits, helping people to give money strategically and building a balance for the future. Last year, they made 415 grants totaling \$2.3 million dollars.

Commissioner Odell commented on the cost of volunteers and noted that without volunteers, more staff would be needed, costing more money. *(Mr. VanderKelen explained that volunteers are wonderful and necessary, but pointed out that it takes money and time to properly engage volunteers. Research points out that many volunteers don't continue because they are not properly trained.)*

Commissioner Guereña asked if a list of SLO County's 501(c)3 nonprofit organizations was available for persons to refer to when considering making donations. *(Mr. VanderKelen referred to www.guidestar.org, a website that provides basic information on all IRS certified nonprofits.)*

Commissioner Arnold asked for an example of the State outsourcing work to nonprofits. *(Mr. VanderKelen provided an example of the Community Action Partnership's work with Early Head Start and Homeless Services. Much of their revenue comes from government contracts; so rather than the State running those activities, they've asked Community Action Partnership to run those services, which results in lower cost and provides an opportunity for donations to leverage state dollars.)*

Commissioner Arnold asked for example of a new nonprofit that has partnered. *(Mr. VanderKelen referred to a small group of people who are in early discussions with hospitals and other health providers in the County about a regional approach for "telemedicine.")*

Commissioner Arnold asked about oversight of their investments. *(Mr. VanderKelen explained they have at least 4 layers of oversight. Ultimately their Board of Directors is responsible for the money that has been entrusted to the Community Foundation. The Board of Directors sets policy and general direction and delegates the strategy and implementation to their Finance and Investment Committee (comprised of 8 people throughout the community who have experience in institutional money management). They also retain the services of an institutional manager consultant.)*

Commissioner Arnold asked about range of investments. *(Their investments are primarily stocks, bonds and cash. They have a very small alternative portfolio.)*

Commissioner Kirk asked about the source of funds they provide to others. *(Mr. VanderKelen explained that there are two primary sources; one is income from their endowment and donor advised funds; the other is by partnering with organizations outside the County to bring dollars in and re-grant those dollars out.)*

Commissioner Kirk asked if the Foundation is duplicative of United Way. *(Mr. VanderKelen explained that although there is some overlap, the needs are far greater than the two organizations can meet. United Way is more of a pass through and the Foundation an endowment vision.)*

Commissioner Warren asked about the process for becoming a nonprofit. *(Mr. VanderKelen explained the two step process: first, to be incorporated in the State of California through the Franchise Tax Board; and second, by applying to the IRS for determination letter of tax status. Both applications can be completed by individuals, with helpful resources available through*

	<p><i>Nolo Press.</i>)</p> <p>Commissioner Warren commented on the benefits of having a registry for people wanting to make donations and also for those persons who are thinking of starting a non-profit, to explore what is already being done.</p> <p>Commissioner Warren asked for more info on the 20% of revenue coming from outside the County. <i>(Mr. VanderKelen talked about some of the outside funders such as the Oracle Foundation and/or federal agencies based in Washington DC who grant or contract with local nonprofits.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Warren asked if they've experienced any issues with funders granting to Southern or Northern California, and San Luis Obispo not being considered in Southern or Northern California, but being "on the line." <i>(Mr. VanderKelen concurred that this has been an issue and one of the reasons why the Community Foundation was formed.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Warren asked if they see many people who are new to the community donating back to where they moved from rather than locally. <i>(Mr. VanderKelen commented that some people make the adjustment to their new "home" faster than others. Mr. VanderKelen suggested that the "newcomers groups" could be more active in engaging new community members.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Warren asked about County departments applying for the same grant funding that nonprofits apply for. <i>(Mr. VanderKelen explained how this is dependent on what the program is and the source of money. There are some national funders that will not give to a government agency, so they need a nonprofit to partner with in order to accomplish their goals.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Warren asked about other ways county government or state agencies partner with nonprofits. <i>(Mr. VanderKelen provided an example of homeless grant funding where county government agencies are the conduits for large grants, but need nonprofit partners for service delivery and fundraising to leverage those grants.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Kirk commented that she is on the board of the local newcomers club and talked about how they provide donations to organizations in a number of different venues. She will pass along Mr. VanderKelen's concern.</p>		
<p>5. Health Agency / Public Health Report</p>	<p>Dr. Borenstein provided a brief update on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <u>H1N1 Pandemic Influenza</u>: Dr. Borenstein reported that although the number of H1N1 flu cases are down, cases are still occurring, with an increase in number of hospitalizations. Most of the influenza cases seen during the months of October, November, & December continue to be the H1N1 virus; with seasonal flu typically peaking in January/February. The Public Health Department will be holding H1N1 flu vaccination clinics on December 15th and 16th from 8-5PM at their San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles and Grover Beach clinic sites. These clinics are free and open to everyone. Public Health will also complete their school based vaccination clinics this week; having held clinics at approximately 70 schools. Public Health will continue to remain engaged in this issue and will keep the public informed. ○ <u>Children's Oral Health Summit</u>: The Oral Health Summit will be held on February 5, 2010, from 8-4:30 PM at the Courtyard Marriott in San Luis Obispo. Dr. Borenstein invited anyone who would like to attend and suggested registering as soon as possible, as seating is limited. This will be the second summit in three years, with the first shining a spotlight on 		

	<p>all that was not right in the community; and an expectation that this (second) summit will shine a spotlight on all that has been done and the progress that has been made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Healthcare Reform: Dr. Borenstein talked about a piece of healthcare reform legislation that would provide funding for public health infrastructure. The House bill passed a version of healthcare reform with a budget line item starting at 2 billion and going up to 10 billion over the course of a decade for basic public health infrastructure. The Senate passed a version that would start at 500 million and go up to 2 billion. Dr. Borenstein explained how basic core public health funding would be the most efficient and effective form of funding; often Public Health is the “victim of the topic du jour,” causing funding to go up and down. <p>Commissioner Guerena asked if there is any recent information on side effects from the H1N1 vaccine. Dr. Borenstein referred to a recent article from the CDC that basically states there is no increase in side effects over any other vaccination. The instance of vaccine-associated side effects are very much rarer than the numbers of children and young adults who die from the illness. The (MMWR) article is available on the Public Health website under the heading of “Vaccine Safety.”</p> <p>Commissioner Kirk asked about the possibility of the Health Department acting as a “central point” for information about the availability of seasonal flu vaccine. (Dr. Borenstein explained the challenges in doing this, because Public Health doesn’t always know who has the vaccine and when and where clinics are scheduled. Public Health directs people to two websites: findaflushot.com and flucliniclocator.org, but this too is challenging because of the difficulty in keeping this information up to date.</p>		
<p>6. Health Commissioner Updates</p>	<p>Chair Heatherington referred to a brief discussion at last month’s meeting about whether the commission would like to respond to Congressman McCarthy’s letter(s) regarding healthcare reform. Commissioner Enns noted the difficulty in responding because “things keep changing.” Chair Heatherington suggested that if the commission does send another letter they include more about the importance of funding basic core public health as part of healthcare reform.</p> <p>Commissioner Arnold noted that the commission has not received a response to their letter from Lois Capps. Chair Heatherington will follow up with a phone call to Betsy Umhofer.</p> <p>Commissioner Warren attended the Drug & Alcohol Advisory Board where there was discussion about new guidelines from the State on minimum education components for persons becoming Drug & Alcohol Counselors. Currently, students only receive a few hours in addiction education. They will be talking more with Cal Poly about offering more of this type training within their courses.</p> <p>Commissioner Enns – no report.</p> <p>Commissioner Guerena – no report.</p> <p>Commissioner Odell – no report.</p> <p>Commissioner Arnold provided a report from Edie Kahn at the AIDS Support Network (ASN): 1) ASN Walkathon raised \$72,000; 2) ASN is teaming up with Monterey, Santa Cruz, and San Benito Counties to apply for a grant from the CDC for HIV prevention; and 3) Community Health Centers is seeing Hepatitis C clients. Mr. Arnold also referred to a column in <i>The Tribune</i> by Nicholas Cristoff regarding the role of plastics in causing cancer.</p> <p>Commissioner Warren asked if the Hep C Project has been turned over to CHC. Dr.</p>		

	<p>Borenstein explained that there is no contractual agreement for the Hep C Project, but CHC has retained their specialty services for HIV and Hepatitis C at least for this year.</p> <p>Commissioner Kirk was not present at last month's meeting and asked for more information on the source of financial backing that was recommended to the Board of Supervisors for the Good Neighbor Program. Chair Heatherington noted there was some discussion about the Preventive Health Grant application process (just released) and that recommendations for grant funding are made to the Board of Supervisors.</p>		
7. Committee Reports	No committee reports.		
8. Prospective Future Items	<p>Commissioner Odell recommended that the commission resume inviting various non-profit organizations (as in previous years) to the December meeting to talk about their needs. Chair Heatherington suggested the commission discuss further at the July retreat and determine which non-profits organizations that commissioners would like to hear from in December, as the commission hears from some nonprofits over the course of the year.</p> <p><u>Suggested future agenda items</u></p> <p><i>January 2010:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Update on San Luis Obispo County Trauma System – invite Charlotte Alexander, EMSA ○ Response to Grand Jury CUPA Report 2008-09 – update from Environmental Health <p><i>February 2010:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Air Quality in the South County dunes – invite APCD <p>Chair Heatherington asked commissioners to come up with one idea each for the coming year.</p>		
9. Adjournment	Motion to adjourn at 7:30.	<i>Meeting adjourned</i>	