

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY  
HEALTH COMMISSION**

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, June 11, 2012 (County Board of Supervisors Chambers)

Members Present: Ed Guerena (Chair), Susan Warren (Vice-Chair), Lynn Enns (Secretary), Jesse Arnold, Gill Blonsley, David Clous, Tracy Del Rio, James Pope, Anne Quinn, Jean Raymond, Mary Jean Sage

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Penny Borenstein, MD (Health Officer), Jean White (Recorder)

Speakers: Carl Hansen (Food Bank Coalition of San Luis Obispo County)

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Discussion</b>	<b>Action</b>	<b>Who/When</b>
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Meeting called to order by Chair Guerena at 6:00 p.m.	<i>Call to order</i>	<i>Chair Guerena</i>
<b>2. Approval of Minutes</b>	Minutes of May 14, 2012 were approved as written.	<i>Minutes approved</i>	<i>Arnold/Sage/All</i>
<b>3. Public Comment</b>	Chair Guerena opened the floor to public comment with no response.		
<b>4. Presentation: San Luis Obispo Hunger-Free Community Project</b>	<p><b>Carl Hansen, Executive Director, Food Bank Coalition of SLO County</b>, provided background on the Hungry Free Community Project, explaining part of their goal to form a Food Policy Council in SLO County. He explained that several years ago, the Food Bank applied for a USDA grant that would have allowed them to purchase produce locally. Currently, the majority of their produce comes from outside the county through a program called "Farm to Family." The USDA referred his grant request to the Hungry-Free Communities Department of the USDA and after 18 months, they received an invitation to apply for a planning grant. With the help of HEAL SLO, they received the planning grant, creating a Food Policy Council in the County, now called the Food System Coalition. The planning grant provides funding for research and development of a strategic plan. They are hopeful that an implementation grant will follow.</p> <p>Mr. Hansen provided a one page overview of the SLO County Food System Coalition with their mission statement, vision statement and a list of the Food System Coalition's principals and goals.</p> <p>Mr. Hansen presented a Power Point overview showing the results of the research project that was done by STRIDE of Cal Poly to characterize the factors associated with food insecurity among vulnerable populations in the County. Face-to-face interviews were conducted with more than 800 community members looking at socio-demographics, food security, assistance programs, food and diet, food stores, and conclusions based on findings.</p> <p>The Coalition is in the final stages of developing their Strategic Plan, with five main goals: 1) all SLO residents have access to nutritious foods; 2) improve the nutrition of SLO County residents who experience food insecurity; 3) a sustainable local food system that is able to meet the food needs of SLO County residents; 4) a collaborative community effort to address the root causes of hunger in our County; and 5) a vibrant SLO County Food System Coalition and effective Hunger-Free Community Plan.</p> <p>One of the details in the Strategic Plan is to expand gleaning in SLO County. Mr. Hansen talked about GleanSLO, an effort under the Food Bank Coalition that unites farmers, volunteers, backyard gardeners,</p>		

health advocates and food providers to harvest and donate excess produce into the local food system.

**Commissioner Questions/Comments:**

**Commissioner Blonsley** asked for the amount of the planning grant they received. *(Mr. Hansen informed that the planning grant was \$99,600 for 18 months. The original grant that the Food Bank applied for was a \$300,000 grant over a 3-year period. He is uncertain what the amount of the implementation grant would be.)*

**Commissioner Guerena** asked about the process for accessing services from the Food Bank. *(Mr. Hansen referred to their website at [slofoodbank.org](http://slofoodbank.org). Information is also available through 2-1-1.)*

**Commissioner Warren** asked about GleanSLO and if there is any reimbursement to those donating produce. *(Mr. Hansen explained that there is no reimbursement and referred to [slofoodbank.org](http://slofoodbank.org) \ GleanSLO for more information.)*

**Commissioner Arnold** asked about the eligibility requirements for Cal Fresh. *(Mr. Hansen estimated income eligibility to be about \$1500/month for one person and \$400 for each person in the household above that. The County is only serving about 50% of the eligible people in the County.)*

**Commissioner Arnold** asked if Cal Fresh was open to undocumented people. *(Cal Fresh is not, but the Food Bank programs are. The USDA Commodity Distribution Program does not require people to be documented.)*

**Commissioner Clous** asked if contributions to the Food Bank were down due to the difficult economic times. *(Mr. Hansen explained that overall, donations have been rising, but noted in some individual cases, there are people who used to be contributors who can no longer contribute and in extreme cases, may even be a recipient.)*

**Commissioner Pope** asked if the Food Bank is able to distribute dried goods in bulk. *(Mr. Hansen explained that there are only a few products (rice and beans) that are received in bulk and allowed to be repackaged into distributable sizes.)*

**Commissioner Pope** commented that at one point in time, San Luis Obispo County was a leader in growing garbanzo beans; and suggested that maybe the “sustainability portion” of the plan could re-stimulate San Luis Obispo County in producing garbanzo beans. *(Mr. Hansen noted that the Central Coast Ag Network (CCAN) is working on a grant they received for a food shed analysis of our County and they are in the process of partnering with them in finding practical land that can be used for their needs.)*

**Commissioner Enns** asked which agencies in the County access the Food Bank. *(Mr. Hansen answered any non-profit agency that has a food pantry who serves the general public, such as the Salvation Army, St. Patrick’s Church, Loaves & Fishes, many churches, the Women’s Shelter, People’s Kitchen, Prado, & AIDS Support Network.)*

**Commissioner Enns** asked if any of the school lunch programs access the Food Bank. *(Mr. Hansen explained that through the California Department of Education there are funds available from the USDA Nutrition Department that subsidize in-school lunch programs. But when those programs are not available after school and during the summer, the Food Bank becomes a contractor for the California Department of Education and partners with others to serve snacks & meals to children.)*

**Commissioner Arnold** asked if there has been any discussion about the health benefits of growing organic vs. non-organic. *(Dr. Hansen explained why this has not been seriously discussed yet.)*

	<p><b>Commissioner Raymond</b> asked about the Sr. Brown Bag Program. <i>(Mr. Hansen explained that funding for this program used to come through the Area Agency on Aging, but that funding is no longer available due to state cuts. The Food Bank still continues the Sr. Brown Bag Program, largely with the help of USDA commodities. He added that many of these programs are at risk and is hopeful that the USDA Commodities Program doesn't get cut back.)</i></p>		
<p><b>5. Health Agency / Public Health Report</b></p>	<p><b>Penny Borenstein, MD, Health Officer,</b> reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dr. Borenstein shared a copy of the proposal that was submitted for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation “Roadmap to Health” grant. The submittal included a narrative highlighting four County-wide policy/programmatic accomplishments: Children’s Oral Health, HEAL-SLO, SLO Noor Free Clinic &amp; Healthy Communities. The grant submittal also included a 4-minute video clip that Dr. Borenstein played for the Commission.</li> <li>▪ The County Board of Supervisors began budget hearings today and the Health Agency’s budget was tentatively approved until the full budget is wrapped up on Wednesday. It was reported (at the hearings) by Assistant County Administrator, Dan Buckshi, that there is a possibility of a significant reduction in some realignment funding for Mental Health that they are watching very closely.</li> <li>▪ June 7<sup>th</sup> was National CPR Day and many of the first responder agencies throughout the County competed “in a good way” to train as many individuals in a 5-minute period of time on “hands only CPR.” Over 1,000 people in our County received that training.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>6. Health Commissioner Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Chair Guerena:</b> Presented a <i>Certificate of Appreciation</i> signed by the Board of Supervisors to Jesse Arnold for his service on the Commission since 2008.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Raymond:</b> No report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Blonsley:</b> No report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Sage:</b> Reported that budget hearings started today and the Board of Supervisors will be looking at the Preventative Health Committee recommendations this Wednesday. The Domestic Violence Task Force is scheduled to meet next week.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Del Rio:</b> Attended the Oral Health Coalition where it was reported that the SLO Noor Foundation is working on a dental clinic for adults, in addition to what they are already doing.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Warren:</b> Reported that the Drug &amp; Alcohol Advisory Board is working on a position paper in regards to medical marijuana dispensaries.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Enns:</b> No report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Clous:</b> No report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Arnold:</b> Reported that the AIDS Support Network has been lobbying to keep their funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program under the State.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Quinn:</b> No report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Pope:</b> No report.</p>		
<p><b>7. Committee Reports</b></p>	<p><b>Nominating Committee:</b> Commissioner Arnold brought forward a recommendation from the Nominating Committee for Scott Smith-Cooke to serve as a “Consumer” representative on the Commission. Scott Smith-Cooke provided a brief introduction of himself and talked about his interest in serving on the Commission.</p> <p><b><i>On motion of Commissioner Arnold, seconded by Commissioner Guerena, and unanimously carried, the nomination of Scott Smith-Cooke was approved and will be forwarded to the Board of Supervisors</i></b></p>	<p><i>Motion unanimously carried to approve the nomination of Scott Smith-Cook as a “Consumer” representative.</i></p>	<p><i>Arnold/Guerena/All</i></p>

	<p><i>for final approval.</i></p> <p>Commissioner Arnold brought forward a recommendation from the Nominating Committee to approve the following slate of officers for FY 2012-13: Ed Guerena (Chair), Susan Warren (Vice-Chair), Lynn Enns (Secretary).</p> <p><i>On motion of Commissioner Sage, seconded by Commissioner Blonsley, and unanimously carried, the slate of officers was approved.</i></p>	<p><i>Motion unanimously carried to approve FY 2012-13 slate of officers.</i></p>	<p><i>Sage/Blonsley/All</i></p>
<p><b>8. Prospective Future Items</b></p>	<p><u>July 9, 2012</u>: Annual Retreat/Planning meeting.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Arnold</b> referred to an article in the May/June 2012 edition of <i>Public Citizen News</i> entitled “<i>WTO Attack on U.S. Teen Anti-Smoking Law Highlights Dangers of Trade Pacts.</i>” He explained that the WTO ruled against the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act of 2009 and ordered the U.S. to rescind the law or pay a fine. He does not believe we should support trade pacts.</p>		
<p><b>9. Adjournment</b></p>	<p>Motion to adjourn at 7:25 pm</p>	<p><i>Meeting adjourned.</i></p>	<p><i>All</i></p>