

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY  
HEALTH COMMISSION**

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, February 4, 2013 (County Board of Supervisors Chambers)

Members Present: Ed Guerena (Chair), Gill Blonsley, David Clous, Tracy Del Rio, Lynn Enns, Anne Quinn, Mary Jean Sage, Scott Smith-Cooke,

Members Absent: James Pope, Jean Raymond, Susan Warren

Staff Present: Penny Borenstein, MD, Health Officer, Jean White

Speakers: Susan Hughes (First 5 SLO), Kathleen Karle (Health Promotion), Larry Allen (APCD), Tracy Anselmo (Oral Health Program)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action	Who/When
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Meeting called to order by Chair Guerena at 6: 00 pm.	<i>Call to order</i>	<i>Chair Guerena</i>
<b>2. Approval of Minutes</b>	Minutes of December 10, 2012 were approved as written.	<i>December minutes approved</i>	<i>Clous/Blonsley/All</i>
<b>3. Public Comment</b>	Chair Guerena opened the floor to public comment with no response.		
<b>4. First 5 / Children’s Bill of Rights for SLO County</b>	<p><b>Susan Hughes, Executive Director, First 5 San Luis Obispo County</b>, provided a Power Point overview of the “Children’s Bill of Rights for San Luis Obispo County.” The Children’s Bill of Rights outlines specific rights due to children aged 0-5 and was adopted by the First 5 Commission on January 23, 2013 as part of First 5’s policy platform. Community conversations were held throughout the county to engage people of all ages in the process of identifying core themes and ideas for the Bill of Rights. The process of drafting the Bill of Rights involved a steering committee of adults and youth who brought a variety of perspective on education, health, parent advocacy, social service, and housing.</p> <p>Five leadership organizations in the community were identified as initial endorsers of the Children’s Bill of Rights: SLO County Office of Education, SLO County Health Commission, United Way of SLO, Children’s Services Network and the County Board of Supervisors. The public launch of the Children’s Bill of Rights will occur during the first annual SLO County Children’s Summit on April 19, 2013. The summit will provide an opportunity to officially unveil the Bill of Rights, seek endorsement from other entities, and begin the next step of designing an implementation plan, with action steps built upon the Children’s Bill of Rights. First 5 is currently working on a video about how the rights were developed.</p> <p>Ms. Hughes respectfully requested that the Health Commission endorse the Children’s Bill of Rights and offered to answer questions.</p> <p><b><u>Commissioner Questions/Comments:</u></b>  <b>Commissioner Clous</b> asked what was being done to engage the parents of children <i>aged 0-5</i>. (<i>Ms. Hughes talked about parent education that is already being done for school readiness. They will also be outreaching to parent leadership groups, service clubs, and women’s organizations. Youth will be out speaking on behalf of the Bill of Rights. She also explained how the Bill of Rights can be used a policy tool for funding decisions on health.</i>)  <b>Commissioner Blonsley</b> asked how they will “get involved” with practical outcomes and meaningful action items. (<i>Ms. Hughes talked about the power behind having a community of endorsers and explained how the Bill of Rights can be used as an advocacy, decision-making tool; a way for the</i></p>	<i>Motion made and passed to endorse the Children’s Bill of Rights</i>	<i>Quinn/Clous/All</i>

	<p>community to come together around an issue.)  <b>Commissioner Guerena</b> suggested that the Children’s Bill of Rights could be built into County plans, working with County Planning in a similar way as the Obesity Task Force does.</p> <p><b>A motion was made by Commissioner Quinn, seconded by Commissioner Clous to endorse the Children’s Bill of Rights.</b> (Discussion: Commissioner Quinn reiterated her support of the Children’s Bill of Rights, commenting on how articulating a policy that children have basic rights makes a strong statement that will be used in future discussions and as an advocacy tool for the children in our community.) No further discussion. <b>8 in favor. 0 opposed. 3 absent.</b></p>		
<p><b>5. Addressing Children’s Oral Health in SLO County 2013</b></p>	<p><b>Theresa Anselmo, Oral Health Program Manager / County Public Health Department</b> provided a Power Point overview of Children’s Oral Health in SLO County. She shared data showing that SLO County is doing a better job of preventive services and treatment in young children than a few years ago, but noted that dental decay is the #1 unmet healthcare need for children in the county and nationally, with low-income and minority children having the highest level of dental disease. Access to an ongoing dental home is not available to many children.</p> <p>In 2008/2009, a group got together and created framework on how to address the oral health issues within our county. They have worked to increase access to prevention through the early, periodic screening, diagnosis and treatment program (CHDP), early childhood caries prevention programs such as WIC Dental Days, Little Teeth are a Big Deal, and the Schools Smiles Program (being launched at the end of the month). She shared data on how they measure the success of each of these programs. Clinica De Tolosa now has 4 full time pediatric dentists on staff and CHC is opening a 14 chair clinic in March. The “Give Kids A Smile” event has been expanded from February through April, with over 10 sites providing events to community residents. The SLO County Children’s Oral Health Coalition hosted the third children’s oral health summit in February 2012.</p> <p>There is still a need to strengthen the safety net. There will be 5400 children in SLO County transitioning from Healthy Families to Denti-Cal beginning in March 2013 (with a current Denti-Cal population of about 20,000 children) and only 6 Denti-Cal providers in this county. The Oral Health Coalition has written letters to the Secretary of Health &amp; Human Services expressing their concern about the effect this transition is going to have on access to care for these children. With the Affordable Care Act moving forward and already broader eligibility within our state for Denti-Cal and Medi-Cal eligibility, there is concern about where these children are going to go. Ms. Anselmo emphasized the need to continue to build platform for oral health issues and explained how using the Children’s Bill of Rights will provide a little more “clout” behind the message that oral health is important.</p> <p><b><u>Commissioner Questions/Comments:</u></b>  <b>Commissioner Del Rio</b> asked what can be done to recruit more Denti-Cal providers. (Ms. Anselmo explained that the biggest issues are low reimbursement rates and the administrative burden of becoming a Denti-Cal provider. Some of the things they are looking at: having the Federally Qualified Health Center contract with a private provider to provide pediatric dental services (FQHC can get better reimbursement rates); perhaps creating a fund and providing some type of financial incentives to providers to adopt one or two kids. Also getting the county &amp; cities designated as health professional shortage areas.)</p>		

	<p><b>Commissioner Blonsley</b> commented on the impressive action plan and meaningful outcomes as a result. He asked how they are dealing with the bilingual and multilingual parent education component. <i>(Ms. Anselmo explained that they try to ensure they are reaching the parents in the programs they support. As they move forward, having English as a second language staff available to help is important, but they also need to assure they have staff that culturally represent the populations they are serving.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Guerena</b> asked if they were including a nutritional component in their parent education. <i>(Ms. Anselmo explained that the WIC Dental Day Program specifically addresses the importance of good nutrition. All parents complete a screening questionnaire to help identify any areas of risk.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Smith-Cooke</b> requested a copy of the Power Point presentation and asked what WIC stands for. <i>(Ms. Anselmo advised that WIC stands for Women, Infants &amp; Children, and is a supplemental food and nutrition program that is funded through the USDA.)</i></p>		
<p><b>6. Air Quality and Your Health Campaign</b></p>	<p><b>Kathleen Karle, Health Promotion Division Manager, Public Health Department and Larry Allen, Air Pollution Control Officer, Air Pollution Control District</b> provided a Power Point overview of a new educational campaign that the Public Health Department and Air Pollution Control District are collaborating on to heighten public awareness about the connection between air quality and health.</p> <p>Mr. Allen began the presentation with statistics showing that 90% of Californians breathe unhealthy levels of one or more air pollutants during some part of the year and that SLO County is higher than the California &amp; national average for prevalence of asthma. He defined ozone and particulate matter (PM), explaining that exposure to elevated levels of either of these can cause significant health effects. He talked about state and federal air quality standards for ozone and PM, advising that SLO County violates both state and federal air quality standard thresholds for both of these.</p> <p>Ms. Karle continued the presentation describing some of the health effects of ozone and PM. She provided statistics from various studies that have been done on the health and economic impacts.</p> <p>The Air Quality and Your Health campaign began in January 2013 and is spreading its message through a series of informational brochures, posters and public service announcements. They have visited local physician offices and placed brochures throughout the community. Mr. Allen referred to their brochure for things that individuals can do to make changes, including using alternative transportation, telecommuting, reducing the number of trips taken, shopping locally. He also talked about a program called SLO Car Free, a program that promotes and provides tools to persons who pledge to travel to or around SLO without a car. Information at <a href="http://www.slocarfree.org">www.slocarfree.org</a>.</p> <p>Mr. Allen referred to their website at <a href="http://slocleanair.org">slocleanair.org</a> for more information and to sign up to receive air quality alerts by email. They also have a Twitter feed that goes out on days with high air pollution levels and an informational phone line at 781-4390.</p> <p><b><u>Commissioner Questions/Comments:</u></b></p> <p><b>Commissioner Del Rio</b> asked if the high levels of PM in the south county were related to vehicle use in the dunes. <i>(Mr. Allen explained that levels of PM in south county violate state standards 60-75 days per year and federal standards a couple of times per year and are a result of dust from the dunes.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Del Rio</b> asked if the Board of Supervisors will endorse their campaign at tomorrow's meeting and if this campaign was directly related to the Dunes. <i>(Mr. Allen explained that this campaign</i></p>		

	<p><i>is not related or targeted at any specific area in the county. It is a general outreach campaign to help people understand the connection between air quality and their health, and that is the message they will bring to the Board of Supervisors. )</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Del Rio</b> commented that this is an important campaign that could be used in areas that are violating state and federal standards. <i>(Mr. Allen agreed absolutely, and talked about some of the specialized outreach they do in south county that includes working with schools and an air quality index flag program, where colored flags are displayed at the schools indicating air quality.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Smith-Cooke</b> asked if daily forecasts for air quality were printed in the newspapers. <i>(Mr. Allen explained that the newspapers print the air quality forecast throughout the county on a daily basis, as does KCOY. More detailed information is available through APCD’s email notification program that persons can sign up to receive.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Guerena</b> asked if anyone has gone to the Medical Society and talked with a pulmonologist about ways to get messages out to their patients on high level pollutant days. <i>(Dr. Borenstein explained that they did a physician notification to all physicians in South County informing them of the PM levels that were being seen and the health effects that may be associated with this.)</i></p>		
<p><b>7. Health Agency Report</b></p>	<p>Dr. Borenstein provided a brief report on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>County budget</u>: The Health Agency submitted their FY 2013-14 budget to County Administration. This year, the Health Agency was asked to reduce 2% below status quo, amounting to a reduction of approx. one million dollars. The one million dollars in reductions will first come from salary savings from employees taking voluntary time off, secondly from salary savings from holding positions open longer than they might otherwise to create some decrease in expenses, and ultimately, several positions may be at risk for reduction. County Administration will be reviewing the budget submissions and reductions that need to be considered over the next couple of months.</li> <li>• <u>State budget</u>: No state general fund reductions are anticipated in funded health department areas.</li> <li>• <u>Affordable Care Act (ACA)</u>: One of the components of the ACA is to expand Medicaid nationally. The Supreme Court ruled in June 2012 that states could choose to opt out to expand their state &amp; county-matched Medicaid programs. Remains to be seen in the long term, but California has always said it will take the option of Medi-Cal expansion which will be for individuals below 138% of the federal poverty level. In SLO County, this expansion could cover approx. 10,000-15,000 additional individuals. The Governor has laid out two possible mechanisms for this expansion – one with the state enrolling people in Medi-Cal the way they do now; the other option is for counties to administer the expanded Medi-Cal program. There have been a couple of bills introduced regarding this. Dr. Borenstein will keep everyone posted.</li> <li>• <u>Influenza</u>: Rates for influenza have been high across the nation this year. California is in its 4<sup>th</sup> week of wide spread influenza. SLO County just had two positive tests from individuals whose specimens came by way of the coroner’s office -- Public Health is trying to determine if these are truly flu deaths or flu in association with other things, but has reported these influenza-related fatalities to the State Of California. Dr. Borenstein advised that it is not too late to get a flu shot.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>8. Health Commissioner Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Chair Guerena:</b> No update.  <b>Commissioner Sage:</b> No update.  <b>Commissioner Smith-Cooke:</b> Attended the Affordable Care Act (ACA) workgroup meeting where stakeholders expressed their concern about the impacts on hospitals and Medi-Cal providers with a</p>		

	<p>greater number of people qualifying for Medi-Cal through the ACA.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Del Rio:</b> No update.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Blonsley:</b> No update.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Enns:</b> No update.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Clous:</b> Reported that the Tobacco Control Program recently worked with a marketing firm to create a multi-unit housing advertisement, congratulating the owners of apartment complexes who have gone smokeless and tobacco-free. The ads ran in January and as a result, the Tobacco Control Program has received a number of calls from apartment owners inquiring about smoke-free programs.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Quinn:</b> No update.</p>		
<b>9. Committee Reports</b>	No committee reports.		
<b>10. Prospective Future Items</b>	<p><u><b>March 2013</b></u></p> <p>Syringe Exchange – update from HIV Consortium</p> <p>Cottage Food Bill – update from County Environmental Health</p> <p>Operation Medicine Cabinet. – update from Undersheriff Tim Olivas, County Sheriff’s Office</p>		
<b>11. Adjournment</b>	Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.	<i>Adjournment</i>	<i>All</i>