

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY  
HEALTH COMMISSION**

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, January 12, 2015 (County Board of Supervisors Chambers)

Members Present: Lynn Enns (Chair), Robert Campbell, David Clous, Claire Grantham, Kris Kington-Barker, Jean Raymond, Mary Jean Sage, Scott Smith-Cooke

Members Absent: Corliss Campbell, James Pope, Susan Warren

Staff Present: Penny Borenstein, Jean White

Speakers: Sara Sanders (Rideshare); Jeff Brubaker (SLO COG); Mark Shaffer (Ride-On Transportation)

| Agenda Item   | Discussion  | Action                                      | Who/When          |
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| <b>1. Call to Order</b>   | Meeting called to order by Chair Enns at 6:00 pm.   | <i>Call to Order</i>                        | <i>Chair Enns</i> |
| <b>2. Approval of Minutes</b>   | <b>Commissioner Raymond</b> made a correction to Page 2 of the November 17, 2014 minutes: the name of the local coalition should read “Central Coast Coalition for Compassionate Care (CCCCC).”<br>The December 8, 2014 minutes were approved as drafted.   | <i>Nov &amp; Dec 2014 minutes approved.</i> | <i>All</i>        |
| <b>3. Public Comment</b>  | Chair Enns opened the floor to public comment with no response.   |   |                   |
| <b>4. Presentations:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rideshare</b></li> <li>• <b>SLO COG / Regional Plan for Age Friendly Communities</b></li> <li>• <b>Ride-On</b></li> </ul> | <p><b>Sara Sanders, Program Coordinator, Rideshare, SLO COG</b>, provided an overview of transportation services provided by the Rideshare programs. Rideshare is the one stop shop for transportation in SLO County. She referred to the Regional Transportation Plan, the County’s blueprint for the next 20 years, predicting that in 2035, SLO County will have 46,000 more people, 18,000 new homes, 20,000 new jobs, and that 25% of the population will be 65 or older. Rideshare programs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bike Month in May / Rideshare Month in October</li> <li>• Back &amp; Forth Club (free program offered to businesses in the county to encourage employees to use public transportation)</li> <li>• 5-1-1 Program for trip planning assistance</li> <li>• Safe Routes to School (international movement encouraging students to walk &amp; bike to school safely and often. This past October, International Walk to School Day was a big success with over 2,000 students participating in 17 schools across the county. New to the program was the Stride Program, where 50 Cal Poly student volunteers led walking schools across the city.)<br/>Currently, Rideshare is conducting an online parent survey in English &amp; Spanish (at <a href="http://slosaferoutes.org">slosaferoutes.org</a>) to understand parent’s perspectives on walking &amp; biking to school.</li> <li>• Mobility Management (They have started a “<i>Know How to Go Campaign</i>” to teach people about the different commuting options that are available in our county. On 10/23, they held a forum with 55 social services agencies in attendance to discuss gaps in the system when it comes to medical transport. Discussions concluded that there needs to be more focus on personalized trips and more education needs to be provided on how to use fixed systems which are the most cost effective. They are currently going into organizations and doing a “train the trainer program” helping people to understand the transit system better.)</li> </ul> <p><b>Commissioner Smith-Cooke</b> asked if persons could dial 5-1-1 from outside the county. He also asked about special group transportation from the airport to outer communities. <i>(Ms. Sanders explained that 5-1-1- only works in this county. If you are calling from another county, you will get that county’s 5-1-1. She advised that</i></p> |   |                   |

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|  | <p><i>Ride-On provides shuttle services for groups.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Clous</b> asked if there were limits on distances for the Safe Routes to School program. <i>(Ms. Sanders advised that is up to the parent's discretion; typically less than a mile. This is a part of the online parent survey currently being conducted – to understand parent's thoughts.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Kington-Barker</b> sits on the Action for Healthy Communities Committee and noted that the 2014 survey they conducted found there was a reduction in the numbers of children walking or biking to school. She asked when the results of the survey will be available &amp; how the report will be shared. <i>(Ms. Sanders advised that a team of Cal Poly student interns will be analyzing the data. The report will be shared with individual schools. It will then be a goal of the task force to make walkability and bike-ability maps for each school.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Raymond</b> asked about fares for seniors who are on limited income. <i>(Ms. Sanders advised that if you are over 70, it is free to ride. Persons need to come in and fill out an application to receive a card from their office. There are also senior discounts for both RTA and SLO Transit.)</i></p> <p><b>Jeff Brubaker, Transportation Planner, SLO COG</b>, provided a Power Point overview of SLO COG's Regional Plan for Age-Friendly Communities. The plan will make recommendations to improve the safety, convenience and multimodal options for senior travel in SLO County, include all modes of transportation, build on existing transit and human services transportation efforts and consider both local and regional travel. Mr. Brubaker referred to the timely release of “<i>The Handbook for Designing Roadways for the Aging Population,</i>” which provides detailed recommendations for designing a transportation system for older adults. With an increasing number of seniors in the county, there will be an increasing amount of transportation challenges. The scope of work of the plan entails public open houses and workshops, event tabling, resident surveys, affordable housing and transportation forums, presentations to elected officials, commissions, advisory bodies and non-profits. It will involve mapping of existing services, mapping of senior communities, traffic safety assessments and identification of implementation steps. The plan would be funded by a Caltrans planning grant. The application has been submitted and they will hear back in March whether or not they receive the grant. If the grant is received, the project will begin in July.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Kington-Barker</b> asked if the plan will look at remote areas of the county, as well as address senior's ability to understand transit schedules. <i>(Mr. Brubaker noted that the plan will address all aspects of transit in general, to the extent that the grant gets into detail about schedule design. The grant puts together a road map with a next step to secure funding to implement parts of it.)</i></p> <p><b>Mark Shaffer, Executive Director, Ride-On Transportation</b>, provided an overview of Ride-On Transportation services. In addition to social service transportation, Ride-On provides services for the general public that includes airport shuttles, group transportation, and an employee vanpool program, with 32 vanpools serving various employers. Mr. Shaffer talked about some of the challenges with fixed route services being limited to urban areas, requiring transfers, and the difficulties in making schedules work for individual medical appointments and/or needs. Mr. Shaffer is hopeful that a ½ cent transportation sales tax will be approved by voters on the 2016 ballot to help with road &amp; transportation services.</p> <p>Mr. Shaffer's presentation focused on the following social services that Ride-On provides for the</p> |  |  |
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community:

- Senior Shuttle provides affordable transportation services for seniors 65 years and over. The senior shuttle serves different parts of SLO County on specific days of the week and are door-to-door. Advance reservations are recommended at least 3-4 days in advance.
- Ride-On is looking to coordinate with senior communities to set up a specific time and day every week where they can come into their neighborhoods and provide rides for shopping, medical appointments, door-to-door.
- Ride-On worked with Wilshire Communities to establish a senior volunteer driving program for those who can't use door-to-door services. Volunteers use their own cars and are provided with gas coupons. They have applied for grants and continue to get funding from CA for this.
- Ride-On is approved by the State to provide Medi-Cal and CenCal transportation for individuals who cannot use public transportation to get to their medical appointments. Ride-On bills the State for the cost of the service.
- Ride-On offers transportation for veterans with disabilities, or veterans who have no means of transportation from their homes to local San Luis Obispo or Santa Maria veteran's clinics. The cost is \$3.00 each way and is subsidized by contributions from the community and Ride-On. They also have a bus that leaves from the Vet's Center at 7:00 am that goes to SB & LA.
- Ride-On has a mobility coordinator to assist with transportation challenges for seniors, people with disabilities, children, and other people served by social service agencies. They will work with all of the transportation providers in SLO County to find ways for people who don't have access to their own transportation or who are unable to use public transportation, get around the community.

They hope in the future to work with taxi cab companies, SLO Safe Ride and CHC to develop a network to meet the growing need for ride requests.

**Commissioner Enns** asked what they are doing in terms of educating seniors. *(Mr. Shaffer referred to their information cards (which come in many flavors for all areas of the county), they also do TV & radio ads. They regularly attend the Adult Services Policy Council and work closely with Medi-Cal & CenCal. Persons can call 5-1-1 or call Ride-On for more information.)*

**Commissioner Kington-Barker** asked what the revenue would be if the transportation sales tax were to pass. *(Mr. Shaffer is not certain of exact numbers, but noted it would be significant, \$4 million per year or maybe more.)*

**Commissioner Kington-Barker** asked if they have talked about doing some type of awareness campaign for seniors – *“Independence doesn't have to be tied to a driver's license.” (Mr. Shaffer noted that this philosophy came out of mobility management. He is certain that Rideshare and Ride-On will be partnering with others to come up with some type of campaign to encourage more people to ride the bus – “you can open your world by using the bus.”)*

**Commissioner Kington-Barker** asked how senior communities could arrange for weekly travel. *(Mr. Shaffer advised they should call Ride-On and talk with the mobility coordinator. They currently have four groups and would like to expand the program. Typically it is coordinated with management overseeing these communities and is promoted through their activity room.)*

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|   | <p><b>Commissioner Kington-Barker</b> commented that the “type style” on the information cards is very small, noting that bigger and simpler might be better.</p> <p><b>Dr. Borenstein</b> asked about eligibility criteria for Medi-Cal riders. <i>(Mr. Shaffer explained that persons are qualified through CenCal with a prescription from their doctor stating they cannot use public transit. The eligibility is a quick 2-3 day process.)</i></p> <p><b>Dr. Borenstein</b> asked if CHC provides transportation outside of Medi-Cal. <i>(Mr. Shaffer explained that CHC has a person responsible for transportation. CHC will provide transportation if a person’s needs cannot be met through any of the existing services.)</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>• The County requested an external pre-accreditation survey and inspection of the medial and mental health delivery services at the Jail and Juvenile Services Center. The audit is currently ongoing, but has thus far proven to be valuable in conclusions and recommendations.</li> <li>• EH received rave reviews from two sets of recent audits – one of the food program that permits all retain food establishments and the other of the HAZMAT/CUPA program.</li> <li>• Final interviews for the Emergency Medical Services Division Manager position are being conducted this week.</li> <li>• The Public Health Department is now a certified enrollment entity for Covered CA. There are 3 staff members who can assist individuals with getting enrolled in Covered CA and/or Medi-Cal by using the online system of Covered CA.</li> <li>• The rate of personal belief exemptions for immunizations is down from previous years (first time since 2003), although it is preliminary to say cause and effect related to the new law that went into effect this past school year <i>(where individuals citing they had a personal belief system that they didn’t want to get immunizations had to go through a health care provider for discussion and education about the risks and benefits of vaccination).</i></li> </ul> <p><b>Commissioner Smith-Cooke</b> asked about flu season and effectiveness of this year’s flu vaccine. <i>(Dr. Borenstein advised that flu season has begun in our County, with a first case of hospitalized patient under the age of 65. She explained “shift and drift of mutation in the predominant strain,” noting they are seeing some drift -- enough that the vaccine might not be as effective. It is not too late to get a flu shot.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Kington-Barker</b> asked about speculation that the recent measles at Disneyland had to do with people who avoided immunizations for their children. <i>(Yes, a disproportionate higher share of cases were in children who were not immunized, both because they were too young or who knowingly chose not to be vaccinated. Every measles outbreak that has occurred in the nation over the decades since measles vaccination has been available is usually a direct result of some of the cases having not been vaccinated.)</i></p> |  |  |
| <p><b>6. Health Commissioner Updates</b></p>          | <p><b>Chair Enns:</b> No report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Smith-Cook:</b> No report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Clous:</b> No report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Grantham:</b> Attended the Public Health Emergency Preparedness Advisory Committee (PHEPAC) last week. Kathleen Karle from the Public Health Department gave a great presentation on Climate Change and how it affects health. Anne Robin, Behavioral Health Crisis Resolution Team, was also present and talked about a pilot project they are working on with local ERs to help place some of the psychiatric patients. There was also a lot of discussion about the new proposed Behavioral Health facility in Templeton and how the facility would look. She also reported that there has been some monitoring for</p>  |  |  |

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|                                    | <p>Ebola in California, but all testing has been negative.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Raymond:</b> No report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Sage:</b> The Healthy Communities Committee met last week. Kathleen Karle has been out doing presentations on Climate Change and will be presenting to the Health Commission within the next couple of months. Also, the Community Based Organization Preventive Health Grant Committee is gearing up – applications have gone out and are due back at the end of January. The Committee will then meet to review applications.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Robert Campbell:</b> Attended the Domestic Violence Task Force in Commissioner Sage’s absence. Focus was on re-examining the mission of the Domestic Violence Task Force, particularly issues related to victim assistance. Of note, DSS reported a significant increase in referrals for children’s needs in October, with no explanation at this point.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Kington-Barker:</b> Attended the Adult Services Policy Council (ASPC) where there was a presentation by the Alzheimer’s Association that talked about the lack of respite care and the increased amount of caregiver support that is needed for individuals with Alzheimer’s or dementia. The ASPC is interested in bringing together a more concerted effort to focus on seniors and funding for programs that support services. Resources are not keeping pace with the increased aging community.</p> |                    |            |
| <b>7. Committee Reports</b>        | No committee reports.   |                    |            |
| <b>8. Prospective Future Items</b> | <p><b><u>February 9, 2015</u></b></p> <p>Proposed Behavioral Health Facility in Templeton (<i>possible action item</i>) – Invite Mark Schneider, CEO, Vizion Health LLC, and Anne Robin, County Behavioral Health Administrator.</p>  |                    |            |
| <b>9. Adjournment</b>              | Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.   | <i>Adjournment</i> | <i>All</i> |