

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
HEALTH COMMISSION**

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, March 9, 2015 (County Board of Supervisors Chambers)

Members Present: Lynn Enns (Chair), Corliss Campbell, Robert Campbell, David Clous, Kris Kington-Barker, James Pope, Jean Raymond, Mary Jean Sage, Susan Warren
 Members Absent: Scott Smith-Cooke, Claire Grantham
 Staff Present: Penny Borenstein, Jean White
 Speakers: Kathleen Karle (Health Promotion/County Health Agency)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action	Who/When
1. Call to Order	Meeting called to order by Chair Enns at 6:00 pm.	<i>Call to Order</i>	<i>Chair Enns</i>
2. Approval of Minutes	The February 9, 2015 minutes were approved with a few grammatical corrections made.	<i>February 2015 minutes approved.</i>	<i>All</i>
3. Public Comment	Chair Enns opened the floor to public comment with no response.		
4. Presentation: OutsideInSLO: We Take Health & Climate Change Personally	<p>Kathleen Karle, Division Manager, Health Promotion, provided a Power Point overview on climate change titled “<i>Climate Change is a Public Health Issue.</i>” <i>The presentation talked about how climate change is a significant public health threat facing our nation and the consequences of climate change on the health of our communities, families, & children. 97% of the world’s most qualified experts agree climate change is real and it is human caused. Some of the changes being seen across the United States are increased temperatures, extreme storms, wildfires, rising sea levels, decreased air quality, & drought. Impacts on health include heat illness and death (increasing temperatures, heat waves); respiratory illness (increasing temperatures, air pollution, wildfire); allergies from pollen, molds and air pollution; injuries, illness, death and mental stress (storms, disasters); infectious and vector borne diseases (increasing temperatures, rainfall); water borne disease, water quality (drought, floods, contamination); loss of housing and jobs, economic impacts.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Karle talked about a new pilot program they are working on at the request of the California Department of Public Health, known as “Outside In SLO,” with a goal to educate people about the health impacts of climate change. They have partnered with WIC, a nutrition program for low income mothers and young children, to spread their message. In California, transportation is one of the biggest contributors to climate change. Our food system is also a major contributor to climate change. The production, packaging & movement of certain types of foods have a larger impact on our climate than others. Things we can do: walk, bike, take public transportation, reduce energy use at home, plant drought resistant landscaping, wash clothes in cold water, take shorter showers, shop at local farmer’s markets, & drink tap water over bottled water. “Outside In SLO” results thus far: Presentations at 15 events, collaboration with ACPD & WIC, stories written in 7 media outlets, PSAs ran over 2,000 times on local radio, outreach at all farmer’s markets through March.</i></p> <p><i>Ms. Karle emphasized that this is not a political issue, it’s a health issue, and that science is solidly behind their efforts. (A copy of the Power Point presentation is filed with the official record of this meeting.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Clous noted that there is overwhelming scientific evidence that we need to address climate change and asked what is being done nationally. <i>(Ms. Karle’s hope is that people will stop debating</i></p>		

	<p><i>whether climate change is real. No other country is saying maybe this isn't real. She emphasized the need for united action, noting this is not a political issue, but about science and the world we are creating.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Pope noted that he worked 26 years as an environmental advisor and that this topic is very “dear to his heart.” He commented on the opportunity now for persons to make a choice toward a vegetarian diet, which would have a tremendous impact on climate change. <i>(Ms. Karle commented that 30% of greenhouse gases are caused by the industrial agricultural system and that there are some who advocate for vegetarian diets. When they are educating people, they do not stress vegetarianism, but stress choosing meatless meals a few times per week, which could make a difference.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Corliss Campbell: Thanked Ms. Karle for a very affirming talk and liked the fact that there is so much focus on what we can do. She was especially pleased to hear Ms. Karle talk about excess consumerism, and appreciates that message brought forward to bring more awareness. Focusing on needs vs. wants and making them more local can make a big difference.</p> <p>Commissioner Robert Campbell: Asked Ms. Karle if she could expand on a detail she mentioned about the percent of Californians living with bad or deteriorating air quality. <i>(Dr. Borenstein explained that there are 6 air components that are measured, with stationary air monitoring systems throughout the country as well as California. She believes that “91% of Californians living with poor air quality” means that there are some exceedances of regulated acceptable levels of one or more of those air components. Ms. Karle commented that she received that information from the California Department of Public Health and will follow up for more info.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Warren: Referred to a detail in the presentation that Cuba is educating their 4th grade students on CPR and asked about education for our children, particularly in recognizing heat stroke. <i>(Ms. Karle advised that their funding is grant directed and this is not something that is funded by the grant.)</i></p>		
<p>5. Health Agency / Public Health Report</p>	<p>Penny Borenstein, MD, Health Officer, reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The California Department of Public Health has a new director and state health officer – Karen Smith, MD, MPH, who was previously the health officer of Napa County. • The CDC recently came out with a report that says testing for Tuberculosis (TB) can now be done through Nucleic Acid Amplification Techniques (NAT), a more effective test in determining whether a person has TB. • The Public Health Department is recruiting for Public Health nurses to fill vacancies in their Home Visiting Program, case management for children with special health care needs, the Maternal Child Adolescent Health Program, and the Communicable Disease Program. <i>(Commissioner Kington-Barker asked if recruitment is difficult and if the Health Commission could do anything to assist. Dr. Borenstein noted that the Economic Vitality Commission is looking at health work force issues and the possibility of working with Cal Poly. She explained that difficulties with recruitment are multi-factorial, with competition from hospitals & home health and the high cost of living for the wages.)</i> 		
<p>6. Health Commissioner Updates</p>	<p>Chair Enns: No update.</p> <p>Commissioner Kington-Barker: No update.</p> <p>Commissioner Warren: Reported that the Behavioral Health Board received a presentation from Dr. Billig on the proposed psychiatric facility in Templeton and will be putting together a letter of recommendation. Anne Robin, Behavioral Health Administrator, will be making a presentation to the Board of Supervisors on March 17 about the Health Agency/Behavioral Health Department’s current</p>		

	<p>health care delivery system. Commissioner Warren also reported that the Homeless Oversight Committee is getting ready to do their 50 Now survey this month.</p> <p>Commissioner Pope: No update.</p> <p>Commissioner Sage: Reported that the Preventative Health Grant/CBO met and finalized their recommendations for funding for FY 2015-16. There were approximately 70 applicants asking for a total of 1.8 million dollars in grant requests. The committee’s recommendations will go forward to the Board of Supervisors in June at the budget hearings. Commissioner Sage also reported that the Healthy Communities Committee (part of HEAL SLO) continues to meet monthly and have reviewed several plans which have been emailed to Health Commissioners.</p> <p>Commissioner Raymond: Was unable to attend ASPC, but reported that there will be a free public lecture at the SLO City/County Library on March 13, 2-3PM, titled “<i>How National Affordable Housing Changes, Demands and Funding Challenges Will Affect Your Community,</i>” presented by People’s Self-Help Housing and David Smith, founder of RECAP Real Estate Advisors.</p> <p>Commissioner Clous: As Chair of the Tobacco Control Coalition, was pleased to report that at last Tuesday’s SLO City Council meeting, the Council voted unanimously to prohibit the use of e-cigarettes anywhere that smoking is currently banned, specifically most public places and work places. The Council is expected to give final approval on March 27.</p> <p>Commissioner Corliss Campbell: No update.</p> <p>Commissioner Robert Campbell: Reported that he attended a public forum on aging that was put on by Congresswoman Lois Capps together with representatives from the Area Agency on Aging and the Santa Barbara Foundation. The purpose of the forum was to gather input to shape the agenda of the 2015 White House Conference on Aging. Congresswoman Capps will report the information collected to Washington D.C. Common themes were concerns about work force, need for more case management, guiding people through the health care system, more visibility of elderly Latino population. A very productive forum.</p>		
7. Committee Reports	No committee reports.		
8. Prospective Future Items	<p><u>April 13, 2015</u> SLO Housing Trust Fund – Commissioner Raymond Homeless Services Oversight Council / 50 NOW Project – Commissioner Warren</p> <p><u>May 11, 2015</u> Issue of rape on college campuses – Commissioner Clous</p> <p><u>June 8, 2015</u> Children w/special needs / facilities: Tri Counties Regional Center – overview Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center Jack’s Helping Hands</p> <p><u>Future Agenda Item</u> Commissioner Corliss Campbell suggested an educational session on recognizing signs of heat stroke. Dr. Borenstein is not aware of an expert on that subject, but would be able to provide educational information on heat stroke at a future meeting.</p>		
9. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.	<i>Adjournment</i>	<i>All</i>