

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
HEALTH COMMISSION**

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, October 17, 2016 (County Board of Supervisors Chambers)

Members Present: Jean Raymond (Vice-Chair), Robert Campbell, David Clous, Tamar Sekayan, Scott Smith-Cooke, Susan Warren, Candace Winstead

Members Absent: Mary Jean Sage (Chair), Kris Kington-Barker, Claire Grantham

Staff Present: Dr. Penny Borenstein, Jean White

Speakers: Karen Jones (Long Term Care Ombudsman Services); Deborah Bayles (Age Alliance); Linda Beck (Attorney/Patient Advocate)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action	Who/When
1. Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by Vice-Chair Raymond.	<i>Call to Order</i>	<i>Vice-Chair Raymond</i>
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes of September 12, 2016 were approved as drafted.	<i>Sept 12, 2016 minutes approved</i>	<i>All</i>
3. Public Comment	Dr. Steve Hansen , a member of the Central Coast Medical Association and the County Tobacco Coalition talked about some of the accomplishments this year in tobacco control, particularly the raising of the minimum age for sale of all tobacco products to age 21. He asked for continued support from the commission as they work toward all college and university campuses becoming tobacco-free. The Tobacco Control Coalition will be meeting tomorrow about goals for next and this will be near the top.		
4. Presentations:	<p>Gaps in Services for the Elderly Karen Jones, Executive Director, Long Term Care Ombudsman Services of SLO County, talked about their mission and the advocacy they do for residents in long term care facilities, both individually and systemically. Services include complaint investigation & regulation, information & referral, community education sessions, facility monitoring, and in California, advance health care directive witnessing. Ms. Jones talked about gaps in services and gave examples of typical calls they receive in a day, with most callers expecting there to be a safety net in place for services. She noted that there are not enough care facilities. There are 8 skilled nursing, with long waiting list (years), and costs between \$6,000-\$8,000 per month. There are 100 residential care facilities, with costs between \$2000-\$7,000 per month, typically paid out of pocket. Ms. Jones emphasized the need for free or low cost care/case management and increased SSI payments to residential care facilities. In some parts of the state, MediCal will pay for residential care facilities – she emphasized the need for that here. Ms. Jones referred to a model adult foster care program in Oregon she would like to see in this county, basically a residential care “lite” program, with some regulation and oversight that gets more people into needed services.</p> <p>Commissioner Smith-Cooke asked if they have an advisory group or board of directors that take on advocacy issues. <i>(Ms. Jones advised that they have a local board, but are also a part of the State Long Term Care Ombudsman Association and the National Long Term Care Ombudsman Association who are very involved in systemic advocacy.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Smith-Cooke asked about need for volunteers. <i>(Ms. Jones advised that they are looking for volunteers and have an upcoming volunteer training class in January. Information is available at ombudsman.org.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Campbell commented on the Health Commission’s role as an advisory to the Board of Supervisors and asked about a top issue that might be achievable. <i>(Ms. Jones iterated the need for free and low cost case management. Funding for case management would solve many problems.)</i></p>		

	<p>Commissioner Warren commented on the many senior issues - <i>not enough senior housing, homeless persons ending up in care facilities --</i> and would like to see community & policymakers come together to find solutions by looking at models in other areas that are working, such as Oregon. <i>(Ms. Jones noted that there are people at the State & local level looking at these issues. Senator Monning and Assembly member Achadjian have both been good about dealing with these issues, but funding is very limited.)</i></p> <p>Elder Orphans: A growing population Deborah Bayles, Certified Geriatric Care Manager and founder of Age Alliance (a care management and corporate eldercare training practice), provided a Power Point overview of their organization, defining “elder orphan” and giving statistics on numbers of elder orphans, explaining some of the impacts this population will have on County community services. She talked about what SLO County can do to address this growing population by attracting more board-certified geriatricians and geriatric nurse practitioners, establishing more adult day centers, expanding transportation options for the elderly, supporting construction of affordable housing, supporting outreach to the elder orphan population, training and vetting of volunteers, expanding community education about Area Agency on Aging resources, and by creating a Safe Elder Vendor Network. She introduced Linda Beck, a SLO County Long Term Care Ombudsman and patient advocate who was present for the Q&A portion of the presentation.</p> <p>Commissioner Raymond asked about the Osher Lifelong Learning Program. <i>(Ms. Bayles advised that they are trying to reactivate it after budget cuts. Cuesta College has also tried to put together some elder programs; she would like to see a Caregiver Certification Program added.)</i></p> <p>Linda Beck, Attorney/Patient Advocate, Long Term Care Ombudsman, encouraged the commission and community to increase outreach and public awareness of the Area Agency on Aging. She also emphasized that the Osher Program is a great program, but ties back to the need for transportation and how to get people to the program.</p> <p>Commissioner Smith-Cooke asked for more information on what Age Alliance does and if long term care insurance companies tap into their services. <i>(Ms. Bayles advised she is the founder of Age Alliance, a care management and corporate eldercare training practice. Age Alliance is a private pay organization because Medicare does not reimburse case management. Long term insurance companies usually work through home care agencies and she will, at times, be asked by a home care agency to do an initial evaluation care plan. Ms. Bayles was also a member of the Senior Advisory Council of the Area Agency on Aging, where she developed a directory of acronyms and designations. The document is available on the Area Agency on Aging’s website.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Warren asked if the Commission might help by writing letters to the Cuesta Board or Board of Supervisors in support of elder training programs. <i>(Ms. Bayles commented that it “all boils down to money.” At one time, Sacramento had grants specifically for training. She also noted that there is a Seniors Helping Seniors program at Cal Poly.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Sekayan asked about percentages & projections from where we are now in the number of elderly in need of services, and projecting out for the next decade on how that will continue to grow. <i>(Commissioner Raymond advised that the Area Agency on Aging has statistics on their website for both San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties.)</i></p>	<p><i>A copy of Ms. Bayles’s Power Point presentation is filed with the official record of the meeting.</i></p>	
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<p>5. Action: Consideration for Health Commission's Support of Prop 56</p>	<p>Commissioner Clous brought forward an action item for consideration by the commission to support Prop 56. A copy of the draft letter of support was distributed and read by Commissioner Clous. If approved by the commission, the letter will be sent as a Letter to the Editor at <i>The Tribune</i>, urging Californians to vote yes on Prop 56 for public health.</p> <p><i>A motion was made by Commissioner Campbell, seconded by Commissioner Smith-Cooke, to accept the letter as presented in support of Prop 56. All in favor: Campbell, Smith-Cooke, Clous, Sekayan, Warren, Winstead, Raymond. None opposed. Absent: Grantham, Kington-Barker, Sage.</i></p>	<p><i>On motion made, seconded and approved, the commission supports Prop 56 and will send a letter to the Editor at The Tribune.</i></p>	<p><i>Campbell/Smith-Cooke/All</i></p>
<p>6. Health Agency/Public Health Report</p>	<p>Dr. Penny Borenstein, Health Officer, reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided an update from last month's meeting that the two public speakers from Surfrider's Association have since met with the Environmental Health director and staff and are working on a plan to provide quicker and comprehensive information to the public, specifically making available annual data and trend data so that the public can see where the "hot spots" are over time. • SLO County had its first confirmed case of Zika Virus. The infection was obtained in Mexico. Mosquito surveillance is ongoing and they have not yet identified any of the mosquito species that carry the Zika Virus in SLO County. • SLO County also confirmed its first case of seasonal flu. The Public Health Department will be holding a free flu vaccination clinic on Sunday, 10/23, 10:00-1:00 at both the Colony Park Community Center in Atascadero and at the Women's Club in Arroyo Grande. Information is posted on the PH website (www.slopublichealth.org). • Open Enrollment for Covered California begins on November 1, 2016 and ends on January 31, 2017, for persons making changes to their plans. • The quarterly meeting of the Opioid Safety Coalition will be this Thursday, 10/20, at Sierra Vista Hospital Auditorium from 8:30-10:30. Anyone interested is welcome to attend. 		
<p>7. Health Commissioner Updates</p>	<p>Commissioner Warren reported that the Homeless Services Oversight Housing Committee will be meeting tomorrow afternoon. Also, tomorrow, at the Board of Supervisors, there will be a public hearing for the 2016/17 Action Plan on the HUD projects for homeless housing funds. They will be accepting public input on types of projects to be funded prior to putting together a final plan.</p> <p>Commissioner Campbell reported that he has been asked to draft the letter to the Board of Supervisors about the health impacts of the particulate matter/dust occurring at the Oceano Dunes. More information is needed prior to communicating to the Board. He has invited Larry Allen to come and speak about the modelling program that is being developed by the State in conjunction with APCD.</p> <p>Commissioner Clous reported that he and Commissioner Smith-Cooke recently completed a bi-annual review of the Ag Department's Pesticide Use Enforcement Program. Review showed some negative trends, primarily in the pesticide use monitoring inspections and was primarily due to staff turnaround and the training required in bringing new staff up to speed. A letter was sent to the Ag Department on observations made, requesting comments. He commended the Department on conducting a comprehensive program.</p> <p>Commissioner Smith-Cooke added that the review of the Ag Department also showed many positive trends; he was particularly impressed to see what farmers are doing when applying pesticides (at night, when schools are closed) to ensure our community is as safe as possible.</p> <p>Commissioner Smith-Cooke, as a Medicare Counselor with HICAP under the Area Agency on Aging, announced that Medicare open enrollment began on October 15th and will go through December 7th. It</p>		

	is the only time that Medicare beneficiaries can 1) change their Part D pharmacy plans (<i>formulary lists have changed this year and premiums for the most part are going up</i>) and; 2) change from original Medicare as a provider of insurance to a Medicare HMO or vice-versa. Plan members who are satisfied with their 2016 plans do not have to do anything further. HICAP's phone number is (805) 928-5663. This Friday, at 10:00 AM, HICAP will be giving a presentation at the SLO County Commission on Aging at the SLO Veteran's Center.		
8. Committee Reports	No reports.		
9. Prospective Future Items	<u>November 14, 2016:</u> Invite SLO Opioid Safety Coalition Invite Dr. Borenstein to talk about the health impacts of particulate matter		
10. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.	<i>Adjournment</i>	<i>All</i>