



**Health Center (HC) Board Minutes
August 26, 2020**

The Health Center Board met via Go To Meeting.

Present: Consumer Members: Lee Herrington (Co-Chair), Filipo Chappelle, Celia Lee, Richard Osbourne

Community Members: Emily Casarez, Sylvia Barnard, Arianna Castellanos, Skip Szymanski (Chair)

Non-Voting Member: Douglas Metz, Health Center Executive Director

Staff: Kendall Johnston, Paola Hurtado, Dana Gamble, Jeanette Gumber, Suzanne Jacobson, Polly Baldwin, Melissa Gomez, Elvira Briones-Arellano, Michael Camacho-Craft, Ralph Barbosa.

Guests/Speaker: None

Agenda Items

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Szymanski at 12:04pm.

II. Review and Approve Minutes from the July 22, 2020 Meeting

Mr. Chappelle motioned that the minutes from the July Board meeting be approved by the HC Board; Mr. Herrington seconded. No public comments were made.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

III. Roll Call, Sign In and Quorum Established.

Chair Szymanski requested the virtual attendees do a roll call and verified that a quorum was established.

IV. Public Comment: None

V. Old Business: None

VI. New Business: Introduction of new PHD Compliance Officer, Janine Neal and Semi-Annual Compliance Report-Ms. Jacobson & Ms. Neal.

Due to conflicting meeting schedules, Ms. Jacobson presented her standing monthly financial report before introducing Janine Neal as the new PHD Compliance Officer, and reviewing the history of the compliance reports to the attendees. Ms. Neal introduced herself to the Board along with her history with Public health and her credentials. Ms. Neal is scheduled to present her compliance findings to the Health Center Board each August and February and reviewed the compliance program work plan elements as recommended by the Office of the Inspector General. During the next six months, Ms. Neal will be reviewing the compliance program structure, establish baselines for risk assessments using or creating committees or focus groups, and prioritize areas of concern that need to be reviewed. Ms. Castellanos volunteered to be the Board representative for the 340b pharmacy committee that is being created. Policies and Procedures will be reviewed and presented to the Board for comments and approval and reporting metrics and trending graphs will be improved.

Ms. Neal reported that there were 31 compliance incidents reported and investigated between July 2019 and August 2020. Of those incidents, 58% were due to human error in sending faxes or emails. The County had installed new monitoring software after the January 2019 emotet virus infection so Malware and virus incidents have decreased from last year. Additionally, some incidents involved the wrong guarantor being entered in a patient's electronic health record, but these incidents have decreased due to improved workflows being implemented in the clinics.

VIII. Standing Reports:

1. July 2020 Monthly Financial Report-Ms. Jacobson

Ms. Jacobson presented her financial report ahead of the new agenda item. As July is the first month of the new fiscal year, the year-to-date and month-to-date deficit is the same. Ms. Jacobson explained that the reason for this includes July being a month with 31 days and no holidays, the State being slow to pay patient claims in June, as well as that many July invoices have not yet been received. As patient visits continue to ramp up in person and via telehealth, it is expected that Medicaid and Medicare revenue will increase. Physician fees are showing as under budget due to the timing of invoices from the physicians which are generally delayed by about a month. Salaries and Benefits are reported as over budget due to the fact that the annual budget is divided equally by 12 months so there are lower budgeted dollars than expenses for months with 31 days and everything should all even out at the end of the fiscal year.

Mr. Herrington motioned that the Board approve the July monthly financial report; Mr. Chapelle seconded. No public comments were made.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

2. Policy Review Committee

Mr. Herrington motioned that the policies presented in August be approved by the Board, also including policy 19-C-645 which was sent to the review committee after the Board materials were distributed; Ms. Lee seconded. No public comments were made.

Motion Carried Unanimously

3. Provider Appointments-None this Month.

4. Quality Measures Report-Ms. Gomez

Ms. Gomez began her monthly report with an overview of the improvement measures:

Diabetes Control/A1C: Continues to improve slowly due to more in person visits at the health centers where patients can be checked.

Hypertension: This measure has been struggling since the pandemic began as in-person visits were cancelled. PHD is working with CenCal to help clients be able to monitor their blood pressure at home.

Depression Screening: This measure has been fairly stagnant, but PHD is improving the workflows for virtual visits and is hopeful to see increases in the next few months.

Pediatric Depression Screening and Intervention: Ms. Gomez stated that there was a 4% decrease from the previous month and that she would need to revisit the data.

Breast Cancer Screenings: Continue to decrease due to lack of in-person visits at screening centers, but this measure is still included in the metrics for grant funding.

Patient Satisfaction (Wait time): The survey question regarding patient wait time from check-in to seeing the provider was modified for virtual visits and resulted in a huge increase with patient satisfaction.

As preventative services start re-opening at local facilities and the County health centers, we anticipate continued progress. No public comment.

5. Executive Director's Report-Dr. Metz

Dr. Metz began his monthly highlights by discussing the possibility of more CARES money coming into the health centers once congress can approve the bill. Dr. Peggy Dodds at the Carpinteria Health Center retired in July but has since rejoined as a deputy health officer for the PHD's COVID response. Dr. Baldwin joined the conversation and explained that care packs have been created for health center patients who tested positive for COVID, which include pulse oximeters and thermometers so that patients can monitor their vitals at home. CenCal and Direct Relief have been helpful in this effort and Dr. Prystowsky is working in getting the hospitals connected with Direct Relief. The pediatrics program at the Santa Maria Health Center continues to ramp up, in conjunction with CenCal and the clinical laboratory is investigating the potential use of Point of Care COVID tests to be available at each of the health centers.

There was an overall 3% increase of patient visits in July vs. June and a significant increase in homeless care. Mr. Barbosa reported that many of the homeless individuals utilizing the State's Project Room Key have been able to transition into permanent housing.

6. COVID 19 Update-Mr. Gamble

Mr. Gamble provided the current status of COVID19 in Santa Barbara County and reviewed the metrics listed on the PublicHealthSBC.org website. SBC continues to be on the State's monitoring list, however elementary schools (Grades TK-6) now have the option to apply for a waiver through PHD to re-open in person classroom instruction. Additionally, PHD will be participating in the State's Housing for the Harvest program which is similar to Project Room Key, but targeted toward food and agricultural workers. As the number of new cases appears to be slowing down, Mr. Gamble encouraged the attendees to remain vigilant in taking the necessary precautions to avoid contracting the virus.

VII. Member Announcements: Ms. Johnston pointed out the error on the Agenda showing the September meeting to be held in person and reiterated that all Health Center Board meetings are virtual until further notice.

VIII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:17pm.