



HEALTH CARE CENTERS

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

Health Center (HC) Board Minutes December 18th 2019

The Health Center Board met in the third-floor conference room at the Santa Barbara Health Care Center.

Present: Consumer Members: Christopher Hutton, Stephen Ferrara, Richard Osbourne, Celia Lee, Cynthia Guerrero, Filipo Chappelle, Wm. Darrel Gardner

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

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

Staff: Kendall Johnston, Suzanne Jacobson, Paola Hurtado, Ralph Barbosa, Van Do-Reynoso, Melissa Gomez, Polly Baldwin, Elvira Briones-Arellano, Dana Gamble.

Guests/Speaker: None

Agenda Items

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order by Chair Szymanski at 12:05pm and the quorum was established.

II. Review and Approve Minutes from the November 20 Meeting

There were no requested revisions to the November meeting minutes.

Mr. Chappelle motioned that the minutes from the November 20 meeting be accepted by the Board; Mr. Gardner seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

III. Old Business:

1. Board Member Elections

Mr. Gardner motioned that the Board approve Skip Szymanski to continue as Chair and Lee Herrington to be appointed to Vice-Chair; Ms. Guerrero seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

IV. New Business:

1. Welcome Jeanette Gumber, new Health Center Administrator for Carpinteria

Dr. Metz informed the Board that Jeanette Gumber was offered and accepted the Health Center Administrator position at the Carpinteria Health Center and will begin in that role on January 13th, 2020. Ms. Gumber is currently a women's health nursing supervisor at the Santa Barbara Health Center.

VIII. Standing Reports:

1. November 2019 Financial Report-Ms. Jacobson

Ms. Jacobson briefly reviewed the budget narrative and financial report for the month of November 2019. The deficit has grown, which at this time of year is expected due to holidays. The health centers will be open with limited hours during the Christmas and New Year's break and PHD is hoping to rally back up in January 2020. Ms. Jacobson also noted that the drawdowns are now taking place monthly, rather than quarterly, so as to identify areas for improvement in a timely manner. Pharmaceuticals are reporting lower in one Health Center and higher in others; however, the cost of some drugs has decreased causing less revenue to be collected from the 340b pharmacy program.

Physician Fees have increased due to physician vacancies and locum tenens coverage for staff physicians on vacation.

Mr. Hutton motioned that the HC Board approve and accept the October 2019 monthly report; Mr. Chapelle seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

[Dr. Baldwin joined the meeting at 12:19pm]

2. Policy Review Committee

The policy review committee did not meet during the month of December and the policies for review will be deferred to the January 22nd 2020 HC Board Meeting.

3. Provider Appointments-Dr. Baldwin

Dr. Baldwin shared with the Board that two new providers will be coming on board in January: Elspeth Mills, PsyD and Jaclyn Kucharski, MD. Dr. Mills is a Psychologist and will be providing behavioral health services at the Franklin Health Care Center as well as PATH. Dr. Kucharski is a Family Practice physician and will be splitting her time between the Carpinteria and Franklin Health Centers.

Mr. Ferrara motioned that the Board approve the aforementioned providers for initial appointment; Ms. Castellanos seconded.

Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Quality Measures Report-Ms. Gomez

Ms. Gomez presented the performance measure results for the month of November, which have not changed much since the October report. Ms. Gomez warned that the hypertension measure may see some negative results due to holiday changes in diets and exercise. A lively discussion about how the depression measure is calculated ensued. The patient satisfaction report will be updated next month as the results are calculated quarterly.

5. Executive Director's Report-Dr. Metz

Dr. Metz referred the Board members to the director's report in the Board packet. All health centers participated in a disaster training exercise in November as well as preparing for the potential Public Safety Power Shut offs. In an effort to increase efficiency and save money, the County has brought in an outside appraiser, KPMG, to evaluate operations. The Santa Maria Health Center operations were reviewed during the month of November.

Dr. Metz grimly noted that patient visits were down during November, about 6% short from last month equating to approximately \$400K in lost revenue. The next six months will be crucial in order to bring in enough revenue to break even on the budget. Dr. Metz will present a formal report at the next HC Board meeting showing what strategies are being used to increase patient visits and reduce costs. Chair Szymanski requested time be set aside at the January Board meeting to discuss this important issue in more detail.

V. Member Announcements

Ms. Barnard informed the Board that the new Sobering Center in Santa Barbara will be opening on January 14th 2020. The sobering center is a jail-diversion program for persons who have experienced a first time DUI and public intoxication charge. The building is located in the former County Archives building.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 12:55pm.