

MARICOPA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH RETREAT
Meeting Minutes
Administration Building
301 W. Jefferson Street, 10th Floor
Board of Supervisors Conference Room
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
May 19, 2008
1:00 pm

Ms. Adamic called the meeting to order at 1:18 pm with a quorum present.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Audrey Adamic
Don Cassano
Susanne Cook, RN, PhD
James Giangobbe, M.D.
Zuhdi Jasser, M.D.*
Michael Kearns
Brian F. Spicker
James Vandeventer
Pam Wright

Members Excused:

Maricopa County Supervisor Andrew Kunasek, District 3

Ex-Officio: Bob England, M.D.

(* Denotes members arriving after Roll Call)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Adamic advised that if anyone from the public is present at the meeting today who would like an opportunity to speak, a Speaker Request Form is available and must be filled out prior to addressing the Board of Health. The Board of Health cannot respond to questions from the public under the Call to the Public section

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS:

Request for Approval of the April 28, 2008 Board of Health Meeting Minutes:

Dr. Giangobbe made the motion to approve the April 28, 2008 meeting minutes. James Vandeventer seconded the motion.

Dr. Cook had a correction to the minutes - Mr. Spicker did not include the American Veterans Post 05 in his motion to approve the fee waivers.

Dr. Jasser arrived at 1:39 pm

Request for Approval for Environmental Services Fee Waivers:

Ms. Minichiello presented 70 waivers for approval

The following questions were discussed regarding the proposed fee waivers:

Q: Are the non-waivers to date exceeding last year's waivers?

A: Yes, they will exceed last year's due to all of St. Vincent de Paul's submittals. However, this does not represent an increasing trend, given the number of waivers for St. Vincent de Paul.

Q: In regards to Nova Safe Haven, did they receive money from any state agencies?

A: Yes, Magellan and HUD

A motion was made to accept all the waivers except for the Nova Safe Haven. The motion was seconded.

Discussion –

What can Nova Safe Haven put in their rates that is allowable?

An amended motion was made to defer the Nova Safe Haven waiver until further information was provided and to approve all other waivers. The motion was seconded.

Mr. Spicker raised a concern about the time and the burden of staff being that the overall goal of a waiver is to help the underserved population.

The amended motion was withdrawn.

Dr. Cook motioned that we approve all fee waivers at this time and that in the future pose the types of questions to the different agencies that we have. The motion was seconded by James Vandeventer. The motion was approved.

Smoke Free Arizona Program Update

This is the program resulting from voter approval of the smoke-free workplace initiative. Mr. Power presented an overview of the program's first year. Highlights include:

- *81,000 inspections performed on various facilities.*
- *Maricopa County was not delegated authority to pursue legal enforcement – this is handled at the State level.*
- *Environmental Services will continue to inspect all permitted facilities under the grant for the next year.*

West Nile Report

Mr. Power presented an overview that included:

- *Nearly 30,000 breeding area sites have been inspected.*
- *12,000 sites have been treated with larvicide, 675 acres.*
- *Surveillance has been increased to almost 11,000 CO2 traps.*
- *20 samples have tested positive for WNV preliminarily, although only one was confirmed to be positive.*
- *Out of approximately 9,000 complaints, which generated 10,000 site visits or field investigations, 90% were for green swimming pools.*
- *1,332 search warrants have been served.*
- *Alternative ways to legally enter foreclosed and abandoned properties are being pursued.*

- *Warrants not required for entering abandoned homes (75% of green pool complaints involve abandoned homes); if we can identify that homes are abandoned, we can post a note saying they have 24 hours to give us a call to refute that the property is abandoned, if we do receive a call we take the steps to get them to clean up the pool, if no one calls, we go back in (2nd visit) after 3 day (certified letter is not necessary) take pictures to identify that it is an abandoned home and then we go in to treat the pool with mosquito-eating fish.*
- *The fish are considered a permanent type of treatment, as opposed to larvicide, which has a maximum duration of 150 days.*
- *A lien of \$400 is placed on the property once we have performed treatment, which the property owner has the right to appeal.*

Public Health Emergency Management (PHEM) Update

Alisa Diggs, PHEM Program Manager, presented an update on the program.

- *We have completed 5 full grant cycles, amounting to \$12.9 million over the past 4 years.*
- *Fully furnished an incident command center- to house all of the response team, and have a significant number of communication devices and an emergency vehicle.*
- *We have developed a number of operational plans, including delivery of the strategic national stockpile (mass medication distribution).*
- *We have more recently focused on several priority projects, including human resource capacity and development, coordination of data collection, epidemiological capacity, and communications ability.*
- *Pandemic Plan – making sure that everyone is using the statewide system, planning for community containment, school influenza surveillance.*
- *We have engaged in numerous exercises.*
- *Planning for events – Bowl Games/Super Bowl – lots of planning for Super Bowl – Successfully able to integrate the public health care delivery system and our partners from hospitals and health care organizations into our public health incident command operation.*
- *Goal is to enhance partnerships.*
- *Business continuity planning is a priority.*

Break taken at 2:46 pm

Employee Satisfaction Survey (ESS)

Dr. England summarized results from the most recent ESS.

- *98% of employees participated.*
- *Overall satisfaction continues to improve.*
- *The number of employees who express overall dissatisfaction is decreasing.*
- *We still have some persistent problem areas, such as with compensation / pay.*
- *Employees feel that results of ESS could be better used.*
- *Overall, we have a staff that in spite of difficulties is enthusiastic, like what they are doing and are satisfied with the environment around them. This speaks as highly of our staff as of management.*

Flu Vaccine Plans

Dr. England made the Board aware of a major upcoming initiative in influenza control.

- *The annual influenza epidemic is very costly in human life and economically. It takes hundreds of lives and costs \$tens of millions in Maricopa County alone.*
- *The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) has recommended flu vaccine for all children from 6 months through 18 years of age.*
- *The idea of the ACIP recommendation is to vaccinate all school aged and younger children so they don't take it home and spread it to others. Experience in Japan and mathematical modeling indicates that if you can vaccinate 1 in 5 children in your community, you can reduce the percentage of those who get the flu by 50%.*
- *We are hoping to make Maricopa County the first large community to test the full implementation of the ACIP recommendation, if not this season, then by the fall of 2009.*

Annual Health Status

Sarah Santana, Epidemiology Program Manager and County Epidemiologist, presented our community's health status, with an emphasis on what we don't know.

- *Our population continues to steadily grow by approximately 100,000 per year.*
- *Communicable disease reports and outbreaks continue to sky rocket.*
- *Most reports are not investigated and less than 10% are investigated in a timely manner.*
- *There are many specific questions that are important for assessing the health status of the community for which we do not have answers.*
- *We do almost no assessment of what services are available to the public – we don't know where the holes are and who is not getting services.*
- *New AIDS cases and HIV/AIDS death rates have been decreasing.*
- *TB rates are at the same level with the US but far above the healthy people 2010 goal.*
- *Intentional trauma rates are high, but as with many other issues, much is unknown.*
- *We know very little detail in maternal and child health epidemiology.*

Director's Report

Dr. England presented a long-promised overview of the status of the Department and of public health in Maricopa County.

- *The primary role of Public Health is assessment – knowing what the health status is, why things are the way they are, what is going on in the community, what services exist, what community organizations are doing, what opportunities exist, and so forth.*
- *The structure of the Department was briefly described in relation to the 10 essential public health services.*
- *Referring to the local health departments within each of the states, most states' local health departments are primarily funded either with local funds or by a balanced mix of federal, state, and local money. Arizona is one of only six states that rely primarily on federal funding, and Maricopa County is the cause of this statistic for Arizona.*

- *The mean funding for large local public health departments around the country is \$63 per person, but our Department has less than \$14 per person from all sources. Within Arizona, every other county receives more funding (the average being 2½ times as much).*
- *The bottom line is that Maricopa County is extremely resource poor.*
- *This results in serious impacts upon the health of many. Several examples were discussed. At least 300 women become infertile each year because we are not performing basic STD contact tracing and treatment. Many interventions to protect individuals from infectious diseases that are routinely performed in other counties are not done here. Very little effort is being made against chronic diseases that will cost our community \$billions in the future.*

A brief discussion of the future of the department and the role of the Board followed.

Discussion of the 2008/2009 budget was deferred.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25pm.