

**Maricopa County  
Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
Admin Building  
301 W. Jefferson Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Board of Supervisors Conference Room  
Phoenix, Arizona 85003  
3:00 p.m.  
March 27, 2006**

Dr. Cook called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

**ROLE CALL:**

**Members Present:**

Don Cassano  
Susanne Cook, Ph.D., R.N.  
James Giangobbe, M.D.  
Jim Vandeventer  
Pam Wight  
Maclovia Zepeda

**Members Excused:**

Audrey Adamic  
Brian McNeil

Ex-Officio: Bob England, M.D., M.P.H.

Dr. Cook addressed all in attendance to clarify the "Public Comment" and "Current Events" items on the agenda. Under "Current Events" Board of Health members may report on recent events or announcements that they wish to share. Members are not allowed to discuss or take action on announcements.

Under the "Call to the Public" section, citizens only have the opportunity to speak to the Board. There are speaker request forms in the back of the room. Please complete a form if you wish to address the Board of Health. According to the "Arizona Open Meeting Laws" members of the Board may only discuss matters that are on the agenda and cannot take action or deliberate on any matter addressed during the "Public Comment" section. When you are called upon to speak please come to one of the speaker microphone areas and state your name and address for the minutes.

Supervisor Andrew Kunasek arrived.

**Approval of the February 27, 2006 Board of Health Meeting minutes:**

*Dr. Giangobbe made the motion to approve the February 27, 2006 Board of Health Meeting minutes as presented today. Mr. Cassano seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by seven votes.*

**Mesa Community Action Network Fee Waiver Request:**

Ms. Minichiello, Program Manager, Environmental Services, offered to answer any questions the Board members might have regarding the Mesa Community Action Network Fee waiver request presented as an Action Item today. Ms. Minichiello stated that the fee waiver meets the requirements – operating solely for the poor, distressed, and underprivileged. Ms. Wight asked if part of the request for \$700.00 was for a fine. Ms. Minichiello explained that the fine for operating without a license is doubled from \$350.00 to \$700.00 which is part of the waiver totaling \$800.00.

*Mr. Cassano made the motion to approve the fee waiver request for Mesa Community Action Network with Ms. Zepeda seconding the motion. The motion passed unanimously by seven votes.*

**DISCUSSION ITEMS:****Acting Director's Report:**

Dr. England, addressed the Board of Health members in his new capacity as Acting Executive Director for the Department of Public Health. Dr. England explained that key staff have left the department or given formal notice to leave. He asked for and received assistance of some to continue to provide their expertise until these positions are staffed at an acceptable level.

Mr. Spicker arrived.

Changes are underway to assure the highest level of services are provided to the community. Ryan White prescription services are being transferred to a private pharmacy with multiple locations. Staff shortages are being addressed as rapidly as possible.

The Office of Minority Health had been previously discontinued. Dr. England asked the Board of Health members for feedback regarding this discontinued program. Several of the Board of Health members recognized the value of this program providing assistance to individuals in the community. Supervisor Kunasek stated that the health of the community is a paramount goal for the County.

Dr. Jasser arrived.

Ms. Wight asked how many employees were involved and where are they now? Dr. England said there were two employees; one is working with the tuberculosis program and the other has left the department and is part of the Diversity Program downtown.

Dr. Cook asked what is working for other communities and is this trend going away, in vogue, or can this assistance be absorbed in other areas? Dr. England responded that ideally disparities should be addressed within each program rather than expecting a small office to do so on its own.

Ms. Zepeda explained that she often considers research a key in determining what is going on in other communities as a step toward deciding direction of a program such as this one.

#### **Strategic Plan – Department of Public Health:**

Ms. McFadden, Professional and Technical Services Division Administrator, Department of Public Health, thanked the Board of Health members for the opportunity to discuss strategic planning for the Department and introduced Mr. Kodicek, Management Analyst, Department of Public Health, for an overview presentation explaining where the Department is in the strategic planning process.

Mr. Kodicek explained that the strategic plan for the Department of Public Health is part of the Board of Supervisors direction and goals for the future of Maricopa County. The Department of Public Health plays a main or pivotal role in several goals set by the Board of Supervisors as distributed to members today. The Department aligns itself to meet the County's goals.

Two internal meetings were held in January to revise the Departments' strategic plan. Ms. McFadden asked the Board of Health members for their assistance in developing and achieving the final measures to meet the goals established by the Department and for the County.

Mr. Spicker suggested quarterly updates on where the Department is in terms of meeting their goals. How might the Department set a goal and measure its attainment when you are discussing issues such as morale and professional recruitment for the department? Ms. McFadden asked that the Board members review the items prepared for today in preparation for an in-depth presentation on strategic planning at their April retreat.

#### **Topics for the April Board of Health Retreat:**

Dr. England suggested an in-depth discussion of the Strategic Plan. More material will be available prior to the retreat. Dr. England would also like to discuss what constitutes public health. A request was made for the annual Health Status Report discussion by Ms. Santana. A breakdown including the effect of growth and defining the health status by each District would provide a clearer picture of the trends within the County. A suggestion was made to focus on finance issues – providing details on what the budget numbers mean and how to read the figures.

Supervisor Kunasek asked for a presentation on methamphetamines and the whole epidemic surrounding this drug including the long term effects and how it is associated with risky lifestyle choices leading to deteriorated health. Ms. Zepeda mentioned that she is involved in a committee at the request of the Governor.

A discussion on what services are provided by the County Health Department to the community. What services are effective. Dr. England explained this is a real opportunity for new suggestions having worked for both the County and the State health departments.

Dr. Jasser asked for a discussion on improving communication including bio-terrorism.

Mr. Cassano suggested an update on avian influenza specifically to align all the news reports recently on this subject. What is the County's plan for avian influenza? Mr. Cassano also mentioned that Board members enjoyed receiving legislative updates in the past and have not had an update in quite some time.

#### **CALL TO THE PUBLIC:**

No one responded from the public.


#### **CURRENT EVENTS SUMMARY:**

The Board of Health Retreat is scheduled for Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8:15 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. at the Department of Public Health, 4041 N. Central Avenue, Suite 1400.

Dr. Giangobbe asked who is the Arizona representative for environmental quality? Dr. Cook said Steve Owens was the individual to contact. A request was made to have Air Quality report on what seems to be an increasing problem in the Valley.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

  
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Susanne Cook, Ph.D., R.N., President

  
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Bob England, M.D., M.P.H., Acting Director

The minutes were transcribed and edited by Susan Attiah.