

**Maricopa County Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
Administration Building
301 W. Jefferson Street, 10th Floor
Board of Supervisors Conference Rm
Phoenix, Arizona 85003
April 28, 2008
3:00 p.m.**

Ms. Adamic called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m. with a quorum present.

ROLL CALL:

Ms. Adamic welcomed the newest member to the Board of Health, Mr. Michael Kearns. Mr. Kearns is a native of Wisconsin, and a University of Arizona graduate of finance. Mr. Kearns has served with the Arizona Corporate Commission for the last nine years as the head of Administration. Mr. Kearns thanked the Board for the warm welcome and the opportunity to participate.

Members Present:

Audrey Adamic
James Giangobbe, M.D.
Zuhdi Jasser, M.D.
Michael Kearns
Maricopa County Supervisor Andrew Kunasek, District 3
Brian F. Spicker*
James Vandeventer
Pam Wight

Member Excused:

Don Cassano
Susanne Cook, RN, PhD

Ex-Officio: Bob England, M.D.

(* Denotes members arriving after Roll Call)

CALL TO THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Adamic advised if anyone from the public is present at the meeting today and would like the 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 March 24, 2008 Board of Health Meeting Minutes:

Mr. Vandeventer made the motion to approve the March 24, 2008 meeting minutes. Dr. Giangobbe seconded the motion. The Motion passed unanimously by seven votes.

Mr. Spicker arrived at 3:10 p.m.

Request for Approval for Environmental Services Fee Waivers from: Wise Owl Nutrition Program, Peoria Community Center, Tempe Adult Day Care, Sana Maria Adult Day Care, South Mountain Adult Day Care, Central Phoenix Adult Day Care, Glendale Adult Day Care, Peoria Adult Day Care, Sun City Adult Day Services, East Valley Senior Services, Olive Branch Senior Center, Serrine Adult Day Care of Mesa, New River Senior Center, PV Emergency FoodBank, Mount of Olives, Steel's Common Ground Clubhouse, American Red Cross, the Boys and Girls Clubs that service low income areas (Kieckhefer, Rosenzweig, Thornwood/Tri-city Glendale and Homes branches), Survivors On Our Own (Eating & Drinking Permit) Neighborhood Ministries, Betania Presbyterian Church, Joshua Tree, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Chandler Christian Community Center, Paz de Cristo, Phoenix Gospel Mission YWCA Willetta Ctr., Canaan Mission Baptist Church, A New Leaf Riverboat, Society of St Vincent de Paul, Head Start locations, Phoenix Day location, Wisotsky Peoria Head Start Branch, Survivors on Our Own Catering Permit, Teen Challenge, American Veterans Post 05 and the Hackett House. :

Mr. Spicker made the motion to approve the fee waiver requests for all of the applications presented with the exception of 1) Survivors On Our Own's Catering Permit, 2) Teen Challenge, 3) American Veterans Post 05, and 4) Hackett House. Dr. Giangobbe seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by eight votes.

Discussion of Annual Retreat - May 19 – noon to 6 pm:

Dr. England, Director of Public Health asked for input from the members on topics and direction for the Annual Retreat.

Dr. Jasser asked that the start time be changed to 1:00 p.m. to allow members to work a half day. The members agreed with Dr. Jasser's request for the Annual Retreat to begin at 1:00 p.m. and finish by 6:00 p.m. on Monday, May 19th.

Suggested topics from Dr. England include: a presentation on the Annual Health Status of Arizona by Ms. Santana and the status of local health in Maricopa County, including an assessment by Dr. England.

Ms. Adamic asked if the complications of coping with less or uncertain funding while providing more services to the community could be addressed providing Departmental strategies.

Dr. England also requested to update the Board members on the changes in the flu vaccine distribution and planning that will take place for the 2009/2010 flu season.

Dr. Jasser suggested each Board member receive a copy of the minutes from the last retreat in 2006 for review and comparison. Dr. Jasser mentioned that the Department was in a state of flux, with many problems, including huge staffing vacancies at the time of the last retreat in 2006.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Environmental Services Special Event Overview & the Super Bowl Challenge:

Mr. David Ludwig, Division Manager, Environmental Health Division, Environmental Services Department, introduced Ms. Jessica Reighard, Special Event Co-coordinator for their program. Ms. Reighard provided the following statistics regarding special events: from March 1, 2007 through February 29, 2008, 2,494 temporary permits were issued. Of those permits 2,302 received an inspection. Several different special event permits were also issued including: Eating and Drinking Permits, Catering Permits, and Mobile Food Inspections, with an accumulative revenue of \$218,356.00. The total attendance for special events was calculated at 6,362,971. The entire program centers on the safety of the community at events providing food and drinks.

Mr. Ludwig continued the presentation on the Super Bowl event providing details and challenges for an event of this size. The Department of Public Health, Environmental Services, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, worked hand in hand for eighteen months prior to February 2008.

Food areas were inspected inside and outside the University of Phoenix Stadium. Portable refrigeration units were used at times. Systems were developed to transport water used for food preparation. Several very large scale events were scheduled prior to the Super Bowl game. One of these events even utilized a truck mounted mobile kitchen to prepare the food for the Genius Book of Records attempt to provide the World's largest buffet featuring 600 dishes. The Chile Cookoff event also required special attention to ensure all entries maintained the proper food temperature simultaneously through the tasting stage of this event.

Inspectors communicated to one another using Blackberry phones during the entire NFL event. The final count provided 421 food related violations with zero food borne illness complaints. Mr. Ludwig has been asked to showcase his procedures to other individuals to be used as possible models for other large scale events.

Final note – overall the event season now lasts much longer. There are more events each year with more vendors participating at each event. More people attend the events; there are more regulations regarding the events; and more staffing logistics are required each year to cover the events.

Director's Report:

Dr. England, Director, Department of Public Health, presented the Director's report:

2009/2010 Budget Cycle - Based on anticipation of a full funded budget we expect to be asked to reduce our costs by 5% for 2009/2010.

Employee Satisfaction Survey - Our annual Employee Satisfaction Survey was very well received. It was easy to detect the maturity of the answers, the open mindedness of our employees concerning the number of employees who left the department since last year, and everyone fully aware of the current County financial status.

Tobacco Program - We expect the tobacco program to be hit the hardest, with many revisions, due to the reorganization of the State program. The most recent revision allowed for a twelve month transition period for all changes/cancellations to existing programs to deter that cold turkey end to programs in place at this time.

Strategic Planning – The evaluation session regarding services to the community that I mentioned at an earlier meeting, scheduled for May 2nd, was very brief. We are awaiting the release of the National Public Health Standards sometime this summer. Once we have a feel for the standards, we will have a better handle on gauging whether we can apply for accreditation at this time. A voluntary accreditation program exists presently through CDC/ASTHO. As director, I fully expect accreditation to be the desired recommendation for all health departments in the near future.

Disease Control – One of the anticipated budget cuts for our 2009/2010 cycle involves the disease control director position. Because this is a key position we will contract for limited services through the University of Arizona.

Public Health Emergency Management – PHEM is currently working on submitting their annual grant application from the State to the Centers for Disease Control for funding.

They hope to include a mass vaccination exercise utilizing multiple pods to provide back to school vaccinations for students grades K through 8th. This process will involve 4,000 individuals and will also be followed as a promotional event by the Diamondbacks.

Vital Registrations – We are experiencing major changes with the electronic system providing vital registrations. The changes are doubling the work required but do give us unlimited access to registrations even into the 1800s. The change will involve a slight increase in cost to obtain a registration. The system does not seem to be as efficient as we thought it would.

Community Health Nursing – We are proceeding with what will become an annual recommendation to require flu shots for all school age children through 18 years of age.

West Nile Virus – We have one confirmed human case of West Nile Virus.

Rabies Vaccine Shortage – We expect the worse of the shortage to be in June and July of this year – the heart of the season – for bats / bites, of all varieties.

Measles – We are experiencing the worse of worse scenarios with a five generation spread of the highly contagious measles virus starting in Tucson. Measles is ranked as one of the most infectious diseases to mankind and totally preventable through vaccination. The original carrier is believed to have been an European visitor.

Announcements and Current Events

Ms. Adamic requested Mr. Cassano and Dr. Cook receive their copy of the 2009/2010 budget submittal via U.S. Mail since both members were not at the meeting today.

Adjournment

The April 28, 2008 Board of Health meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Audrey Adamic, President

Bob England, MD, MPH, Director

The minutes were transcribed and edited by Susan Attiah.