

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
BOARD OF HEALTH AND  
HUMAN SERVICES MINUTES**

**FRIDAY, MAY 10, 2019  
MILLER FAMILY HEALTH EDUCATION  
CENTER  
3820 CHERRY AVENUE, 7:45 AM**

Milton Smith, Chair  
Christopher Robson, Vice Chair  
Darshi Balasuriya, Member  
Sylvia Betancourt, Member  
Ralph Brooks, RN, Member  
Menchie Caliboso, Member  
Jose Carillo, MD, Member  
Reena Curtis, PharmD, Member



Troy Ha, DDS, Member  
Jody Rawles, MD, Member  
Silene St. Bernard, DVM, Member  
Barbara Schwerin, Member  
Nasir Tejani, MD, FAAP, Member  
Susan Temple, Member  
Lydia Vaias, MD, Member

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**FINISHED AGENDA AND DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

At 7:57 a.m. the meeting was called to order. Chair Smith presiding.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners** Darshi Balasuriya, Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie

**Present:** Caliboso, Troy Ha, Jody Rawles, Barbara Schwerin, Silene St Bernard, Susan Temple, Lydia Vaias, Christopher Robson and Milton Smith

**Commissioners** Reena Curtis and Nasir Tejani

**Excused:**

**Commissioners** Jose Carillo

**Absent:**

Also present; Anissa Davis, MD, MPH - City Health Officer; Dennis Keith, Executive Assistant; Karla Esupinian, 2nd District Office of Councilwoman Jeanine Pearce; and John Kindred, Long Beach Environmental Alliance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. 19-032BH Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board of Health and Human Services meetings held Friday, March 8, and April 12, 2019.

**A motion was made by Member St Bernard, seconded by Member Rawles, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 12 - Darshi Balasuriya, Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Troy Ha, Jody Rawles, Barbara Schwerin, Silene St Bernard, Susan Temple, Lydia Vaias, Christopher Robson and Milton Smith

**Excused:** 2 - Reena Curtis and Nasir Tejani

**Absent:** 1 - Jose Carillo

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Members of the public are invited to address the Board on items of interest to the public within the Agency Board jurisdiction. Each speaker will be limited to two minutes unless that time is extended by the Chair.**

Karla Estupinian, from the office of 2nd District Councilwoman Jeannine Pearce, informed the Board of a planned 2nd District Community Health Fair scheduled for Saturday, June 29th from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Bixby Park.

John Kindred, from the Long Beach Environmental Alliance, informed the Board of the next quarterly meeting of the Coalition for a Smoke Free Long Beach, which will be held on June 5th, from 3:00 - 5:00 p.m., at the Miller Family Health Education Center. Mr. Kindred discussed a move towards moving all multi-unit apartments to being smoke-free and invited interested Boardmembers to attend. Mr. Kindred also briefly spoke regarding the continuing pollution hazard associated with plastic cannabis containers being disposed of improperly and ending up in our parks, on our beaches and in the ocean, and suggested that a portion of City revenue from these businesses be set aside to address cleanup of these hazards.

## REGULAR AGENDA

2. 19-033BH Recommendation to discuss strategies for City Council office engagement.

Boardmember Smith inquired if there had been any informal engagement with any of the Council offices since the last meeting. Boardmember Smith suggested that it might be beneficial to utilize the HIV/STD Strategy Report as a way of leveraging a conversation with Councilmembers around the Health Department's budget.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

3. 19-034BH Recommendation to discuss the Health and Human Services Department 2020 Budget.

Dr. Anissa Davis, City Health Officer, briefly discussed the Health Department's 2020 Budget. Dr. Davis shared with the Board that the Department's requested Public Information Officer (PIO) position has been funded, and that funding had also been approved to make the Language Access Program Coordinator position full-time.

Dr. Davis also informed the Board of Governor Newsom's May Revised Budget, which includes \$40 million in one-time funding for communicable disease control to be spent over four years. The revise is pending official approval. Staff are advocating that funding is allocated to local health jurisdictions, and not to counties. The Board suggested speaking with representatives and requested Dr. Davis to provide some talking points to help the Board in its discussions.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

4. 19-035BH Recommendation to receive and file a report from the Vice Chair on community outreach efforts to Long Beach Neighborhood Associations.

Vice Chair Robson discussed the idea of holding meetings with Community Neighborhood Associations to educate the public on their local health department, the work that the Health Department does to ensure the community's health and safety and how the Health Department is funded, and where funding is insufficient. Vice Chair Robson discussed an upcoming meeting scheduled with the Rose Park Neighborhood Association on May 23rd, at 7:00 p.m., at the

Burbank Elementary Library. The guest speakers include Vice Chair Robson and Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, who will be conducting a panel discussion on what makes a "Model Healthy Neighborhood".

Boardmember Schwerin also announced that the Anaheim-Orange-Cherry-7th (AOC7) Neighborhood Association will be holding a literacy fair on Saturday, May 17th from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at MacArthur Park.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

5. 19-036BH Recommendation to discuss the feasibility of the Board of Health's participation in a "toxic tour" of Long Beach.

The Board discussed the feasibility and logistics with conducting a "Toxic Tour" in Long Beach. Boardmember Betancourt discussed identifying the primary goals of conducting this tour. The Board was reminded to remain cognizant of Brown Act Requirements, and how they may relate to such a tour. Should the entire Board travel together on this tour it would constitute a meeting of the Board and require agendizing the event as a Special Meeting of the Board. The tour would also need to be open to any of the public that may be interested in attending. It was discussed that it may be possible to avoid those necessary actions if the Board's compliment was less than the required number needed to constitute a quorum, or if the Board was divided into two smaller groups traveling on separate tour busses. Any action decided upon would need to be reviewed by the City Attorney to ensure the Board is in compliance.

The Board discussed holding a four-hour tour to occur sometime in September or October. It was suggested that the tour include teachers and students, possibly AP Science class students, to provide an educational opportunity and exposure to this subject matter to a younger group of individuals.

The Board discussed the tour consisting of two busses to transport Boardmembers and other participants through the tour, then coming together at the end of the tour for a special meeting of the Board to discuss observations and debrief.

**Chair Smith made a motion to create a Toxic Tour Subcommittee consisting of Board members Betancourt, Temple, Caliboso, Rawles and Balasuriya, to work out the details of the tour and to assist with outreach and logistics.**

## ONGOING BUSINESS

6. 19-037BH Recommendation to receive and file an update on the status of the City's implementation of the legalization of cannabis.

Chair Smith referred to the earlier public comment of John Kindred and requested information on the amounts of monies the City receives from Cannabis business operations, and how much of that funding is allocated to education and to address the effects this business has created in the community, such as pollution and second-hand smoke. Information was also requested on any laws or regulations related to packaging and labeling of cannabis products and whether funding from the Cannabis program was available to provide more secure, enclosed trash receptacles. Chair Smith requested this update for the June 2019 Boardmeeting.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

7. 19-038BH Recommendation to receive and file an update on the status of the City's efforts to reduce the rates of HIV and STD's.

Chair Smith discussed the receipt of the HIV/STD Strategy 2019-2022 Report, a copy of which was received and filed as part of the permanent record. The Board expressed it's concerns with not being provided with an opportunity to be engaged with the reports creation or consulted or provided with a chance to be engaged with the creation of the report, or an opportunity to review the report prior to its release in order to offer suggestions. Dr. Davis provided a basic overview of how the request for this report developed and discussed the extremely short turn-around time provided to meet the Mayor's May 6th deadline. The Board discussed a few sections of the report that they feel need to be changed. The Board discussed writing a letter to the Mayor's Office expressing their concerns on this matter.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

8. 19-039BH Recommendation to receive and file an update on Community Hospital.

Boardmember Rawles indicated that some progress must be occurring with the Community Hospital site and requested an update on completed and pending steps in this process.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

9. 19-040BH Recommendation to receive and file a report from the Director of Health and Human Services.

A copy of the May 2019 edition of the Health Department's Newsletter, which was received and filed as part of the permanent record, was provided in lieu of a verbal report from the Director.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

10. 19-041BH Recommendation to receive and file a report from the City Health Officer.

Dr. Davis discussed the current measles outbreak and called the boards attention to materials provided in their agenda packet. Currently there has been one case in Long Beach. Dr. Davis briefly described the amount of communicable disease control work that is involved in an instance such as this.

**This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no announcements.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:31 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.

### **Note:**

A digital recording of this meeting will be available in the Health and Human Services Department. The City of Long Beach provides reasonable accommodations in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If a special accommodation is desired, or if an agenda is needed in an alternative format, please call Dennis A. Keith, Executive Assistant for the Long Beach Health and Human Services Department, 48 hours prior to the meeting at (562) 570-4014 or (562) 570-6626 (telecommunications device for the deaf) or by email at [dennis.keith@longbeach.gov](mailto:dennis.keith@longbeach.gov).