

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

**FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2018  
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT  
2525 GRAND AVENUE, ROOM 201, 7:45 AM**

Christopher Robson, Chair  
Milton Smith, 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  
Nasir Tejani, MD, FAAP, Member  
Susan Temple, Member  
Lydia Vaias, MD, Member

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**CALL TO ORDER**

At 8:15 a.m. Vice Chair Smith called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

**Commissioners** Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Jody  
**Present:** Rawles, Silene St Bernard, Nasir Tejani, Susan Temple, Lydia  
Vaias and Milton Smith  
**Commissioners** Darshi Balasuriya, Reena Curtis, Troy Ha and Christopher  
**Excused:** Robson  
**Commissioners** Jose Carillo  
**Absent:**

Also present: Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services; Anissa Davis, MD, City Health Officer; Tiffany Cantrell-Warren, Community Health Bureau Manager; Alejandra Albarran-Moses, Early Childhood Education Coordinator; Christina Boatwright, Early Childhood and Family Specialist; Dennis Keith, Executive Assistant and Edwin L. Cockrell Jr., Resident - 7th District.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [18-079BH](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board of Health and Human Services meeting held Friday, November 9, 2018.

**A motion was made by Member Vaias, seconded by Member Brooks, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Jody Rawles, Silene St Bernard, Nasir Tejani, Susan Temple, Lydia Vaias and Milton Smith

**Excused:** 4 - Darshi Balasuriya, Reena Curtis, Troy Ha and Christopher Robson

**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.

Mr. Edwin Cockrell read a brief prepared statement into the record regarding the high rates of HIV/STD's in Long Beach compared to the State average. Mr. Cockrell expressed his deep concern regarding the lack of City action or progress towards lowering the number of cases in Long Beach.

## REGULAR AGENDA

2. [18-080BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file a presentation from the Early Childhood Education Program.

Alejandra Albarran Moses, Early Childhood Education Coordinator and Christina Boatwright, Early Childhood and Family Specialist, provided a presentation on the City of Long Beach Early Childhood Education Strategic Plan (Plan), a copy of which was received and filed as part of the permanent record. The

presentation provided the Board with an overview and background of the development of the Plan which is aligned with the City's All Children Thrive Plan, the Long Beach Trauma and Resiliency Informed Taskforce, the SAFE Long Beach Violence Prevention Plan, the My Brother's Keeper Plan and the Pacific Gateway's Strengthening Working Families efforts. The plan outlines actionable strategies to support young children and families in Long Beach. The presentation discussed the findings identified from 22 focus groups including, a focus group comprised of young children and 19 key-informant interviews conducted to identify specific needs. Seven goal areas were developed as part of the Plan, which was presented and received by the City Council on October 2, 2018. An official launch event was held on October 4, 2018, and the Mayor, County representatives and local partners have presented the Plan at various events. The Next step will be the formation of an Early Childhood Education Strategic Plan Oversight Committee with representation from the Long Beach Unified School District, the Long Beach Early Childhood Education Committee, the Long Beach Public Library, parents of children and representatives from local organizations in the fields of health, mental health, housing and local business. The first scheduled meeting of the Committee will be in January 2019, with quarterly meetings to follow.

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

### **ONGOING BUSINESS**

3. [18-081BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update on the status of the City's implementation of the legalization of cannabis.

Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, informed the Board that Greenlight Long Beach was continuing to provide unbiased education to shop owners and staff as well as education regarding driving under the influence. Ms. Colopy indicated that she had been in discussion with the Long Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) to expand educational opportunities in the school district.

Boardmember Rawles expressed an interest in looking into data on the consequences of the increased access and use of cannabis, such as spikes in mental health crises or emergency room visits.

Boardmember Smith indicated an interest in ongoing engagement in the process by the Board of Health and the Department.

Boardmember St. Bernard inquired as to the educational opportunities in place for young students regarding smoking, drugs and cannabis use. Boardmember Temple indicated the LBUSD requires a semester of health education for all 7th graders, and that three weeks of that semester are allocated towards education on Alcohol, Tobacco and Drug prevention.

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

4. [18-082BH](#)

Recommendation to receive and file an update on the City's efforts to reduce the rates of HIV and STDs.

Ms. Colopy informed the Board that the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors had just recently passed an additional \$5 million in funding to address STDs to be released through a new RFP process, or through existing contracts with service providers. The Long Beach Health and Human Services Department was precluded from applying for funding through the previous RFP process, as the focus was on local nonprofit service providers. Ms. Colopy and Dr. Anissa Davis, City Health Officer, produced and sent a letter to Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn advocating for a carve-out in funding to the City of Long Beach for HIV/STD services.

Ms. Colopy also mentioned an upcoming meeting with the State to negotiate with the County and City of Long Beach regarding the carving out of future resources for HIV/STD funds. The Health Department is continuing to work with the State and County to push for resources to address needs.

Ms. Colopy also mentioned that the Health Department has been approved by the LBUSD for three high school health curriculum lessons which will be conducted in 2019.

Boardmember Smith discussed the opportunity for the Board to advocate to the County for increased HIV/STD funding. A motion was made by Boardmember Rawles, seconded by Boardmember Vais, to draft a letter to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors advocating for appropriate resources to be allocated to the City of Long Beach.

Dr. Davis mentioned that the Health Department, partnering with Gilead, will be conducting a Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) Symposium for Long Beach providers in March 2019.

**Draft a letter to the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors advocating for appropriate resources to be allocated to the City of Long Beach.**

**Yes:** 9 - Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Jody Rawles, Silene St Bernard, Nasir Tejani, Susan Temple, Lydia Vaias and Milton Smith

**Excused:** 4 - Darshi Balasuriya, Reena Curtis, Troy Ha and Christopher Robson

**Absent:** 1 - Jose Carillo

5. [18-083BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update on Community Hospital.

Ms. Colopy indicated that negotiations with Molina Wu are ongoing, and that they continue to estimate the facility's operation beginning in January 2019.

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

6. [18-084BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file a report from the Director of Health and Human Services.

Ms. Colopy provided the Board with a brief update on Department activities including:

- The first reading of the City's tobacco ordinance related to smoke-free patios was presented to the City Council on December 11th.
- The Everyone Home Long Beach Taskforce findings and report were also presented to the City Council on December 11th. The full report is currently available on the City's website.
- As part of the 2020 Budget process for the Department, Ms. Colopy indicated that she would like to schedule meetings with Boardmembers, starting in January 2019, to hold budget conversations regarding specific budgetary asks for the Department.
- The current FUSE Fellow working with the Health Department to design a common-intake process for the Department.

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

7. [18-085BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file a report from the City Health Officer.

Dr. Davis, City Health Officer, briefly mentioned an Interjurisdictional Typhus Meeting she attended to discuss the increase in flea borne typhus related cases in the area.

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

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Boardmember Betancourt announced that the South Coast Air Quality Management District will be holding a community a meeting regarding AB 617, which addresses the disproportionate impacts of air pollution in environmental justice communities, will be held on January 10, 2019 at the Carson Community Center. Discussion is ongoing related to defining the boundaries of West Long Beach.

Boardmember Betancourt also announced the that Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma will be hosting the Air Quality Management District who will be providing a presentation on January 8th at The Gathering Lutheran Church.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:09 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 Dennis Keith, Executive Assistant, 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).