

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

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2019
MILLER FAMILY HEALTH EDUCATION
CENTER
3820 CHERRY AVENUE, 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
Barbara Schwerin, Member
Nasir Tejani, MD, FAAP, Member
Susan Temple, Member
Lydia Vaias, MD, Member

FINISHED AGENDA AND APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Robson called the meeting to order at 7:56 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Darshi Balasuriya, Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie

Present: Caliboso, Reena Curtis, Troy Ha, Jody Rawles, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Susan Temple, Milton Smith and Christopher Robson

Commissioners Silene St Bernard and Lydia Vaias

Excused:

Commissioners Jose Carillo

Absent:

Also present: Kelly Colopy - Director of Health and Human Services; Anissa Daivs, MD, MPH - City Health Officer; Dennis Keith - Executive Assistant and Denise Lu - Family Medicine Resident, Long Beach Memorial Hospital.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [19-008BH](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board of Health and Human Services meeting held Friday, January 11, 2019.

A motion was made by Member Temple, seconded by Member Tejani, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 12 - Darshi Balasuriya, Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Reena Curtis, Troy Ha, Jody Rawles, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Susan Temple, Milton Smith and Christopher Robson

Excused: 2 - Silene St Bernard and Lydia Vaias

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.

There was no public comment.

REGULAR AGENDA

2. [19-009BH](#) Recommendation to conduct the annual nominations and election of officers.

Chair Robson opened the floor to nominations for the position of Chair and nominated Vice Chair Smith to the position. Vice Chair Smith accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominations for the Chair position.

Chair Robson opened the floor to nominations for the position of Vice Chair. Vice Chair Smith nominated Chair Robson to the position, and Chair Smith accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominations for the Vice Chair position.

Chair Robson made a motion to approve the nominations of Vice Chair Smith to the position of Chair, and Chair Robson to the position of Vice Chair.

Yes: 12 - Darshi Balasuriya, Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Reena Curtis, Troy Ha, Jody Rawles, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Susan Temple, Milton Smith and Christopher Robson

Excused: 2 - Silene St Bernard and Lydia Vaias

Absent: 1 - Jose Carillo

3. [19-010BH](#) Recommendation to approve the 2018 Board of Health and Human Services Annual Report.

Boardmember Caliboso joined the meeting at 8:13 a.m.

The Board reviewed a draft of the 2018 Board and Health and Human Services Annual Report. The Board discussed the Board's objectives and functions, and reports and recommendations present to the City Council, including the number of subject matters referred by the City Council. Vice Chair Smith briefly discussed focusing future efforts on obtaining Boardmember representation from each of the nine Council districts.

The Board briefly discussed attendance records of the members.

Boardmember Betancourt suggested adding additional context to the Board Recommendations section of the report. The Boardmember also suggested highlighting the ways the Health Department protects the public's health.

Boardmember Curtis suggested highlighting the Health Department's Public Safety work.

Boardmember Tejani exited the meeting at 8:30.

Vice Chair Smith motioned to bring back this item for discussion, final review and approval on the March 8, 2019 Board meeting.

Yes: 12 - Darshi Balasuriya, Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Reena Curtis, Troy Ha, Jody Rawles, Barbara Schwerin, Nasir Tejani, Susan Temple, Milton Smith and Christopher Robson

Excused: 2 - Silene St Bernard and Lydia Vaias

Absent: 1 - Jose Carillo

ONGOING BUSINESS

4. [19-011BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update on the status of the City's implementation of the legalization of cannabis.

There was no new information to provide on this item.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

5. [19-012BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update on the status of the City's efforts to reduce the rates of HIV and STDs.

Dr. Anissa Davis, City Health Officer, shared a copy of the HIV/STD Activity Report, a copy of which was received and filed as part of the permanent record. The report provides current quarterly statistics on the number of STD/HIV cases in Long Beach and activities conducted by the Department towards the goal of education and reducing the number of STD's and HIV in Long Beach.

Boardmember Rawles, in response to a large measles outbreak occurring in Washington State, inquired about Long Beach vaccination rates for measles. A brief discussion ensued.

Dr. Davis mentioned SB 1152 which relates to the Hospital patient discharge process for homeless patients. Dr. Davis indicated that a written letter had been sent to local hospitals requesting that homeless individuals seen by those facilities be tested for syphilis and HIV.

Boardmember Brooks inquired as to the ability for recuperative care beds to be made available as part of the new homeless shelter. Ms. Colopy indicated that the new facility will provide 125 beds and services. Funding is currently available only to establish and operate the facility. However, there is sufficient acreage at the site for future development. Should future funding be identified, it could be

possible for future development to provide those services.

Chair Robson took a moment to inform the Board that Equality California and the California LGBT Legislative Caucus will be holding the first-ever LGBTQ Leadership Summit on Friday, March 15th in Sacramento. EQCA and the California Legislative LGBT Caucus are hosting this statewide summit bringing together openly LGBTQ elected and appointed officials from across California, to discuss key priorities for the LGBTQ community, strategies to run for higher office and seek appointments, and provide leadership and networking opportunities.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

6. [19-013BH](#)

Recommendation to receive and file an update on Community Hospital.

Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, indicated that negotiations are ongoing and that an announcement regarding the facility is anticipated in late February.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

7. [19-014BH](#)

Recommendation to receive and file a report from the Director of Health and Human Services.

Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, spoke briefly on the following items:

- The completion of the 2019 Point-in-time Homeless Count. The data are currently being compiled and are estimated to be released in March. Ms. Colopy also informed the Board that the City will now conduct an annual count.
- The purchase of property at 6481-6845 Atlantic Avenue for the purpose of establishing a year-round homeless shelter.
- 2020 Budget conversations have begun, and the Department has presented its staffing requests.
- The above average rainfall has increased the Department's workload with monitoring and testing recreational water. Beaches are automatically closed for 72 hours following a period of any significant rainfall, and water testing is ongoing to ensure the water is safe for activities.
- Staff are currently working on the new strategic plan. The plan will be brought back to the Board for review within the next few months.
- The Department is also supporting the work on a Climate Action Plan that is currently under development.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

8. [19-015BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file a report from the City Health Officer.

Dr. Davis spoke briefly on the following items:

- The Department issued its first Veterinary Syndromic Surveillance Report on January 16, 2018, in an effort to strive towards a One Health model in Long Beach.
- Flu is currently widespread. However, rates are lower to date in Long Beach than in the previous year. Currently there have been 74 cases to date, and two deaths.
- There has been one reported case of Pertussis in a one year old.
- Long Beach Memorial Hospital and the Miller Children's Hospital recently received a commendation for their flu vaccination rate among medical staff at those facilities. 90% of their medical staff received the flu vaccine.

This BH-Agenda Item was approved recommendation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Boardmember Betancourt announced Long Beach Alliance for Children with Asthma (LBACA) will be holding a focus group for a Community Needs Assessment and is looking for participation from individuals across the City. The flyer will be forwarded to the Board once details are finalized.

Boardmember Curtis informed the Board of the implementation of a Narcan distribution system. Local participating pharmacies will be able to provide Narcan, increasing access and making the drug more widely available to those in need.

Boardmember Smith briefly spoke regarding the Health Department's "Public Health Situation Report" and requested that all Boardmembers be added to the distribution list for this weekly report. He also praised the Department's social media efforts and suggested that Boardmembers follow the Department's Facebook page.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:15 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.