

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

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
2525 GRAND AVENUE, ROOM 201, 7:45 AM**

Christine Petit, Chair
Christopher Robson, Vice Chair
Ralph Brooks, RN, Member
Menchie Caliboso, Member
Jose Carillo, MD, Member
Reena Curtis, PharmD, Member
Troy Ha, DDS, Member



Mel Marks, MD, Member
Jody Rawles, MD, Member
Renee Simon, Member
Milton Smith, Member
Silene St. Bernard, DVM, Member
Sabira Tejani, MD, Member
Kelley Tenny, Member
Lydia Vaias, MD, Member

FINISHED AGENDA AND DRAFT MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

At 7:54 a.m., Chair Petit called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Reena Curtis, Mel Marks,
Present: Jody Rawles, Renee Simon, Milton Smith, Silene St Bernard,
Lydia Vaias and Christine Petit

Commissioners Troy Ha, Sabira Tejani and Christopher Robson
Excused:

Commissioners Jose Carillo and Kelley Tenny
Absent:

Also present: Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, and Dennis Keith, Executive Assistant.

Chair Petit introduced incoming Boardmember, Lydia Vaias, MD, who will be replacing Boardmember Marks who termed out on June 30, 2016. Boardmember Vaias provided a brief introduction and the Boardmembers, in turn, provided Boardmember Vaias with brief introductions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[17-049BH](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board of Health and Human Services meeting held Friday, September 8, 2017.

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

Yes: 10 - Ralph Brooks, Menchie Caliboso, Reena Curtis, Mel Marks, Jody Rawles, Renee Simon, Milton Smith, Silene St Bernard, Lydia Vaias and Christine Petit

Excused: 3 - Troy Ha, Sabira Tejani and Christopher Robson

Absent: 2 - Jose Carillo and Kelley Tenny

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

[17-050BH](#) Recommendation to discuss Board of Health/City Leadership Relationship Building.

Chair Petit and Boardmembers provided a brief overview of the background on this item and the work performed to date for the benefit of incoming Boardmember Vaias. The primary goal of this item is to increase the Councilmembers knowledge of the Board of Health and Human Services (Board), and the Long Beach Health and Human Services Department, in order for City leadership and the Council to begin considering the Board and Health Department as a resource for all public health related matters in the City. This task was to be accomplished through a series of one-on-one meetings between City Councilmembers and Boardmembers, which have already been completed,

followed up with a series of meetings at Long Beach City Hall where City Councilmembers and their staff would meet with the entire Board.

Chair Petit led a discussion on the form and content of these future meetings. It was determined that these meeting should begin in December 2017, and that the meetings would be scheduled for Tuesday mornings to take advantage of the opportunity that Councilmembers would be working from City Hall on that day. It was also discussed that these meetings, if possible, should recur quarterly.

Boardmember Vaias questioned whether the City Council had a history of utilizing the Board of Health as a resource, and the Board held a brief discussion of the history of such actions. Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, mentioned the recent City Council request that the Health Department prepare a report on the Opioid Epidemic. A brief discussion was held regarding the lack of funding for such requests, and the fact that the Opioid Epidemic is an issue in other Cities and Counties, but that Long Beach had stabilized rates. As part of the discussion regarding the lack of funding, Ms. Colopy informed the Board that a recent Big Cities Health Coalition report comparing public health funding across 28 large-city health jurisdictions shows that the City of Long Beach is the lowest, by a significant margin, recipient of local funding among all the jurisdictions surveyed, at .45 cents per capita.

Boardmember Smith mentioned the potential of the Board producing an annual report showing Board actions taken and recommendations made regarding various public health issues during the year. A brief discussion was held regarding the effectiveness of such a report as a primary means of keeping City leadership and the Council informed.

Boardmember Vaias questioned whether, during the one-on-one meetings with Councilmembers, Boardmembers offered themselves up as a go-to person for advice on public health matters and, if so, what the Councilmembers reactions were. A brief discussion ensued regarding the individual responses from Boardmembers involved in these one-on-one meetings.

This BH-Agenda Item was received and filed.

ONGOING BUSINESS

[17-051BH](#)

Recommendation to receive and file a report on the status of the City's implementation of the legalization of marijuana.

Ms. Colopy indicated that the City held a lottery last week for those interested in obtaining a license to sell marijuana in the City. Ms. Colopy indicated that the Health Department had hired a Marijuana Education Coordinator who will be working on a marijuana education and drugged driving awareness campaign. Dispensaries will be one of the partners in this effort.

This BH-Agenda Item was received and filed.

[17-052BH](#)

Recommendation to receive and file a report on the status of the City's efforts to reduce the rates of HIV and STD's.

Ms. Colopy informed the Board that the Health Department is currently in negotiation with Los Angeles County to receive approximately \$630,000 to provide HIV prevention work. This funding will maintain HIV prevention staff currently with the Department, however the Department is also considering restructuring to bring on a HIV/STD specialist to focus more on the policy side of this issue.

This BH-Agenda Item was received and filed.

[17-053BH](#)

Recommendation to receive and file a report on the status of the Port of Long Beach On-Dock Rail Support Yard Project, as it relates to the Department's Multi-Service Center for the Homeless.

There was no new information to report on this item.

This BH-Agenda Item was received and filed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ms. Colopy informed that the Healthy Default Drinks for Kids Proposal, originally presented at the April 14, 2017, Board of Health meeting, was on the agenda for the Tuesday, October 17th City Council meeting. Ms. Colopy also mentioned that in light of the lack of, and underfunding of,

substance abuse services in Long Beach, the Department was looking to pull a group together to identify and design what is needed in the City, and to work with the County in order to increase access to services.

Boardmember St. Bernard exited the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

CITY HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Colopy reported for Dr. Anissa Davis, City Health Officer, that the Department had provided 350 Hepatitis A vaccinations to homeless individuals in the City, in response to recent outbreaks in San Diego, Santa Cruz and Los Angeles. There continues to be no local cases associated with these outbreaks.

Boardmember Rawles exited the meeting at 9:18 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Boardmember Smith announced that he had attended the October 10th formal launch of the Los Angeles County Center for Equity. The event was the first in a series of public listening sessions for different stakeholder groups. The October 10th event was for community leaders, but other sessions will be for Department of Public Health staff, other Health Agency employees, community residents, labor partners, and philanthropy.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:22 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 contact 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.