

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

**FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2020
MILLER FAMILY HEALTH EDUCATION
CENTER
3820 CHERRY AVENUE, 7:45 AM**

Milton Smith, Chair
Christopher Robson, Vice Chair
Sylvia Betancourt, Member
Ralph Brooks, RN, Member
Reena Curtis, PharmD, Member
Manorama Gupta, MD, Member
Troy Ha, DDS, Member



Miles McNeeley, 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 DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Reena Curtis, Manorama

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

Commissioners Nasir Tejani

Excused:

Also present: Kelly Colopy - Director of Health and Human Services; Anissa Davis, MD, MPH - City Health Officer; Dennis Keith - Executive Assistant

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. [20-018BH](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Board of Health and Human Services meetings held Friday, February 14, 2020.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Robson, seconded by Member Brooks, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 13 - Sylvia Betancourt, Ralph Brooks, Reena Curtis, Manorama Gupta, Troy Ha, Miles McNeeley, Jody Rawles, Barbara Schwerin, Silene St Bernard, Susan Temple, Lydia Vaias, Christopher Robson and Milton Smith

Excused: 1 - Nasir Tejani

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.

STAFF REPORTS

2. [20-019BH](#) Recommendation to receive, discuss and file a report from the Director of Health and Human Services.

Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, provided the Board with an update on the following items:

- The 2020 Public Health Week Conference has been postponed due to COVID-19 response activities.
- Youth meetings related to the Youth Strategic Plan have been completed, and a survey has been released online gathering information about youth needs and access to services.
- The process is ongoing for the establishment of a year-round homeless shelter.
- The Department is currently working with the Police and Fire Department and Homeless Services Division on data integration and data sharing agreements.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

3. [20-020BH](#) Recommendation to receive, discuss and file a report from the City Health Officer on Communicable Disease Control activities.

Dr. Davis, City Health Officer, provided the Board with an update on the following items:

- Notification that Sexual Health Week has been postponed due to COVID-19 response and activities.
- The State STD Controller's Meeting has also been postponed.
- The California Conference of Local Health Officers (CCLHO) meeting in May has been canceled.
- Most staff have been pulled and reassigned primarily for COVID-19 activities for the time being.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the availability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Department staff.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

REGULAR AGENDA

4. [20-021BH](#) Recommendation to conduct the annual nominations and election of officers.

Chair Smith opened the floor to nominations for the position of Chair. The Board unanimously nominated Chair Smith to the remain in the position. Vice Chair Smith accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominations for the Chair position, and the Board unanimously elected Chair Smith to retain the position of Chair.

Chair Smith opened the floor to nominations for the position of Vice Chair. The Board unanimously nominated Boardmember St. Bernard to the position. Boardmember St. Bernard accepted the nomination. There were no additional nominations for the Vice Chair position. The Board unanimously elected Boardmember St. Bernard to the Vice Chair position.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

5. [20-022BH](#) Recommendation to discuss Board goals and infrastructure.

The Interagency Communications Subcommittee reported that they had attempted to set up a meeting with the Mayor; however, meetings were on hold for now due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Board member's Gupta and Smith indicated that they were attempting to set up meetings with their respective Councilmembers.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

6. [20-023BH](#) Recommendation to receive an update regarding the Department's COVID-19 activities.

Kelly Colopy, Director of Health and Human Services, and Anissa Davis, City Health Officer, provided a presentation to the Board on COVID-19, a copy of which was received and filed as part of the public record. The presentation provided an overview of the current status of the virus in Long Beach and discussed how the virus spreads and the symptoms exhibited by those exposed. Dr. Davis discussed methods of preventing the spread of the virus and spoke about her issuing a Local Health Emergency Declaration and the City Manager's Proclamation of a Local Emergency, which were both ratified by the City Council on March 10, 2020. Dr. Davis also informed the Board that the City had canceled all large-scale events through the end of April and discussed her March 12th Health Officer Order prohibiting public or private mass gatherings and strongly recommending social distancing of 6 feet per-person.

Dr. Davis also informed the Board that currently there are 18 public health labs in California testing for the virus, including the Department's Public Health Laboratory. Supplies of testing kits are not meeting the demand; therefore, staff are prioritizing tests to those who traveled to an affected area, had contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 or are currently ill and expressing symptoms with no identifiable cause.

Ms. Colopy also discussed Department staffing levels and indicated that the issuance of the emergency declarations allows the Department to temporarily hire new staff to assist. Other City Departments are also freeing up staff to assist with COVID-19 activities. Daily policy calls are conducted so that all can remain current on City activities.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

ONGOING BUSINESS

7. [20-024BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update from the Toxic Tour Subcommittee.

There was no new information to provide on this item.

This BH-Agenda Item was laid over.

8. [20-025BH](#) 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 laid over.

9. [20-026BH](#) Recommendation to receive and file an update on Community Hospital.

The process continues to move forward. No official opening date yet.

This BH-Agenda Item was approve recommendation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Smith spoke briefly regarding the 2020 Census and reminded Board members to complete their Census.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9:19 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.