



Mission: To protect and promote the health, the environment and the well-being of Clark County residents and visitors.

MINUTES

CLARK COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

625 Shadow Lane
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106
Clemens Room

Thursday, August 28, 2003 - 8:00 A.M.

Chairman Reese called the meeting of the District Board of Health to order at 8 a.m. and the Pledge of Allegiance was held. He noted that he had been provided with the Affidavits of Posting and Mailing of Agenda meeting notices, as required by Nevada's Open Meeting Law. The Affidavits will be incorporated into the Official Minutes.

Board Members

Present:

Gary Reese	Chairman, Councilman, Las Vegas
Jim Christensen, MD	Physician Member At-Large
Susan Crowley	Appointee, Henderson
Robert Eliason	Councilman North Las Vegas
Donna Fairchild	Councilwoman, Mesquite
Paul Henderson	Councilman, Mesquite
Steven Kirk	Councilman, Henderson
Chip Maxfield	Commissioner, Clark County
Rory Reid	Commissioner, Clark County
Stephanie Smith	Councilwoman, North Las Vegas

Absent:

Andrea Anderson	Councilman, Boulder City
Sherry Colquitt, RN	Appointee, Las Vegas
Donalene Ravitch, RN	Appointee, Boulder City

Executive Secretary:

Donald S. Kwalick, MD, MPH

Legal Counsel:

Stephen Minagil, Esquire

Staff: Karl Munninger; Glenn Savage; Fran Courtney, RN; Jane Shunney, RN; Rory Chetelat; Angus MacEachern; Steve Goode; Ed Wojcik; Daniel Maxson; Michael Attaway; Mary Ellen Harrell; Patricia Armour; Nicole Bungum; Jennifer Sizemore; David Tonelli; Patricia Rowley; Heather Nelson; Forrest Hasselbauer; Leo Vega; and Recording Secretaries Diana Lindquist and Montana Garcia

ATTENDANCE:

NAME

REPRESENTING

Fred Couzens
Dr. John Fildes

Las Vegas Tribune
UMC Trauma Center

I. CONSENT AGENDA

These are matters considered to be routine by the District Board of Health and may be enacted by one motion. Any item, however, may be discussed separately per Board Member request before action. Any exceptions to the Consent Agenda must be stated prior to approval.

Member Fairchild moved for approval of the following consent agenda. Motion was seconded by Member Smith and carried unanimously.

1. **Minutes/Board of Health Meeting:** 07/24/03
2. **Approve Payroll/Overtime for Periods of:** 07/05/03 - 07/18/03 & 07/19/03 - 08/01/03
3. **Approve Accounts Payable Register:** **#879:** 06/26/03 - 07/02/03; **#880:** 07/03/03- 07/09/03; **#881:** 07/10/03 - 07/16/03; **#882:** 07/17/03 - 07/23/03; **#883:** 07/24/03-07/30/03
4. **Petition #36-03:** New Classification Specification for Biological Scientist to be Placed on Schedule 24 (\$50,847.68 - \$70,948.80)
5. **Petition #37-03:** New Classification Specification for New Health Records Supervisor and Health Assistant Series: Health Records Assistant, Schedule 12 (\$27,495.52 – \$38,411.36); Health Records Lead Assistant, Schedule 14 (\$30,509.44 - \$42,577.60); Senior Health Records Assistant, Schedule 16 (\$33,800.00 - \$47,153.60); Health Records Supervisor, Schedule 24 (\$50,847.68 - \$70,948.80)
6. **Petition #38-03:** Approval of Interlocal Agreement with Clark County Social Service For Up to \$188,825 in Social Worker Services to Health District HIV Positive Patients
7. **Petition #39-03:** Approval of Revised Interlocal Agreement Between the Clark County Health District and the University of Nevada Reno School of Medicine Providing for Operation of the Southern Nevada Public Health Laboratory

II. PUBLIC HEARING/ACTION

No Hearings Scheduled

III. REPORT/DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. **Legislative Liaison Committee Report** - August 13, 2003

Member Eliason explained that the committee had met on August 13th. Discussion occurred regarding a process to interview candidates for Legislative Liaison and a concern of being able to select the best person or firm for the job. The committee reviewed the materials submitted by six candidates, noting that two candidates were without legislative experience.

The committee has scheduled interviews with the four potential firms during the month of September and will be reporting back to the full Board with results.

IV. CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Citizen participation is a period devoted to comments by the general public about matters relevant to the Board's jurisdiction. Items raised under this portion of the Agenda cannot be acted upon by the Board of Health until the notice provisions of Nevada's Open Meeting Law has been complied with. Therefore, no vote may be taken on a matter not listed on the posted agenda and any action on such items will have to be considered at a later meeting.

Chairman Reese asked if any member of the public wished to be heard on subjects that are relevant to the Board's jurisdiction.

Dr. Kwalick remarked that he had received a letter from Dr. John Fildes to address the Board Members about the Trauma System.

Dr. Fildes explained that trauma is a major public health problem. It is the leading cause of death before the age of 44 and is responsible for more years of lost life than heart disease, cancer, and strokes combined. A well planned Trauma System offers the community the best response to life threatening injury.

The University Medical Center Trauma Center (UMC) is the only Level 1 trauma center in Nevada. It is one of three free standing trauma centers in the United States. This means that the trauma center is physically separated from the hospital's emergency department and possesses all of the resources needed to treat serious injured patients. At UMC this includes 11 resuscitation beds, 14 ICU beds, 3 operating rooms, a CT scanner, and an angiography suite. In addition, it is staffed by surgeons, physicians, nurses, and technicians who are on premises 24 hours per day. The center was designed to meet and exceed the needs of Clark County well into the future.

The population of Clark County has increased 23.7% over the last five years to 1.6 million. At the same time, the number of trauma patients increased only 7.3%. It is estimated that the Las Vegas Valley population will reach 2 million over the next five years. Sprawling population centers and increased traffic are beginning to test the boundaries of the Clark County Trauma System. Now is the appropriate time to begin public discussion and perhaps create a five year plan to meet the future needs of the community.

The growth and development of the Clark County Trauma System must be a public process, directed by existing legislation and led by those with authority over the public's health. New trauma centers should be added to the system using a process similar to that used to add new fire stations. This requires community assessment and strategic planning. He requested that the item be placed on the Board of Health agenda for further discussion.

V. HEALTH OFFICER & STAFF REPORTS

Dr. Kwalick commented that Donalene Ravitch was retiring from the Board after almost 25 years and the District is planning on recognizing her at the next Board of Health Meeting.

Dr. Joe Hardy was reappointed by the Boulder City Council and will be sworn in at the next Board of Health meeting.

He introduced Pat Armour, the District's new Public Health Lab Manager. Ms. Armour is currently undergoing various kinds of training. She was with Dr. Joe Hardy's Family Practice Group as a lab manager for over 10 years.

Construction on the Southern Nevada Public Health Laboratory is almost complete. We anticipate starting some testing sometime in the fall. Also, with the Interlocal Agreement between the District and the State Public Health Laboratory approved, this lab will be a satellite of that state public health laboratory and Dr. Dee Brown will serve as Director of both laboratories.

Pat Armour thanked the Board and Staff for the opportunity to get the lab up and running and making it the best lab possible.

Dr Kwalick gave an overview of the Determined Promise '03 exercise. The first week the Health District was very involved with what would happen the first few days if there were a release of pneumonic plague on the Strip. That did indeed happen in a simulated way and we responded very well. Although, our resources were overwhelmed very quickly in the event, the exercise allowed us to test the incident command system: how would staff respond in a particular episode like this. Staff responded well in implementing the incident command system.

The District had its command post set up and operational late on Monday through Thursday afternoon in the Clemens Room. During this time, Staff manned the post continuously through a 36 hour period. The District prophylaxed all first responders in the first day or so with the Metropolitan Medical Response System cache. Also put into play for the first time was a quarantine/isolation program which relied upon six check points that were set up during the third day. People that were trying to leave the area had to be triaged at these check points at all major highways (this was all simulated). If they were symptomatic, they were turned around and sent to the casualty collection point which was the Las Vegas Convention Center. If they were not symptomatic, they were prophylaxed at that time; given written information and sent on their way.

The other thing that we did was to see how we would operate individual clinics if 1.5 million people needed to be prophylaxed. To test this scenario, a clinic was set up in Logandale. Dr. Kwalick introduced Mary Ellen Harrell, RN, to review the results of that prophylaxis site.

Mary Ellen Harrell stated that 20 Staff members from the Nursing Division, two from the Information Technology Division and many volunteers from Logandale participated in the exercise. It was a dispensing clinic to determine how many antibiotics could be administered to the general public per hour. Staff spent many months in logistical preparation. The target goal was to process 125 people an hour. This phase of the exercise was conducted for 1-1/2 hours and Staff was able to process slightly more than 200 people per hour.

In addition to District staff we also had a medical reservist from the Air Force and the Army enabling us to learn many things. Probably the least of which is how well we can work and coordinate with other medical entities. We were able to surpass our target and learned how to receive the pharmaceutical stockpile from CDC. It was an excellent exercise for everyone and the District commends the people from Logandale for their participation and support.

Dr. Kwalick briefly updated Board Members on West Nile Virus which has recently been in the local newspapers. Locally, there are no reported cases, no pools of mosquitoes, or sentinel animals that have been positive. Nevada is only one of four states that do not have any positive results. It is important with all the recent rain that people not allow water to puddle around their houses and any

standing water should be dispersed. If the public knows that there are pools that are in vacant houses, they should inform public responders so that the areas can be remediated. Therefore, there would not be any place for mosquitoes to breed and spread the disease from migratory birds. The District is on top of the situation and Staff is working closely with the various agencies on vector control and hopefully there will not be any positive tests for the virus.

Brief discussion followed by the Board Members and Staff concerning the District's work with various agencies to assist individuals who were affected by last week's flood and by the Determined Promise exercise.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Duly Noted

A. Board of Health:

1. Letter of Reappointment of City of Henderson Appointee, Susan Crowley

B. Chief Health Officer and Administration:

1. Monthly Activity Report, Mid July 2003 - Mid August 2003
2. Financial Data: Revenues and Expenditures for Fund 705 (Operating), 706 (Capital Reserve), and 762 (Liability Reserve) for the Month of July 2003
3. Health Education Monthly Report, July 2003
4. Epidemiology Monthly Report, July 2003
5. Public Information Monthly Report, July 2003

C. Environmental Health:

1. Monthly Activity Report, July 2003

D. Nursing and Clinics:

1. Monthly Activity Report, July 2003

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Reese adjourned the meeting at 8:17 a.m.

SUBMITTED FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Donald S. Kwalick, MD, MPH, Chief Health Officer
Executive Secretary

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