



MINUTES

Southern Nevada District Board of Health Meeting

625 Shadow Lane
Las Vegas, Nevada 89106
Clemens Room

Thursday, June 25, 2009 - 8:30 A.M.

Acting Chair Stephanie Smith called the meeting of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health to order at 8:35 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Acting Chair Smith noted that a quorum was present. Stephen F. Smith, Esq., Legal Counsel confirmed the meeting had been noticed in accordance with Nevada's Open Meeting Law.

Board Members Present:

Stephanie Smith
Jim Christensen, MD
Susan Crowley
Tim Jones
Gerri Schroder
David W. Steinman
Linda Strickland
Lawrence Weekly

Acting Chair, Councilwoman, North Las Vegas Alternate
At-Large Member, Physician
At-Large Member, Environmental Specialist
At-Large Member, Regulated Business/Industry
Councilwoman, Henderson Alternate
Councilman, Las Vegas
Councilmember, Boulder City
Commissioner, Clark County

Absent:

Chris Giunchigliani
Ricki Barlow
Robert Eliason
Joseph Hardy, MD
Steven Kirk
Mary Jo Mattocks, RN
Bubba Smith

Chair, Commissioner, Clark County
Secretary, Councilman, Las Vegas
Councilman, North Las Vegas
At-Large Member, Physician
Vice Chair, Councilman, Henderson
At-Large Member, Registered Nurse
Councilmember, Mesquite

Executive Secretary:

Lawrence Sands, DO, MPH

Legal Counsel:

Stephen F. Smith, Esq.

Other SNHD Board of Health Members/Alternates Present:

Lonnie Empey
Jimmy Vigilante

Alternate At-Large Member, Environmental Specialist
Alternate At-Large Member, Regulated Business/Industry

Other SNHD Board of Health Members/Alternates Not Present:

Travis Chandler	Councilmember, Boulder City Alternate
Tom Collins	Commissioner, Clark County Alternate
Frank Nemec, MD	Alternate At-Large Member, Physician
John Onyema, MD	Alternate At-Large Member, Physician
Steven Ross	Councilman, Las Vegas Alternate
Barbara Ruscigno, RN	Alternate At-Large Member, Registered Nurse

Staff: Scott Weiss; John Middaugh, MD; Angus MacEachern; Glenn Savage, Jennifer Sizemore; Bonnie Sorensen; Jo Alexander; Pat Armour; Kara Bennis; Stephanie Bethel; Jerry Boyd; Mary Ellen Britt; Dennis Campbell; Bea Cannon; Rory Chetelat; Alice Costello; Shea Crippen; Joanne Engler; Lorraine Forston; Ellen Gibbins; Steve Goode; Mary Ellen Harrell; Forrest Hasselbauer; Terry Hizon; Jeanne Isaac; Betty-Jo Jaynes; Daren Jones; Tanya Kamm; Marlene Kolicius; Eddie Larsen; Brian Labus; Ann Markle; Kieawa Mason; Dante Merriweather; Veronica Morata-Nichols; Robert Newton; Patricia O'Rourke-Langston; Jim Osti; Gwen Osburn; Mars Patricio; Walter Ross; Patricia Rowley; Jane Shunney; Chris Strickland; Leo Vega; Jorge Viote; Janet Webster; Deb Williams; Linda Zielinski; Valery Klaric and Shelli Clark, recording secretary

ATTENDANCE:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>REPRESENTING</u>
Bruce Aguilera	MGM Mirage
Bill Bible	Nevada Resort Association
Melody Cirillo	MGM Mirage
Keith Copeland	Opportunity Village
Edward Corado	Manila Sunshine Restaurant
Fred Couzens	LV Tribune
Vito Dellipointi	Horizon
Barry Greenfield	Sharis Diner
Van V. Heffner	Nevada Hotel and Lodging Association
Katherine Jacobi	Nevada Restaurant Association
Harley Johnson	Harley Roasted Corn
Steve Johnson	Las Vegas Farmers Market
Virginia Johnson	Las Vegas Farmers Market
Mariana Kihuen	Jones Vargas
Brenda Lovato	GSC Property Management
Ernest Lucero	Las Vegas Farmers Market
Alvin Massenburg	Touro-NV PA Student
Alea Modlin	Opportunity Village
Janet O	KLAS-TV
Jean Perry	Opportunity Village
Andre Rochet	Gastronomy Management Group
Bill Roe	KLAS-TV
John Schleder	Las Vegas Kettle Corn
John R. Smith	Stratosphere
Alex F. Stokes, Jr.	Wynn Resorts
Julie Tracy	Las Vegas Kettle Corn
Joan Uren	L & J Specialties
Kenya Weekly	Self

Acting Chair Smith called for a motion due to an exceptional circumstance to grant her authority to chair the meeting.

Member Christensen moved to appoint Stephanie Smith as interim chair for the purposes of this meeting as the Board of Health Officers were absent from the meeting; seconded by Member Strickland and carried unanimously.

RECOGNITIONS:

Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting: Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR)

Scott Weiss, director of administration, recognized the financial services team for receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 6th consecutive year on the basis on the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. The certificate is based on having no conditions on the audit. Receipt of this certificate demonstrates the dedicated efforts and hard-work of the entire financial services team. Mr. Weiss introduced Mars Patricio Jr., financial services manager, and Kieawa Mason, accounting supervisor. Mr. Patricio and Mr. Mason introduced the financial services team: grant analyst – Marlene Kolicus, purchasing agent – Geoff Levin (not present), accounts payable staff – Jeanne Isaac, Terry Hizon, Bea Cannon, Cathy Reel (not present); accounts receivable staff – Lynda Zielinski, Dahlia Keegan (not present), Pam Koffinke (not present), Glenda O'Hara (not present); accountants – Betty-Jo Jaynes, Darren Jones, Janet Webster and Shea Crippen. Mr. Mason noted that each member of the team contributes to the excellent service provided by the section and he thanked staff for their efforts. Mr. Patricio also recognized Ellen Gibbins, senior administrative assistant, for her efforts in keeping everyone organized.

Acting Chair Smith congratulated and thanked the team. She noted that the financial reports are very well done and easy to read. She said that the team is an inspiration to other entities. She noted that those working behind the scenes are not always recognized.

Dr. Sands also thanked the financial services team for their efforts and noted the positive feedback he receives from other sections regarding the team.

BOARD OF HEALTH SERVICE RECOGNITION:

Robert "Bubba" Smith, Councilman, City of Mesquite

Stephanie Smith, Councilwoman, City of North Las Vegas

David W. Steinman, Councilman, City of Las Vegas

Dr. Sands noted that some Board members would not be returning as a result of the recent elections. Councilman Bubba Smith from the City of Mesquite will be replaced by a new representative. His recognition certificate will be sent to him.

Councilman David Steinman represented the City of Las Vegas on an interim basis and has attended each meeting during his appointment. He has been very engaged and learned health district operations very quickly. Dr. Sands acknowledged how much he enjoyed working with the Councilman. Councilman Steinman said the public is not aware of the other boards and appointments with which council members are affiliated. He said this has been an interesting part of his time on the Council. He expressed his appreciation for being part of the Board of Health and thanked staff for their assistance in helping him learn about public health. Dr. Sands said he would like to seek Councilman Steinman's involvement again in the future.

Councilwoman Stephanie Smith represented the City of North Las Vegas for the past twelve years as both a member and alternate, as well as serving as the Chair. Councilwoman Smith said it has been a privilege to serve with the health district. She said people do not understand the importance of public health and what it entails. She said the reason Las Vegas is so successful is because of the efforts of public health workers, including development of regulations, inspections and testing. She said it is humbling to be involved with public health and try to protect the public's health. She said because the work of the health district is not advertised, people do not realize what all is done here on a daily basis. She thanked staff for efforts and noted the community is fortunate to have district employees serving them.

Dr. Sands thanked all Board members for their support over the last year with the many challenges faced recently, and those forthcoming, and the Board has been very helpful to staff.

I. CONSENT AGENDA

These are matters considered to be routine by the Southern Nevada 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.

1. **Approve Minutes / Board of Health Meeting:** 5/28/09
2. **Approve Payroll / Overtime for Periods:** 5/02/09 – 5/15/09 & 5/16/09 – 5/29/09
3. **Approve Accounts Payable Registers:** #1179: 5/07/09 – 5/13/09; #1180: 5/14/09 – 5/20/09; #1181: 5/21/09 – 5/28/09; #1182: 5/29/09 – 6/04/09
4. **Petition #24-09:** Approval of Amendment to Interlocal Agreement between Clark County: Clark County Water Reclamation District; University Medical Center of Southern Nevada; the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority; the Las Vegas Valley Water District; Clark County Regional Flood Control District; the Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada; and the Southern Nevada Health District for Establishment of a Health, Accident and Life Benefit Program
5. **Petition #21-09:** Approval of Interlocal Contract with Clark County Child Protective Services: Public Health Nurse Liaison Services (Renewal)

Acting Chair Smith asked if there were any discussion on the items brought forward on the Consent Agenda; seeing none he called for a motion.

Member Weekly thanked nurses for their assistance in the Child Protective Services area and the service provided to the underserved population. He noted the agenda item should read "interlocal contract." He again thanked staff on behalf of the Department of Family and Youth Services for the service provided by the nurses and expressed how much it means to everyone.

A motion was made by Member Weekly to approve the Consent Agenda as presented; seconded by Member Crowley and was unanimously approved.

III. REPORT / DISCUSSION / ACTION

1. **Petition #22-09:** Approval of New Classification Specification for Public Health Informatics Scientist, Recommended Schedule 30 (\$84-968 - \$118,518)

Dr. John Middaugh, director of community health, spoke relative to this matter. The request for this position was included in the tentative budget approved by the Board in March 2009. This position will improve the district's ability to use data to seek additional federal grant revenues. Public health informatics is a new field, which includes bioinformatics (genomics, proteomics, metabolomics), imaging informatics, and clinical informatics. The district is trying to develop the ability to tap existing data sources to improve the ability to target resources where they need to go. Staff has been analyzing data to understand the outbreaks of congenital syphilis and TB, as well as a means to target outreach to improve immunization rates. We are also seeking to improve relationships with the state health division to secure federal grant funding to enhance the delivery of programs, particularly in the area of chronic disease prevention. Informatics is an extremely challenging field. The initial investment by district will yield rewards in the future. There is federal grant funding, at present, to cover 50% of the recommended salary; within the next year it is expected that the entire salary would be covered by federal grants.

Acting Chair Smith asked for clarification of metabolomics. Dr. Middaugh said it is the study of small molecules found in organisms, such as how things are metabolized at a chemical level and we can determine if it is a drug or food as its effect on the body.

Member Weekly noted the position was tentatively approved in budget. He asked how the budget adjustments being discussed would impact the position. He asked what grants would fund this position. Dr. Sands said he doesn't expect the reduction in revenue would significantly impact this position as 50% of the salary would be funded through federal grant dollars. As the position develops further, we will be able to extract and manage data to seek additional grants to support existing grants and funding. The position will help seek more grants to support the position and other activities.

Member Jones asked how long the recruitment for this type of position would take. Dr. Middaugh acknowledged that he had been searching for potential candidates in recent months, and he is hopeful that the position, if approved, would be filled very soon.

A motion was made by Member Jones to approve the new classification specification as presented; seconded by Member Crowley and was unanimously approved.

2. **Petition #27-09:** Approval of Proposal for the VAX Replacement Solution from Decade

Dr. Sands noted that staff is withdrawing item and will bring it back at a future meeting with the proposed contract for the Board's approval.

3. **Petition #25-09, Resolution #02-09:** Approval of Adjustments to FY 2008-2009 Appropriations

Scott Weiss, director of administration, spoke relative to this matter. Mr. Weiss noted this is a standard annual process for year end, which does not affect the budget – the adjustments solely realign some line item numbers from the approved budget with the actual, there is no increase in the budget.

A motion was made by Member Christensen to approve the adjustments to FY 2008-2009 appropriations as presented; seconded by Member Crowley and was unanimously approved.

4. Petition #26-09: Approval of Revision to Medical Procedures Fee Schedule

Scott Weiss, director of administration, spoke relative to this matter. Mr. Weiss said the fee changes are related to new services we are providing resultant of becoming a contract provider with Culinary. There were also some vaccine price increases and service contract increases. There are some areas where no fees were charged previously and amounts have been added. There were no increases to administrative fees.

A motion was made by Member Strickland to approve the revision to the medical procedures fee schedule as presented; seconded by Member Crowley and was unanimously approved.

5. Petition #28-09: Adopt the Southern Nevada Health District Amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10

Scott Weiss, director of administration, spoke relative to this matter. After the last legislative session ended, AB543 requires Clark and Washoe Counties to transfer 4 cents per 100 dollars of assessed property value to the state's general operating fund. As a result our allocation of property tax funding from the County is reduced by \$2.3 million. Previously we were notified that property tax valuation had decreased approximately \$908,000. This results in a \$3.2 million shortfall from our tentative budget. Based on NRS 354.598.005(6) allows the health district to provide an amended budget within 30 days of the end of the legislative session. Staff is proposing a reduction to the operating revenues of \$3.2 million; this will reduce the current budgeted revenue fund dollars by that same amount. Following a thorough review of FY09 savings of general fund dollars and cost containment measures, staff will be able to bring back a revised budget within 90 days to show where the line item adjustments will be made to compensate for the shortfall.

Member Weekly asked if staff planned to meet with the Clark County Commissioners to discuss the potential impact the cuts will have the health district. He said public safety and public health should be high on the priority list. Whether we are in northern Nevada or southern Nevada, legislators need to understand that public health is also in the forefront in terms of first responders, in the company of fire fighters and law enforcement. We need to ensure that when the public health budget is cut, something will suffer. He stressed that staff should meet with the commissioners and impress upon them the need to communicate with our legislators the impact of funding cuts to public health. He said that other municipalities also need to step up and contribute funding for the health district – the true burden should not fall solely on Clark County.

Dr. Sands said staff is planning to make visits to the commissioners. Staff had previously anticipated budget reductions in the budget planning process. FY11 will be even worse, due to the continuing decline in property value. The management team is looking at the potential impacts and identifying what the core priority services are, including services that must be provided at all costs, and determine where changes can occur to ensure core services are maintained through these difficult economic times.

Member Weekly expressed his appreciation for staff's attendance at Commission meetings. He said last year he has expressed concern about Dr. Sands' lack of visibility and making sure that the public understood the health district. Member Weekly noted that Dr. Sands had addressed these concerns and made the necessary changes.

A motion was made by Member Weekly to adopt the Southern Nevada Health District amended Budget for Fiscal Year 2009-10; seconded by Member Strickland and was unanimously approved.

6. Receive Report from the Chief Health Officer Annual Review Committee

Members Christensen and Strickland reported on the recent review of the Chief Health Officer. Member Christensen said the committee met on June 9, 2009 and received an extensive packet of information detailing the goals and accomplishments of the chief health officer. He noted that this was the most thorough evaluation of a chief health officer during his tenure as a Board member, with goals laid out and a 360° evaluation. Dr. Sands laid out his vision of the future, as well as his accomplishments.

Member Strickland echoed Member Christensen's comments. She said the goals and accomplishments were laid out very well. She enjoyed seeing the letters and notes of recognition. There was some discussion about the pitfalls which occurred during the last year and the obstacles which Dr. Sands had to overcome, and he did a very good job. The committee was very pleased with the overall review.

Acting Chair Smith said the Board and the district is very fortunate to have Dr. Sands. She noted that Southern Nevada is well served by him and expressed her desire for him to remain for some time to come.

A motion was made by Member Christensen to accept the report from the Chief Health Officer Review Committee; seconded by Member Crowley and was unanimously approved.

III. PUBLIC HEARING / ACTION

- 1. Variance Request** to Operate a Public Bathing Place not in Compliance with *Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 444.526.4, 444.524.2, 444.530 and 444.534.2*, located at 3600 S. Las Vegas Blvd., Las Vegas, NV 89118 (APN #162-20-711-001 and 162-20-612-001). **Petitioner:** Bruce A. Aguilera, Authorized Representative, Project CC LLC, dba CITYCENTER for Aria Resort & Casino, Vdara Condo, The Mandarin Oriental and The Harmon Hotel

Acting Chair Smith declared the public hearing open.

Angela Jones, plan review supervisor presented this item. Ms. Jones noted that Melody Cirillo, project manager for CityCenter, and Bruce Aguilera were present to answer questions of the Board. The variance is seeks to eliminate signage at the interior spas at the Aria, Vdara Condo, Harmon Hotel and the Mandarin Oriental which specifies that children age 12 or younger should be accompanied by an adult and maximum use for children is 10 minutes. No one under the age of 18 would be permitted to enter the spa facilities, which is more stringent than current signage. Interior spas will be monitored by greeters at the receptionist desk as well as attendants who continually sweep the facilities to assist guests. A desk sign will be posted at the receptionist desk stating that patrons must be at least 18 years of age to use the spa facilities. One set of regulatory signs will be posted in the Aria Resort.

Staff recommends approval of variance based on the following conditions:

1. Provide greeters during all open hours of the public bathing spa areas at all unlocked entrances, and attendants to monitor access to these "adult only" areas;
2. Provide signage at the reception desk stating "Guests must be 18 years of age or older to use our spa facilities;"
3. Not to open the public bathing spa areas to persons under 18 years of age (MINORS) unless signage in compliance with NAC 444.526 is provided;
4. Post one set of signs in compliance within visual distance of all affected spas;

5. Display the capacity of each spa on regulatory signage;
6. CityCenter will post all other regulatory signage as required
7. Failure of the petitioner to prevent minors from gaining access to the public bathing spa areas, as determined by the health authority, will result in the voiding of this variance;
8. This variance is automatically terminated without further notice upon the closing of any sale transaction involving the subject property, or upon petitioner leasing or assigning operation of these public bathing spas to any other person or entity.

Member Schroder sought to clarify that no one under the age of 18 would be permitted, even with an accompanying parent. Ms. Jones said no one under the age of 18 would be permitted.

Member Jones noted for the record that he is an employee of MGM-Mirage and recused himself from voting on this item.

Acting Chair Smith asked if anyone from the public wished to speak on this issue. Seeing none, the public hearing was closed.

A motion was made by Member Strickland to approve the Variance Request with the conditions as outlined; seconded by Member Crowley and was unanimously approved with Member Jones abstaining.

2. **Memorandum #16-09:** Application for Approval for Opportunity Village ARC Inc. to Operate a Solid Waste Management Facility – Recycling Center, Located at 451 E. Lake Mead Parkway, Henderson, NV 89015 (APN 179-07-801-021) SNHD Control No.: RC033-XXX-01

Acting Chair Smith declared the public hearing open.

Walter Ross, environmental health supervisor/engineer, and Dante Merriweather, environmental health specialist II, spoke relative to this matter. Mr. Ross said that Opportunity Village ARC Inc. has met all requirements for a Recycling Center as specified in Section 4 of the Regulations governing Recycling Centers. He noted that Opportunity Village is the first non-profit organization to submit permit application.

Staff recommends approval based on conditions as outlined in the memorandum and a final inspection. Jean Perry, Alea Modlin, and Keith Copeland, representing Opportunity Village ARC Inc. were present to answer questions of the Board. Acting Chair Smith asked the applicants if they understood and accepted the conditions as outlined on the memorandum; the applicants responded affirmatively.

Member Weekly disclosed he is a member of the Board of Directors for Opportunity Village and asked if he should abstain from voting on this item. Per counsel's recommendation, he abstained from voting.

Member Schroder said that having any type of a recycling center is wonderful, especially when a facility is fully compliant.

Member Jones commended Opportunity Village for setting an example for other non-profit organizations by coming into compliance and hopes that others would follow suit. Acting Chair Smith said others are in the process as well. Member Weekly acknowledged the good work done by Opportunity Village.

Acting Chair Smith asked if anyone from the public wished to speak on this issue. Seeing none, the public hearing was closed.

A motion was made by Member Schroder to approve the application as submitted with the conditions outlined in the memorandum; seconded by Member Crowley and was unanimously approved, with Member Weekly abstaining.

3. Memorandum #14-09: Adoption of Proposed Environmental Health Division Permit and Plan Review Fee Schedule; Consideration of Business Impact Statement

Acting Chair Smith declared the public hearing open.

The following is a verbatim transcription of the public hearing concerning Memorandum #14-09.

Dr. Sands: Number 3 is Memorandum #14-09, this is the adoption of proposed environmental health division permit and plan review fee schedule and Consideration of Business Impact Statement. Scott Weiss, director of administration along with Glenn Savage, our director of environmental health and Robert Newton, administrative analyst for environmental health are all here to present the proposal and answer any questions you may have.

Glenn Savage: Good morning, Madam Chair, Board members. Glenn Savage, the environmental health director. With me today is Robert Newton, administrative analyst for environmental health. Also in the audience I have Steve Goode, who is the manager of operations and Dennis Campbell, who is the manager of solid waste, who I might ask to give some comments concerning some of these fee proposals.

Environmental health is proposing a fee increase to the Board of Health to cover the essential and necessary services that we provide to Clark County residents and tourists in the regulated community. EH started preparing our budget back in November of 08 and, quite frankly, we've been fine tuning it ever since. We acknowledge that there is a downturn in the economy and again, we started making cuts to our expenditures beginning last year. A few of those things that we have done since November is that we've placed a hiring freeze and we defunded positions, so we do have these vacancies, which we kind of refer to them as being "on the shelf" – right now they total 8 vacancies and that's resulted in a cost savings of around \$700,000. We've provided cross-training for our staff in all sections of environmental health, so whether it's in administration, solid waste, plan review, or operational inspections, we've been doing this cross-training and we do have a number of people that are actually doing multiple job duties. We have cut over \$250,000 in supplies, travel and training. Only travel that's being allowed is if it's totally reimbursed from a third party or a contract. And as far as the supplies, we've set up a standardized way of ordering supplies, with supplies to be ordered and quite frankly we're counting every pencil and ink pen that we're purchasing through our administration group. Just recently we've implemented the no overtime policy, which will be handled by

adjusted work schedules to handle those after-hour/weekend work activities, and we feel that could result in a savings of about \$200,000.

We've also made some administrative changes, such as ending the daily activity report, which will save staff an incredible amount of time – we estimate over 15,000 hours of filling out this one bureaucratic form, will then give staff the opportunity to go out in the field and do more inspections and plan reviews. In our plan review section we have put more information and plan review documents on the web so that applicants can go there and download the information, start filling out their application which will speed up the process, and we've noted that things are faster in our food program alone. So with all those cuts and changes we have estimated that we've approximately saved \$1.15 million in all these different things we've done since November.

We've also identified programs that currently are unfunded, and these are programs in which we do investigations/inspections. Those include: our CMART in which we work with the County Multi-agency Response Team to check on public nuisances and other issues; the MAT program – it's a similar CMART type of event where we go out with code enforcement people; urban rodent surveillance; hantavirus surveillance; the public nuisance calls we get – anything from water intrusions to no air/no water in rental properties; and also our illegal vending inspection/program and surveillance.

I'll say some good news I just received this morning was from North Las Vegas – I received a call from Ron McDaniel, who's asked me if I'd like to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with us which will allow them to go out and also confiscate food and destroy it, again getting more people out there in the community to work together, I think it's a fine thing and I'll be talking with legal counsel about that and Mr. McDaniel from North Las Vegas. I'd like to also extend that option and opportunity to Henderson and Boulder City and others who have illegal vendors, so it kind of gets everyone at least on the same playing field and let businesses then compete and build a program, but when you have people who are not pulling permits, we're not for that. And if they're serving an unapproved food, you don't even know where the source of the food is coming from, I think that is a health issue we've got to get after.

Now for the process that we've gone through and making some recommendations to our Board of Health. We've held a number of workshops in Mesquite, Laughlin and here in Las Vegas and at that time we had discussions with the community, we were looking at a 6.7% increase, and part of your package today is a fee schedule table and also the comments that we have received in those workshops, also emails we received and other letters that we have responded to. I can tell you that we've heard loud and clear from the people in the business community that this is a tough economic time, whether it's utility billing increases, insurance increases, the minimum wage costs going up, costs of products they have to purchase to stay in business, gasoline prices, promoters increasing their fees, business license fees

going up, and probably more that I have not recalled, and they told us about but ... it is in the record ... and have impacted their business, and we very much understand that and we listened to them. Some of the other comments that we had, and I'll just give you the wide range of comments from the community was first no increase at all, zero percent across the board of increases. A second component of discussion point was don't increase in a specific area, and maybe someone else can pick up the increased fees. A third was specific percentages, I believe the Nevada Restaurant Association did send me a letter saying that maybe 3.5% would be a good spot to be at. We had other business members in the solid waste community and other specific businesses say that no problem, we can handle the 6.7%. So I just want to give you a flavor – there was everything from zero to 6.7. And taking that into consideration, again we've sharpened our pencil, as industry has asked us to do, and we've moved from 6.7% as an option, to a 4.25% option.

I can tell you on our fee schedule, a majority of the fees that we're looking at addressing are at that 4.25% figure. There are some outliers to that we can discuss especially in the solid waste arena where we spend an inordinate amount of time – the cost of labor and plan reviews or inspections at those facilities. And also I can tell you that in the fee schedule itself is, we've broken it down with the general category on the left column, the amount of what the current fee is – we've broken it down per day costs – the 6.7% increase if so agreed upon, what that new cost would be, increase of 4.25% again new costs per day increases – staff comments and the public comments, so that's how it kind of reads. We kind of took what Ms. Crowley had suggested to us about providing tables and trying to make things easier to read so we attempted to do this during this fee schedule.

So this morning I'd like to, if the Board would like for me to, I could go through the points of discussion – I counted up last night, there's actually forty-one things we could sit and discuss today, or I could hit the highlights. It would be your preference on how you'd like to proceed with this.

Acting Chair Smith:

Well, I would suggest, first of all, we take questions from the Board, and then I'd like to see what the public has to say and then you can probably just address what you hear versus...

Mr. Savage:

And just one last comment before we do that, is that if, again if there's comments made by the public in certain categories, on this table we just put down "none." And I think, the other thing that I can tell you is the industry also did ask for certain areas of change. For instance Mr. Stokes representing Wynn would like for us to expand the seasonal permits from four months to eight months and was willing to work with us on what that cost would be. For us, I probably wouldn't have any issue with that. A gentleman who would like to bring a tattoo/body art convention to one of the MGM properties – this is the first time ever we would have this convention come to our community – we added up the costs and using the old costs, it would be somewhere around a

half million dollars, a first-time ever use, now we have something we can compare what his costs were going to be. We sat down and worked with him and came up with a different rate – that's also included. So my point is that we had some interest from the industry to make some changes, what they felt would benefit them and give them business opportunities, which are also part of the fee schedule.

Acting Chair Smith: And I also know in the past that there's been various groups, particularly the farmer's markets and vendors, that we've already made major changes to reducing the costs for them, so I know this is an on-going process, that you've been doing this for quite a while now.

Mr. Savage: Right. We, this last year, we set up a new point for high-risk annual itinerants and we arrived at a figure for an annual permit of \$750 and again working with the businesses we're hoping that instead of them having to take that special event permit each week, which would cost them over \$100, which potentially 52 weeks out of the year is \$5,200, now we're down to \$500 for low-risk, \$750 for high-risk, that they could have those savings, use it for their businesses, cost of purchasing equipment which would help them do their job and provide a good, sanitary product for presentation to the community.

Acting Chair Smith: Thank you. Well, are there any questions from the Board at this time? Commissioner?

Member Weekly: Yes. Mr. Savage I notice in the back of the materials here that there have not been an increase since 2007?

Mr. Savage: Yes.

Member Weekly: Is that correct? If in fact, this particular item here, if that didn't move forward here today, what type of setback or impact would it have on environmental services in terms of what it is you're looking to do. I mean I heard you saying, you spoke about the hiring freeze and take away the travel to various workshops and things of that nature. But if you could answer that part then I'll have another second part to that question.

Mr. Savage: Currently environmental health's budget is made up of about 91-92% labor. We, again, have cut back supplies, travel to the bare bones. So if we were not to receive any rate, it definitely would impact our bottom line and we'd have to consider taking a look at our labor costs, and that's kind of where we're at. If it was a \$1.1 million, which was a target of ours, if an environmental employees with fringes...the average environmental health employee with fringes and salary is about \$82,000, divide that into \$1.1 million – that could impact, 12, 13, 14 people, if I did the math correctly. That would have to be a consideration. The other consideration if we were not to go that way is the health district would have to look at other funding mechanisms to somehow substitute for that, grants and contracts, other things we

try to utilize. It's going to be difficult to find those, though. We've already explored that in previous years.

Member Weekly:

I appreciate that. One of the things that concerns me, personally, is as a member of the commission, is not that it's just so much the hotel industry that we are hearing from, but I'm also hearing from small businesses as well, who are very, very concerned, of course, with the economic downturn that we are experiencing right now, and for me, there's by no stretch at all would I want to do anything to impact labor costs in terms of possibly jeopardizing someone's livelihood by you having to go back and justify by laying off people, because we couldn't afford not to have their jobs today. A number of people that are losing their homes and so it concerns me and puts me in a real precarious position because I have not supported...did not support the water rate increase, because folks I represent cannot afford it, whether it's a quarter or a nickel. Again, right now people are strapped and again, when we look at the foreclosure crisis and they showed us the geographic areas, it's the district that I represent, a true high population of those foreclosures. So I didn't support an increase of the water rate, I didn't support an increase in the sewer rate, definitely don't support the power rate increase, and I'm just today I'm not in favor of an increase at all – I think the timing's bad with the number of issues we're dealing with right now and I'm not sure...I respect and appreciate...I was in briefing with you and Dr. Sands and I appreciate the compromise from 6.7% down to 4.25, I believe here you're doing everything, you're bending over backwards to try to make some type of concession, and Dr. Sands and staff, which we appreciate that very much. But Madam Chair, I'm just going to on record saying today I'm just not in support of an increase right now – the timing is too bad.

Acting Chair Smith:

Well, I appreciate your attitude, but I'd also like to say, though, but what is the cost of one health-related incident? So, the few pennies that people will have to come up now will pale in comparison to Las Vegas getting shut down for some health-related issue. Nobody's going to come here and then nobody's going to have jobs because everything will dry up. So I think that sometimes we have to balance the whole picture that, I mean, I don't like paying extra at the gas, but the price is going up and I'm just gonna have to pay it because otherwise my option is having to just walk everywhere, which probably wouldn't kill me. You know, I don't want to see some health-related issue overtake Las Vegas because we are tourist-based and for the people who live here. And so I think our obligation is public health, and that's how I'm going to view this. But before we go there, let's hear from the public, speaking of public health. Oh, I'm so sorry...

Member Jones

I think we also need to recognize that, you know, we've asked the environmental health division to go into a process of being funded through a fee structure and we're kind of at the end of that first cycle. During this current fee schedule cycle, I think now is the first time that you've had 100% of your expenses brought into the fee schedule, I think some of your HR costs and some of your support costs were

coming out of general fund in the past, so unfortunately that cycle comes at the same time as the down cycle in the economy, but I think we're on the right track for making that a self-sufficient business paying for business type of a process. Without being able to put a 100% to fee schedule covering all expenses, otherwise we won't be at our goal of business paying for business.

Acting Chair Smith: Member Crowley?

Member Crowley: Well, I just want to reinforce what's being said here, it has been a balancing act with giving them the charge of being basically self-sufficient as far as fees go, because funding it literally drying up across the country, and you're balancing the fee schedule and the hardship that it imposes on our community, and it does, against the rules that we've implemented that require that you get out there and make your inspections. So you've got to balance the fee schedule, the funds and the resources to do what we've asked you to do in our regulations and you have to balance that against what the community needs as far as its' business goes. And a good example is the tattoo event that you were talking about...

Mr. Savage: Right.

Member Crowley: ...and that if you look at what our regulations give us and what the fee schedule is set up to be right now, they basically would not be able to do it simply because we would charge them too much money and then it would be a non-event. And so you balance those three things and I don't know that we have any option, quite frankly. If we're going to enforce our regulations I don't know that we have an option not to increase the fees.

Acting Chair Smith: Doctor Christensen.

Member Christensen: Madam Chair, as I've said numerous times, in public health pretty much this is the whole ball of wax – this is where the rubber meets the road. This is, and to your credit Mr. Savage, you and your team has probably done to good of a job in the sense that we've not had outbreaks, we've not had problems. So people see these fees as why am I paying them, nothing really happens. We've done such a good job that we don't see the downside risk. The downside risk, if we don't do this, is tremendous, it's huge and it's economic slow-down.

Mr. Savage: I appreciate that comment. I just want to say we hold ourselves to a high standard to continue. Just as with the Virginia Graeme Baker Act, which was a federal law we don't enforce, but we went out with the HOAs, the contractors, trying to work with them more than ever before, we worked with them as far as doing a telephone communication with the contractors – we had them out on site so that they could be in compliance. So we've tried to take our business plan and have it flexible enough that we can move it from one spectrum to the other. I was telling some of the members of the public the other day, who would have thought that environmental health would have

gotten into a prostitution wrap ring out in the Henderson Office that Councilman Kirk asked us to weigh in on a couple years ago, and they were able to utilize us, instead of law enforcement and business license, to get us in because why? The home didn't have a swimming pool permit that they were charging for, and a food facility and a hotel, and so we were able to use our laws to get in and get the job done and that no longer exists. So again, just examples of what we try to do, which is beyond just food program – we do a lot of things in EH.

Acting Chair Smith: Well, thank you. Yes?

Member Strickland: I just wanted to say that, you know, Boulder City has been going through some significant rate increases and as a councilmember I have historically voted against increases in utility expenses, property taxes and that sort of thing for the reasons that everybody is struggling. But I think that whenever we have a discussion about rate increases as they are associated with health and safety for what I would call primary services provided to the public such as fire and police department, I've always been in favor of that. I think, for me, one of the things that you said, that we haven't had a rate increase since 2007 is significant to me, as well. So I very much appreciate that you have taken the opportunity to really streamline your management, fiscal management, in your department, I think that's very commendable. So although I'm historically against these kinds of increases, I will be in favor of this.

Member Schroder: I just had a question, a clarification, regarding what we're going to be voting on here. Is the recommendation for the 6.7% increase or the 4.25% increase?

Mr. Savage: I'm sorry.

Member Schroder: Is the vote, or the vote that we're going to be taking this morning going to be for the 6.7% increase or the 4.25% increase or is that something that one of us would move for?

Mr. Savage: I guess our point in doing this is just to show where we were at last month before the last workshop that we had here and then again, we were able to take a look at a couple other vacancies which just came up, the policy change to do away with overtime, and so that helped in cutting that increase down to that 4.25.

Acting Chair Smith: Well I believe staff...the answer to your question is staff's recommendation is 4.25.

Member Schroder: OK, because I can understand the rate increase, but if we can save as much as we can for the people that are actually going to be paying this, I'd love to see any kind of savings for them. While at the same time I understand that we have to conduct our business, too.

Mr. Savage: Right, and I would just say that was a good faith effort, I believe, on our part to industry. They did ask us, I had conversations with Mr.

Bible, Van Heffner, Julie Tracy and others and they said can you keep cutting, can you sharpen up that pencil, and we tried to. And I think some of the things we did since then would show that.

Acting Chair Smith: And I'm real intrigued by that because most of these cuts (indistinguishable comment) the health district.

Dr. Sands: Just want to make a point of clarification, where it's true as far as that this is the first rate increase we have brought before the Board since 2007. At the time when rate increases were approved in 2007, it was approved for two years, which is generally what we do. So there have, and it was a big bump in 2007 because that's when we closed the loop and included the indirect costs, you know the overhead that wasn't previously included, so truly the last two years the environmental health division has been self-sufficient based on the fee revenue that they collect. And then in 2008, based on what was approved in 2007, there was a smaller bump. And so again we've been watching since early last year what's been happening with the economy and making plans on how can we further reduce any increases that may happen and because I think the longer you go out, the worse it can get. But the thing is right now, this is what we're proposing, is really is the best that can be done to be able to be sure that we can maintain the services and balance that with the cost savings that so far have been achieved and the ones that we believe we can achieve over the next year with the idea that we would continue looking at how we can improve operational efficiency and being sure that our costs, the fees, are in alignment with the true cost of the service we had. The audit last year was to make sure that the fees that were collected were going directly to the service and they confirmed that that was happening. But again, I think there's always room for improvement and we'll continue working on that.

Mr. Savage: And the other point I'd like to make is this is just a one year, this is a one year proposal. Again, talking with people in the community, we've agreed that we'll come back to the table in November, December and again start taking a look at the economy, look at what we've done, we found more efficiencies and been able to make some other cuts within environmental health and how we do work, how we provide the services, that's what we're going to be doing with the community.

Acting Chair Smith: Thank you. Since this is a public hearing, we'd like to invite anyone forward who wishes to speak on this item. Please state your name and address for the record.

Van Heffner Are we on? I'm Van Heffner. I'm president and CEO of the Nevada Hotel and Lodging Association. I'm also proud to be honored by being a member of the Nevada State Board of Medical Examiners. And today I'm with you on behalf of the Nevada Hotel and Lodging Association; we represent 150,000 hotels room and I really want to commend Glenn Savage and his team, as well as Dr. Sands, on really working very hard and long to correct what we need to have

corrected. At the same time, on behalf of our Board, representing well over 200 properties in southern Nevada, they have expressed concern, as did Councilman Weekly, in saying that at this time some of our properties are in and out of bankruptcy, some have stopped being built. And so I feel the department of health is very positive in reviewing this, almost like you would do a living budget, in other words let's see how the fees come on licensees throughout Clark County and also if that needs to be revisited in October, whatever it might be, in order for us because our businesses are challenged as is this agency. And we've had a very favorable relationship with Southern Nevada Health District; I commend them for their effort. They've worked closely with us, hand in hand. And if we're preventing an outbreak of cholera from a small, remote place in South America or something on the east coast, we're able to capture it and do what we need to do. And so, on behalf of the Board, again I think this group would be very prudent to examine every single expense and I think the movement is in the right way, when you go from 6.7 to 4.25 and it shows very good faith on the their part. At the same time as industry, we want to make certain that we do not shoot the goose that lays the golden eggs, because if that happens it's like in some of these business when you have small operator that goes out of business, we all lose.

Acting Chair Smith: So you were that while you don't like it, you can live with this?

Mr. Heffner: We do not like it...

Acting Chair Smith: Right.

Mr. Heffner: ...I'm thrilled that they have checkpoints on it.

Acting Chair Smith: OK, so you don't like it, but you can live with it.

Mr. Heffner: I will live with it.

Acting Chair Smith: OK. Thank you.

Mr. Heffner: Thank you, Madam Chair.

Acting Chair Smith: Thank you very much.

Mr. Heffner: Any questions.

Acting Chair Smith: We certainly understand your position. Is there anyone else who wishes to speak on this item? Please come forward; state your name.

Ernesto Lucero: Is it possible I could get the overhead to show my slides – they're just six slides, if you'd go along with that.

Acting Chair Smith: Wait. I'm not sure...we have two Board members who are going to have to leave so we're going to need to...

- Mr. Lucero: I can go through them very quickly.
- Dr. Sands: If we find somebody...take a couple people so we can give them time to load it, then we could probably do that.
- Acting Chair Smith: OK. So is there anyone else who wishes to speak? We'll back you up a little bit.
- Mr. Lucero: Alright.
- Brenda Lovato: Good morning.
- Acting Chair Smith: Good morning.
- Ms. Lovato: My name is Brenda Lovato and I represent GSC Real Estate Management, homeowner's association and the apartment association. The reason the apartment association is not here, they're having a national convention so I'm speaking on behalf of everyone. I have also worked very closely with Dr. Sands and Mr. Savage, and I do appreciate the fact that they did sharpen their pencils; however I would like to make a couple of public comments. Number one they had made mention that the salaries of the average employee that works under their jurisdiction is around \$82,000...
- Acting Chair Smith: Salary and benefits.
- Ms. Lovato: ...and benefits. I am sure my managers would love to apply for these vacancies because I'm just telling them...well the vacancies are going to stay as they are. But I just would like to say that I want when they're sharpening their pencils and they're looking at their salaries and their benefits, I wish they would make sure that the employees that are working for them are performing to the best of their abilities, because I can tell you my experiences that my properties have had that when you have one inspector who's inspecting who takes five hours to inspect two of my pools, there's a problem. They're not moving in the right direction. So I'm saying, they need to evaluate their employees to make sure that they do have...Again we do not need an increase. We have laid off people. You're going to start seeing, as I mentioned in a public hearing before, you're going to start seeing apartment communities in foreclosures themselves because the vacancy rates and everything else and like I mentioned at the public hearing, the state business tax went from \$100 per business to \$200 per business. That is 100% increase. And so again I come before you and say that I thank you, Mr. Weekly, for agreeing that no increases at this time, and that's how I feel, that there should be no increases at this time. They should go back and reevaluate and bring this back to us. Let's see what we're like in a year. I'm sorry. Thank you.
- Acting Chair Smith: Thank you. Are the slides ready here?
- Member Weekly: Dr. Sands?

Dr. Sands: Yes.

Member Weekly: Just real quick, Madam Chair. Councilwoman and I serve as Chair and Vice Chair of another Board...

Dr. Sands: Right.

Member Weekly: ... so I've casted my vote. So I'm just going to head out.

Dr. Sands: OK.

Acting Chair Smith: I don't know that we can pre-cast before we close the public hearing...

Member Weekly: OK, well you know where I'm coming from.

Acting Chair Smith: What do we need as far as a quorum goes?

Shelli Clark: Seven.

Stephen Smith: We need seven.

Acting Chair Smith: Seven. One, two, three, four, five, six, seven...Well, if you leave then...

Member Schroder: Cause I'm the chair and he's the vice chair.

Acting Chair Smith: Well...we'll go through this as quickly as we can...we can't move forward...

Member Schroder: OK.

Acting Chair Smith: Go ahead, sir.

Andre Rochet: My name is Andre Rochet from Andre's Restaurant. I also am a member of the restaurant association. I want to thank the Board and Mr. Savage who listened to us meeting after meeting. Two years you had a 25% increase and over two years it's a pretty big increase. What you are asking now, you came down, I think you're being more than reasonable. And we certainly appreciate the fairness that you give us to listen to us a lot better than the power department, that's for sure. You know our business has been hit really hard and we're down from 30-50% yet, but yet we are very labor intensive. It doesn't matter if we do thirty people or fifty people, we still have to have the same amount of people working. And that's very hard for us. And everything is up – the tax and everything, I don't have to tell you. So I think 4%, yeah we can deal with it, but I think before we raise your fees again, we going to have to sit down again and see where the economy is at. I think we're going to see a lot more businesses closing – this is only the beginning. We have to go through the summer for restaurant people – it's the worst part of the year so it's going to be extremely, extremely difficult. I closed my place downtown already after twenty-nine years. And for those of you who

never come to my place because you said it's too expensive, well now I'm giving a three-course dinner for \$45 so there's no excuse.

Acting Chair Smith: We go to your restaurant for our anniversary, so...Yes?

Member Schroder: Yes, really quick. When would this be in effect? If this gets approved for 4.

Scott Weiss: July 1.

Member Schroder: July 1st?

Acting Chair Smith: Yes.

Bill Bible: Good morning, Madam Chairwoman. For the record I am Bill Bible, president of the Nevada Resort Association. I believe I've appeared before you, since you're a member of the judiciary committee of the state legislature...

Acting Chair Smith: That's right.

Mr. Bible: ...and I was a chairman of the gaming control board. Like the other speakers I wanted to commend Glenn Savage for his cooperative attitude and approach for what is a very, very difficult issue. You probably know this started out as a 14% fee proposal that would span a two-year period. I met with Glenn last week and with Scott last week, at that time it was a 6.7%, asked them to sharpen their pencil and obviously they've sharpened their pencil and gotten it down to 4.25% increase. As all of you know the industry is struggling, it's struggling. Last year, 2008, calendar year 2008, gross gaming revenue, and that is the major driver in our industry, showed the greatest decrease that they have on record. That trend has continued. Of those of you that follow the legislative proceeding you know that the economic forum which forecasts state gaming revenues made a projection in December that was extremely pessimistic. The governor used that to build his budget and they moved through time they made another projection in May that reflected an even more pessimistic attitude as to what gaming revenues were going to look like not only for the balance of this year, which ends at the end of this month, but to succeeding fiscal periods. The amount of revenue, when I was looking at the figures yesterday, it struck me as interesting they're projecting that total fiscal FY2011 collection, and that's two years out from today, were going to be approximately the same as what was collected in 2005. So during this period while there's been ups, the revenue picture has been fairly stagnant. And our companies have universally had to tighten the belt; they've done many of the same things, all the sort of things that Glenn had described that they have done in the budget review process. They have implemented very extreme cost savings measures, they've laid off employees, they've reduced work hours, they've suspended contributions to a retirement plan...these are the sort of things that are necessary in order to accommodate the changing economic circumstances. We

have to some extent delay the dialogue apparently on defunding and some of the issues, I think, we're going to be facing in the upcoming months as Commissioner Weekly indicated, there's no clear consensus as to whether we are the bottom of this economic cycle, how long it's going to last. Dr. Schwer earlier this week, you may have seen the story in the Review Journal yesterday in the mid-section was the mid-year review located that local unemployment was going to rise about 12%, it's currently about 11.3%, which is a record for this state; he predicts that there's going to continue to be job losses in the construction industry, there's going to continue to be job losses in the hotel industry, and we are having what are probably the most dramatic and challenging economic circumstances we in the industry have ever faced. At the same time, we have substantial new capacity coming into the marketplace that was planned a number of months ago...so you can recognize our economic circumstances. Clearly we need to focus on this budget on an on-going basis, labor costs have to be one of the areas we're going to look at. Also we need to take a look at the indirect costs. They may be self-sufficient...there maybe some opportunities for savings in that particular area. We're going to welcome the dialogue as we move forward. My numbers have not really flown in a consensus on a number, like most of your testifiers that represent trade associations and multi-member organizations. We have some properties at one end of the spectrum...one property indicated they felt that they could, it would be a struggle, but they could accommodate the original proposal of 6.7%; other properties have indicated to me that it would be a very severe struggle to meet fee increases that are being proposed here, even at the 4.2%. So on an ongoing basis you're going to have the same kind of due diligence on your part as the people that you regulate and other partners. I'd be happy to respond to questions. And again, it's good to see you again.

Acting Chair Smith: So good to see you, too.

Mr. Bible: Thank you.

Acting Chair Smith: Thank you very much.

Katherine Jacobi: Katherine Jacobi, president and CEO of Nevada Restaurant Association. Again, we'd like to thank the environment health division. They've been very patient at the numerous meetings that we've had. They've allowed us to express our views very directly. The Nevada restaurants are the largest source of tax revenue for our state. And most of our restaurants, as you heard today, are down about 40%. They're operating on a 4-7% profit margin – it's pretty slim. So although the fees are proposed as pennies per day, when you couple that with a minimum wage increase, modified business tax and also the increased utility fees, the cost of those, etc., it will have a serious impact on some of our restaurateurs. In some cases it's going to have the unintended consequence of closing these restaurants. While we don't want to compromise the services that are being provided in keeping our community safe, which they've done a very great job, we are requesting that you consider, again, the impact on our industry. As Andre has suggested some of our members are able to deal with the 4.2% and we

truly do appreciate all that Glenn has done to bring that down. We do echo Bill's comments and we suggest a review of the overhead costs and looking at the procedure for self-funding for environmental health to be self-funding. Thank you.

Acting Chair Smith: Thank you. Is there anyone else who wishes to speak? Do we have the slides ready?

Mr. Lucero: I'd like to apologize. I'm going to go ahead and waive my presentation and I'll work directly with Mr. Savage.

Acting Chair Smith: Well, thank you very much.

Member Schroder: Thank you.

Acting Chair Smith: Please come forward.

Virginia Johnson: My name is Virginia Johnson and I'm here representing Las Vegas Farmers' Market vendors and a lot of community vendors of events that we attend, outside events as accompanied volunteers to you, which is the requirement of business. We want to thank the Board for the considerations that have been given to us and to Glenn and his staff. We've all sharpened our pencils – now it's time to get out the erasers. Unfortunately we're all at that point from the big guys to all of us little guys. We've put approximately four to five hundred businesses in business or helped them get started on a springboard. As you know most of those food-type businesses and things maybe 5% will make it, but we'd like to have a better ratio, understanding for them to be able to springboard into the local economy on a larger scale and open their own stores and restaurants. The community involvement is we need more action from the community to help what is stated here. A lot of our vendors couldn't be here today because they are working – they have to be at work today, and many of them had written in letters. They have to be collected on...we had requested that the fees be collected on a calendar year, which would generate more revenue because people are starting at a more regular time that's conducive to them and the weather and their business. It's hard to start a business on July 1st if you are a chocolatier or something like that. So different things are involved. The 4.7 is a nice concession, or 4.5, excuse me. Maybe we can even do that half, every other year maybe – not start this year but next year, provided things are a little bit better. The annual cost of an inspection...I'm not certain what is the actual cost of an inspection per business...I tried to find out and figure it out, but you know our inspections are anywhere from a minute to hours depending on what kind of an event we're doing and usually it's right in the middle of an event. Sometimes we have gotten a lot better in doing the inspections prior to the event but usually if there's an issue in health, it's going to happen later on in the event, so may be a buzz back by or something would be appropriate.

Mr. Smith: I think we need to limit the time to three minutes.

Acting Chair Smith: OK.

Ms. Johnson: Maybe an audit for service that is there and better forms would be appropriate. We can help...the community can help put together those forms if necessary. And I would be willing to volunteer for that. And that's pretty much all I have to say. We would still like to have it, no fee for this term at this time.

Acting Chair Smith: Thank you very much. Is there anyone else who wishes to speak at this time? Well then we will close the public hearing and I'll take any comments or questions from the Board. Alright. Well I guess I would just like to say very quickly that there's no one listening here who's is unsympathetic to the issues of cost. I'm about to lose one of my jobs, so I understand that personally. And as a teacher, I teach two classes a day for free, because there's no money to pay me extra, and I doubt very many of you volunteer to do your job for free each day, but we all make sacrifices, so I understand that, but I still believe that our goal here is public health and that the cost of having a disaster would be so much worse than the consequences of having to look at fee increases, even though I know it's a struggle. So I'll accept a motion at that time.

Member Jones: So moved for approval at 4.25%.

Member Crowley: Second.

Acting Chair Smith: All in favor please say aye.

Board members: Aye.

Acting Chair Smith: Anyone opposed? Motion carries.

Member Schroder: And I apologize, I really have to leave.

Acting Chair Smith; We understand. So, I closed the public hearing, right?

Dr. Sands: Yes, you closed the public hearing.

A motion was made by Member Jones to increase the environmental health division permit and plan review fee schedule by 4.25%; seconded by Member Crowley and carried unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment is a period devoted to comments by the general public, if any, and discussion of those comments, about matters relevant to the Board's jurisdiction will be held. No action may be taken upon a matter raised under this item of this Agenda until the matter itself has been specifically included on an agenda as an item upon which action may be taken pursuant to NRS 241.020.

Acting Chair Smith asked if anyone wished to address the Board. Seeing no one, she closed the Public Comment portion of the meeting.

V. HEALTH OFFICER & STAFF REPORTS

CDC TIIDE Grant Annual Report: Mary Ellen Britt, Regional Trauma Coordinator

Dr. Sands invited Mary Ellen Britt, regional trauma coordinator to present the CDC TIIDE Grant Annual Report, which was included in the Board members' packets. Ms. Britt shared a PowerPoint presentation with the Board (**attachment #1**) and noted this is the second year of the Terrorism Injuries: Information, Dissemination and Exchange Project grant, the focus of which is to assist the district in preparing the community for disasters. Other partners include the American College of Emergency Physicians, American Medical Association, American Trauma Society, National Association of County & City Health Officials and the National Association of EMS Physicians. Each partner contributes different components to the community, such as development of education materials; disaster training; mass traumatic event reporting and collection tool; bomb blast injury fact sheets; tools, resources, best practices and lessons learned; and the adoption of national guidelines for mass casualty triage. SNHD identified new data sources to assist in trauma system assessment, published the first Clark County Trauma System Report, and collaborated with TIIDE partners in the review/revision of the "Bombings: Injury Partners and Care" curriculum; selection process of 2008 Model Communities; and review/revision of mass casualty event reporting tools.

Staff will continue to improve our data collection efforts, particularly to assist the efforts of the new public health informatics scientist; provide data reports to assist in the development of comprehensive, evidence-based, integrated strategic plans; and develop and distribute "Bombing: Awareness, Injury Patterns and Care" course. Research shows that 75% of individuals involved in a disaster will self-transport to a hospital, which is extremely problematic; as a result, staff modified the curriculum developed by the American College of Emergency Physicians, which was originally targeted to healthcare providers, to train hotel security officers to manage scenes and prevent individuals from leaving if an event were to occur. This helps improve the interface between the security officers and police, fire and EMS responders. This training is provided free of charge by Dr. Joseph Heck in a DVD format.

H1N1 Flu Update: John Middaugh, MD, Director of Community Health

Dr. Sands introduced Dr. John Middaugh, director of community health, to update the Board on the novel H1N1 influenza virus. Dr. Middaugh acknowledged the great partnership with the school district during the recent H1N1 influenza virus cluster in a local elementary school. For several years, school closure was a major component in pandemic flu planning for social distancing, though never implemented. Social distancing was not intended for seasonal flu or a low category type 1 outbreak. In this particular instance, patients who are asymptomatic can still be infectious prior to development of symptom and the roll of school closure would be ineffective as a control measure. The school district worked in concert with SNHD in sharing information with parents, though many parents still chose to keep their children at home.

Staff enlisted four major pediatric practices to participate in a viral culture surveillance system to monitor the behavior of the virus in the community. The physicians obtain appropriate clinical specimen for testing of their first ten patients, and this would allow us to see the cause of upper respiratory illness bringing children to the doctor in the first place. Out of the first group of cultures, over 50% were positive for the novel H1N1 influenza virus. Surveillance coincided with the week of the outbreak at the elementary school; however none of the children tested attended the elementary school. There is wide-spread illness throughout the community among children and adults, most of whom have mild-to-moderate illness, and everyone is being exposed. The same findings are occurring throughout the entire country. Without surveillance, we would not know that the virus is still circulating in the community, as the "traditional" flu season is over in the United States. Continued illness is expected throughout the summer months.

There is no evidence that the virus has mutated to become any more serious than regular seasonal influenza. There is no word on a vaccine at present. If a vaccine is developed it would be a separate vaccine from the regular flu vaccine, and not available until late-October at the earliest and wide-spread illness across the country could be occurring. If a vaccine is developed, eventually it will become part of the regular flu vaccine as has happened in the past.

The viral culture surveillance system will remain in place. What we are now seeing is an usual event of a mutated new virus with no preexisting immunity in the community. Additional infections will occur, including more hospitalizations and deaths. Staff continues discussions and planning efforts with the school district, as well as our stakeholders. The community is responding appropriately to our notifications. One positive of the outbreak is that anyone who has been infected with the virus has natural immunity to the virus and will not become ill again. Surveillance continues to show most cases manifest in people under the age of 50, and very few over the age of 65. The largest impact is in individuals between the ages of 20 and 35.

Member Christensen asked about the availability of Relenza, as it has not been available and it is the accepted treatment for the virus. Dr. Middaugh said there is plenty of Tamiflu and the virus is susceptible to the available antivirals – there is no shortage of antivirals.

Member Steinman noted the virus thrives in cold and damp surroundings. He asked why the virus will continue during the hot and dry months of the summer. Dr. Middaugh noted that influenza is seasonal and is more readily transmitted during the cold and damp winter months; however recent technological developments indicate that influenza is always present in the community, though not as virulent as in the winter months. More incidents are occurring due to increased surveillance and the birth of a new, changed virus where no natural immunity exists. The virus continues to be a mild form of illness.

Dr. Sands noted that the pediatric surveillance system was brought on board very quickly and has proven to be a valuable tool, which we hope to use for years to come.

Acting Chair Smith appointed the following members to the Nomination of Officers Committee: Susan Crowley, Jim Christensen and Linda Strickland. Dr. Sands said that Mr. Smith would help in coordinating the meeting.

VI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

DULY NOTED

A. Board of Health

1. Letter from Clark County appointing the following as members of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health for the term July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2011: Chris Giunchigliani and Lawrence Weekly as members; and Tom Collins as alternate
2. Appointment of Nomination of Officers Committee

B. Chief Health Officer and Administration:

1. Monthly Activity Report, Mid-May 2009 – Mid-June 2009
 - a. Nevada State Medical Association President's Award to Dr. Lawrence Sands, May 2009
 - b. Note of Appreciation from U.S. Senator Dina Titus to Dr. Lawrence Sands
 - c. Letter of Appreciation from Walt Rulffes, Clark County School District to Dr. Lawrence Sands
 - d. Letter of Appreciation from the Assembly Committee on Health & Human Services to Dr. Lawrence Sands
 - e. Letter of Appreciation from Western Technologies to Dr. Lawrence Sands Concerning Walter Ross, EH engineer/supervisor and Dante Merriweather, EHS II

- f. Letter of Appreciation from the San Francisco Bay Area Federal Executive Board to Dr. Lawrence Sands
2. Financial Data: Revenue and Expenditure Report for General Fund, Capital Reserve Fund and Public Health Laboratory Fund for the Month of May 2009
 - a. Grant and Agreement Tracking Report, as of June 15, 2009
3. Public Information Monthly Report, Mid-May 2009 – Mid-June 2009
 - a. Email of Appreciation from Linda Fields of Harrah's Imperial Palace to Susan Eiselt, PIO administrative secretary

C. Community Health:

1. Monthly Activity Report, May 2009
 - a. Swine Flu Update #3
 - b. Swine Flu Update #4
 - c. Swine Flu Update #5
 - d. May 2009 Disease Statistics

D. Environmental Health:

1. Monthly Activity Report, May 2009
 - a. Letter of Appreciation from Restaurant Technologies, Inc. to Dante Merriweather, EHS II
 - b. Letter of Appreciation from Restaurant Technologies, Inc. to Dr. Lawrence Sands concerning Walter Ross, EH engineer/supervisor and Dante Merriweather, EHS II
 - c. Certificates of Appreciation and Note Cards from Wilhelm Elementary School to Christine Sylvis, senior EHS and Lori Luces, EHS II
 - d. Letter of Appreciation from Mr. Barry Lovgren to Steven Goode, EH manager

E. Clinics and Nursing:

1. Monthly Activity Report, May 2009
 - a. In-service calendar

VII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Chair Giunchigliani adjourned the meeting at 10:24 a.m.

SUBMITTED FOR BOARD APPROVAL

Lawrence Sands, DO, MPH, Chief Health Officer
Executive Secretary

/src

attachments

TERRORISM INJURIES: INFORMATION, DISSEMINATION AND EXCHANGE (TIIDE) PROJECT ANNUAL REPORT



Attachment #1

TIIDE Partners

- ▣ American College of Emergency Physicians
- ▣ American Medical Association
- ▣ American Trauma Society
- ▣ National Association of County & City Health Officials
- ▣ National Association of EMS Physicians
- ▣ Southern Nevada Health District

ACEP

- ▣ Distributed “Bombings: Injury Patterns and Care” educational products
- ▣ Worked on revisions to “Bombings: Injury Patterns and Care” curriculum
- ▣ Sponsored annual TIIDE grantee meeting

AMA

- ▣ Provided NDLS training in Japan and participated in discussions regarding international health emergency communication systems.
- ▣ Developed a mass traumatic event reporting and collection tool and pilot tested it during hurricane season

ATS

- ▣ Developed 16 Bomb Blast Injury Fact Sheets now available in print and online
- ▣ Worked on BITAN to automate distribution blast injury fact sheets to trauma centers and emergency departments

NACCHO

- ▣ Distributed tools, resources, best practices, and lessons learned to LHD
- ▣ Identified and acknowledged LHD who demonstrated collaborative relationships with the emergency care community

NAEMSP

- ▣ Promoted adoption of national guidelines for mass casualty triage
- ▣ Acted as lead organization for selection of 2008 Model Communities

SNHD

- ▣ Identified new data sources to assist in trauma system assessment
- ▣ Published first Clark County Trauma System Report
- ▣ Collaborated with TIIDE partners in the review/revision of the “Bombings: Injury Patterns and Care” curriculum; selection process of 2008 Model Communities; and review/revision of mass casualty event reporting tool

SNHD Year Two Activities

- ▣ Continue to improve data collection efforts
- ▣ Provide data reports to assist in the development of comprehensive, evidence-based, integrated strategic plans
- ▣ Develop and distribute “Bombings: Awareness, Injury Patterns and Care” course

QUESTIONS?