



## MINUTES

### SOUTHERN NEVADA DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

July 23, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.

Meeting was conducted In-person and via Microsoft Teams

Southern Nevada Health District, 280 S. Decatur Boulevard, Las Vegas, NV 89107  
Red Rock Trail Rooms A and B

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Scott Black, Chair – Mayor Pro Tem, City of North Las Vegas (*in-person*)  
Frank Nemec, Vice-Chair – At-Large Member, Physician (*in-person*)  
Joseph Hardy, Secretary – Mayor, City of Boulder City (*in-person*)  
April Becker – Commissioner, Clark County (*in-person*)  
Bobbette Bond – At-Large Member, Regulated Business/Industry (*via Teams*)  
Nancy Brune – Council Member, City of Las Vegas (*via Teams*)  
Pattie Gallo – Mayor Pro Tem, City of Mesquite (*via Teams*)  
Marilyn Kirkpatrick – Commissioner, Clark County (*in-person*)  
Monica Larson – Council Member, City of Henderson (*in-person*)  
Scott Nielson – At-Large Member, Gaming (*in-person*)  
Shondra Summers-Armstrong – Council Member, City of Las Vegas (*in-person*)

**ABSENT:** N/A

**ALSO PRESENT:** Toluwanimi Babarinde, Christopher Boyd, Zach Brooksher, Marianna  
(In Audience) Hernandez, Kory Koerperich, Sergii Levchenko, Teddy Parker, Mahogany  
Turfley

**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** Cassius Lockett, PhD, MS, District Health Officer

**LEGAL COUNSEL:** Heather Anderson-Fintak, General Counsel

**STAFF:** Kevin Abbott, Malcolm Ahlo, Adriana Alvarez, Kristen Anderson, Emily Anelli,  
Tawana Bellamy, Haley Blake, Kevin Bratcher, Daniel Burns, Victoria Burris,  
Donna Buss, Erika Bustinza, Joe Cabanban, Nancy Cadena, Belen Campos-  
Garcia, Magali Cano, Brittany Cezar, Andria Cordovez Mulet, Rebecca Cruz-  
Nanez, Cherie Custodio, Liliana Davalos, John DeWolff, Jessica Donnell,  
Rayleen Earney, Tara Edwards, Regena Ellis, Lisa Falkner, Jina Fernandez,  
Kimberly Franich, Xavier Gonzales, Cheri Gould, Jacques Graham, Dianne  
Haddix, Heather Hanoff, Maria Harris, Richard Hazeltine, Raychel Holbert,  
Carmen Hua, Daniel Isler, Horng-Yuan Kan, Bob Kingston, Theresa Ladd,  
Dann Limuel Lat, Annie Lin, Josie Llorico, Cassondra Major, Jonas Maratita,  
Blanca Martinez, Bernadette Meily, Jacquelin Merino, Brandi Miller, Corey  
Morrison, Semilla Neal, Todd Nicolson, Brian Northam, Verallynn Orewyler,  
Kyle Parkson, Kaylina Penksa, Luann Province, Jeff Quinn, Vivek Raman, Larry  
Rogers, Alexis Romero, Chris Saxton, Dave Sheehan, Karla Shoup, Jennifer  
Sizemore, Randy Smith, Christine Sylvis, Ronique Tatum-Penegar, Renee  
Trujillo, Jorge Viote, Donnie Whitaker, Edward Wynder, Lourdes Yapjoco,  
Merylyn Yegon, Lei Zhang

**I. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL**

The Chair called the Southern Nevada District Board of Health Meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. Andria Cordovez Mulet, Executive Assistant, administered the roll call and confirmed quorum.

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. OATH OF OFFICE**

Ms. Cordovez Mulet administered the Oath of Office to Member Bond, Member Nemec, and Member Nielson.

**IV. RECOGNITIONS**

**1. Southern Nevada Health District – July Employees of the Month**

- Jina Fernandez and Jacquelin Merino

The Chair recognized the July Employees of the Month. The Health District, and the Board of Health, recognized these employees go above and beyond for the Health District and our community and best represented the Health District's C.A.R.E.S. Values. On behalf of the Health District and Board, the Chair congratulated the employees on this recognition.

**V. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT:** A period devoted to comments by the general public about those items appearing on the agenda. Comments will be limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. Please clearly state your name and address and spell your last name for the record. If any member of the Board wishes to extend the length of a presentation, this may be done by the Chair or the Board by majority vote.

Regena Ellis, representative of SEIU and an employee of the Health District, announced her retirement effective next week. She expressed gratitude to the Board, leadership, and employees for their longstanding partnership, collaboration, and shared work through challenging times. Ms. Ellis also acknowledged Dr. Lockett for his leadership. She thanked everyone for their support and stated that she looked forward to remaining connected within the community.

The Chair congratulated Ms. Ellis on her retirement and expressed appreciation for her years of advocacy, dedication, and commitment to both the work and the employees at the Health District.

Seeing no one further, the Chair closed the First Public Comment period.

**VI. ADOPTION OF THE JULY 23, 2026 MEETING AGENDA *(for possible action)***

*A motion was made by Member Nielson, seconded by Member Kirkpatrick, and carried unanimously to approve the July 23, 2026 Agenda, as presented.*

**VII. CONSENT AGENDA:** Items for action to be considered by the Southern Nevada District Board of Health which may be enacted by one motion. Any item 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:** June 25, 2026 *(for possible action)*
2. **PETITION #01-27: Approval of the Amendment to the contract between the Southern Nevada Health District and Korte Construction Company for completing utility components of the new BSL-3 building of the public health laboratory located at 700 S. Martin Luther King Blvd.;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*
3. **PETITION #02-27: Approval of the Interlocal Lease Agreement for Jimmie Hughes Campus at 150 North Yucca Street, Mesquite, NV 89027, between the Southern Nevada Health District and the City of Mesquite;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*
4. **PETITION #03-27: Approval of Amendment No. 1 between Clark County, Nevada on behalf of Clark County Family Services and the Southern Nevada Health District for Public Health Nurse Liaison Services for the period from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2028;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

*A motion was made by Member Nielson, seconded by Member Kirkpatrick, and carried unanimously to approve the July 23, 2026 Consent Agenda, as presented.*

**VIII. PUBLIC HEARING / ACTION:** Members of the public are allowed to speak on Public Hearing / Action items after the Board's discussion and prior to their vote. Each speaker will be given five (5) minutes to address the Board on the pending topic. No person may yield his or her time to another person. In those situations where large groups of people desire to address the Board on the same matter, the Chair may request that those groups select only one or two speakers from the group to address the Board on behalf of the group. Once the public hearing is closed, no additional public comment will be accepted.

1. **Variance Request to replace part of an existing septic system, SNHD Permit #ON0009564, located at 5785 N. Tee Pee Ln., Las Vegas, NV 89149, which is currently encroaching on a neighboring property;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary. *(for possible action)*

Dan Isler, Environmental Health Engineer Supervisor, and John DeWolff, Environmental Health Engineer, presented a variance request to obtain a permit to replace part of the existing leach field on the property at 5785 N. Tee Pee Ln., Las Vegas, NV 89149 ("Subject Property"). Sergii Levchenko, the homeowner, was also in attendance.

Mr. Isler advised that a portion of the existing septic system leach field encroaches onto an adjacent property due to a parcel division completed in 1994. The variance request would allow relocation of part of the leach field to meet current setback requirements. Mr. Isler noted that water quality testing of the property's well showed no indications of contamination. Mr. Isler advised that staff was recommending denial of the variance, as per

the regulations, as sewer was available within 400 feet of the Subject Property. Mr. Isler indicated that should the Board approve the variance, staff recommend three conditions.

Mr. Levchenko stated that he was unaware the septic system was not compliant until recently and explained that the neighboring property owner, who previously owned the entire parcel, subdivided, and sold it to him, expressed support for the proposed correction. He noted that connecting to the municipal sewer system would cost more than \$200,000 based on contractor estimates, making the option financially prohibitive. Mr. Levchenko requested approval of the variance to allow repairs to the existing leach field, explaining that only a portion of the system would need to be relocated to achieve compliance with current requirements.

The Chair opened for Public Comment. Seeing no one, the Chair closed the Public Comment.

Member Kirkpatrick was sensitive to private well owners, noting that they did not receive their water from the Colorado River. However, she did note the importance of maintaining water quality. She asked about the proposed relocation of a leach field distribution line to meet setback requirements and inquired whether applicants were informed about available septic conversion assistance programs offered by Clark County and the Southern Nevada Water Authority. Mr. Isler explained that the encroaching leach field line would be abandoned and replaced with a new distribution line farther south. He stated that staff do inform applicants about available assistance programs, though some projects may be less likely to qualify. The Chair recommended providing information about all available programs as a standard practice and allowing applicants to determine whether they wish to pursue those options.

*A motion was made by Member Becker, seconded by Member Larson, and carried unanimously to approve the Variance Request to replace part of an existing septic system, SNHD Permit #ON0009564, located at 5785 N. Tee Pee Ln., Las Vegas, NV 89149, which is currently encroaching on a neighboring property, with the following conditions:*

- 1. Petitioner and their successor(s) in interest shall abide by all local governmental regulations requiring connection to community sewage systems. Use of the ISDS shall be discontinued and the structure it serves shall be connected to any community sewage system within 400 feet of the property line when connection can be made by gravity flow and the owner(s) are notified and legally required to do so.*
- 2. Petitioner and their successor(s) will abide by the operation and maintenance requirements of the most current SNHD regulations governing individual sewage disposal systems.*
- 3. Construction of the ISDS must commence within one year of the date of approval of the variance. If construction has not commenced within that period, this variance shall automatically expire and be of no further force and effect, unless application is made and approved for an extension of time prior to the expiration date by the Petitioner or their successor(s) in interest. Petition must address all other compliance issues, if any, before finalizing construction.*

## **IX. REPORT / DISCUSSION / ACTION**

- 1. Receive, Discuss and Approve the Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary) of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health for a One-Year Term Beginning July 1, 2026;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

The summary of the nomination and interest forms regarding the officer positions for the Board of Health was presented.

Member Kirkpatrick expressed concern about the recurring lack of quorum at committee meetings, noting that this was the second occurrence for the Nomination of Officers Committee not meeting due to lack of quorum. She emphasized that committees exist to facilitate discussion and advance business efficiently and stated that members should evaluate their ability to participate if they are unable to attend regularly. She also noted that while other board members may be interested in attending, official committee business cannot proceed without a quorum of voting members.

*A motion was made by Member Kirkpatrick, seconded by Member Hardy, and carried unanimously to appoint Scott Black as Chair, Frank Nemec as Vice-Chair, and Nancy Brune as Secretary for the Southern Nevada District Board of Health for a one-year term beginning on July 1, 2026.*

**2. Receive, Discuss and Approve the Officers (Chair and Vice-Chair) of the Public Health Advisory Board for a One-Year Term Beginning July 1, 2026;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

The summary of the nomination and interest forms regarding the Public Health Advisory Board was presented. Member Kirkpatrick noted her earlier comments related to the Nomination of Officers Committee.

*A motion was made by Member Kirkpatrick, seconded by Member Hardy, and carried unanimously to appoint Kenneth Osgood as Chair and Susan VanBeuge as Vice-Chair for the Southern Nevada District Board of Health Public Health Advisory Board for a one-year term beginning on July 1, 2026.*

**X. BOARD REPORTS:** The Southern Nevada District Board of Health members may identify and comment on Health District related issues. Comments made by individual Board members during this portion of the agenda will not be acted upon by the Southern Nevada District Board of Health unless that subject is on the agenda and scheduled for action. ***(Information Only)***

Member Kirkpatrick requested an update at the next meeting regarding the EMS catchment areas, including the anticipated timeline for draft revised regulations and an overview of the process moving forward.

Members Kirkpatrick, Summers-Armstrong, and Larson requested brief, community-friendly informational materials on key public health topics, such as mosquito prevention and vaccinations, for inclusion in their newsletters. Members noted that concise summaries or flyer-style content would be more accessible than press releases and would help ensure timely and consistent public outreach across their jurisdictions.

Member Kirkpatrick raised concerns about ongoing littering and illegal dumping throughout the community and noted that proposed legislation aimed at addressing the issue was being developed. She encouraged coordination with the legislator sponsoring the measure and

emphasized the importance of public education, including outreach through schools, to promote responsible waste disposal and reduce littering.

## **XI. HEALTH OFFICER & STAFF REPORTS (*Information Only*)**

- DHO Comments

In addition to his written report, Dr. Lockett provided an update on the cyclospora outbreak being monitored by the Health District. While two travel-associated cases have been identified in Clark County, local case levels remain within the normal annual range, and no increase in community transmission has been observed. Dr. Lockett explained how the illness was transmitted through contaminated food or water, reviewed prevention measures for travelers, and noted that a multistate investigation had linked many reported cases to shredded lettuce products. The Acute Communicable Disease Control (ACDC) team continues to monitor the situation and serve as the primary local source of information and guidance.

The Chair acknowledged Kimberly Franich, Communicable Disease Manager, for her recent media appearance and commended her for clearly and effectively communicating the public health situation, as well as providing practical guidance for consumers on preventive measures and risk mitigation.

Member Nemec inquired about how cyclospora cases were diagnosed, noting that testing was not typically included in routine evaluations for gastrointestinal illness. Dr. Lockett explained that cyclospora must be specifically requested as part of laboratory testing. Further to a follow-up from Member Summer-Armstrong, Dr. Lockett acknowledged that underreporting was likely the case. He noted that the true size of the current outbreak was unknown and stated that challenges with national surveillance, reporting, and coordination may be affecting the ability to accurately assess and respond to the outbreak.

- Overview of the Procurement Process

Kevin Bratcher, Procurement Specialist, provided an overview of the procurement process.

Member Kirkpatrick requested examples of situations in which contract bids may be bypassed, including sole-source purchases, piggybacking on state or county contracts, and long-term procurement plans. She noted that certain specialized equipment and supplies may require specific manufacturers or products and emphasized the importance of helping the public understand why some contracts were not open for competitive bidding. She also acknowledged the challenges smaller businesses may face in competing for government contracts while noting efforts to include new vendors whenever possible. Mr. Bratcher explained that sole-source procurements were sometimes necessary when specialized equipment required manufacturer-approved products or when the Health District already used a specific piece of equipment and needed additional compatible equipment. He stated that many contracts were established through negotiated agreements for equipment and related supplies, and that some sole-source contracts arose when grantors approved specific suppliers or contractors.

Member Gallo inquired whether preference was given to local vendors when evaluating bids, noting that contracting with local businesses could help keep economic benefits and

spending within the community. Mr. Bratcher explained that for goods and supplies, vendors were selected based on availability and sourcing needs rather than geographic location. For service contracts, however, staff actively identify potential providers, including local and Southern Nevada businesses, when developing Requests for Proposals (RFPs). He noted that while specific local contractors may be notified of bidding opportunities, all procurements remained open and competitive, allowing any qualified vendor to submit a bid.

Member Summers-Armstrong asked why Mr. Bratcher did not use the Nevada Government eMarketplace (NGEM) platform, noting that other public agencies utilized the system and requested clarification on the rationale for a different procurement approach. Mr. Bratcher explained that his preference was not to use NGEM because vendors must register to access procurement opportunities. He stated that the Health District's process allowed vendors to obtain RFPs, submit questions, and provide proposals directly via email without requiring registration. He also expressed concerns that NGEM distributes solicitations broadly to large numbers of vendors, including some that may not be relevant to the specific procurement. Mr. Bratcher noted that the current approach enables staff to identify and directly notify local vendors while still maintaining open competition, as all qualified vendors are permitted to submit proposals.

Member Summers-Armstrong expressed concern about using a procurement process different from standard practices, such as NGEM. She asked whether safeguards were in place to document vendor communications and ensure transparency and fairness in the event a vendor questions the process or claims they were not treated equitably. Mr. Bratcher advised that he maintains a consistent and well-documented procurement process, retaining all email communications and procurement records in organized files. He explained that vendors are directed to communicate by email rather than by telephone so that all interactions are documented and can be tracked. Mr. Bratcher emphasized that, in addition to publicly advertising opportunities, he makes efforts to identify and directly notify relevant contractors, including local vendors, to encourage participation in the bidding process.

Member Kirkpatrick asked whether the Health District participated in the state purchasing consortium. She emphasized the value of collaborating with procurement professionals from other agencies to learn about state contracts, industry trends, legislative developments, vendor performance, and outreach strategies for local businesses. Member Kirkpatrick noted that procurement plays a critical role across public organizations and suggested that participation in the consortium could help the Health District identify opportunities, avoid common challenges, and strengthen engagement with local vendors and contractors. Mr. Bratcher stated that he was not a member of the purchasing consortium. Dr. Lockett acknowledged the feedback and agreed that participation in the procurement consortium could provide valuable learning opportunities and help improve organizational practices. Dr. Lockett emphasized that procurement is a vital organizational function and stated that the Health District remains committed to evaluating its practices, learning from others, and continuously improving its operations.

Member Kirkpatrick asked for clarification regarding procurement requirements that necessitate the rejection of bids when vendors fail to comply with mandatory submission requirements. She emphasized the importance of consistently applying procurement laws and policies, noting that omissions such as failing to acknowledge addenda or complete required documentation can affect fairness, pricing, and the integrity of the bidding process. She referenced examples where bids at Clark County were rejected due to noncompliance

and stressed the need to enforce requirements uniformly. Ms. Anderson-Fintak confirmed that there are specific procurement requirements that must be met and noted that Mr. Bratcher's comments were intended to emphasize the importance of documenting compliance with those requirements. Mr. Bratcher explained that vendors are required to confirm they have reviewed and understood any addenda, as those documents become part of the official procurement record and proposal requirements. Member Becker noted that consistent enforcement of procurement requirements is important because it provides a clear basis for defending procurement decisions if they are challenged. The Chair emphasized that the goal is to secure quality goods and services at the best value while maintaining full compliance with applicable laws and that vendors are responsible for meeting all bid requirements.

Member Summers-Armstrong emphasized the importance of succession planning for the procurement function. She stressed the need to preserve institutional knowledge and maintain operational continuity by documenting procedures and developing staff who can effectively carry out procurement responsibilities in the future.

- West-Nile Surveillance Update

Vivek Raman, Environmental Health Supervisor, provided an update on West Nile surveillance and activities.

Further to an inquiry from Member Larson on testing and symptoms of West Nile virus, Mr. Raman explained that testing was conducted through a blood test ordered by a physician. He noted that the Health District issues alerts to physicians to increase awareness of potential cases. Mr. Raman stated that most infections cause mild flu-like symptoms, including fever and rash, and typically resolve on their own. However, in more severe cases affecting the central nervous system, symptoms can include disorientation, difficulty walking or speaking, paralysis, stupor, or coma. He added that West Nile virus was often underdiagnosed because many individuals recover at home without seeking medical care. In response to a follow-up question from Member Hardy regarding treatment, Mr. Raman explained that there was no specific treatment for West Nile virus and that care consisted of supportive therapy to manage symptoms and any secondary complications.

Further to an inquiry from Member Kirkpatrick regarding regional mosquito control efforts and the use of WALS treatments, Mr. Raman advised that there was not sufficient support to move forward with implementing such measures. The Chair noted that some work had been conducted at the Clark County Wetlands Park. Mr. Raman explained that unincorporated Clark County carried out WALS treatments at the Wetlands Park and that follow-up monitoring indicated mosquito populations were managed more effectively than in areas without treatment. However, he noted that the results were not statistically validated, making it difficult to conclusively attribute the observed reductions to the treatment rather than other factors, such as environmental conditions.

The Chair commented that while mosquito activity was a recurring seasonal concern and public nuisance, the key components needed for a coordinated mosquito abatement program, included equipment, expertise, data, and regional partners. The Chair stated that the primary barrier was collective commitment and coordination needed to advance a unified effort. The Chair noted that proactive measures have been shown to reduce exposure risks

and associated public health impacts and expressed support for a more coordinated approach in the future.

**XII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

1. Administration Division Monthly Activity Report
2. Community Health Division Monthly Activity Report
3. Community Health Center (FQHC) Division Monthly Report
4. Disease Surveillance and Control Division Monthly Activity Report
5. Environmental Health Division Monthly Activity Report
6. Public Health & Preventive Care Division Monthly Activity Report

**XIII. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT:** 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. Comments will be limited to two (2) minutes per speaker. If any member of the Board wishes to extend the length of a presentation, this may be done by the Chair or the Board by majority vote.

Seeing no one, the Chair closed the Second Public Comment portion.

**XIV. CLOSED SESSION:** Go into closed session, pursuant to NRS 241.015(4)(c) as amended by AB52 (2025), to receive information from the Health District's Attorney regarding potential or existing litigation involving a matter over which the Board of Health has supervision, control, jurisdiction or advisory power, and to deliberate on the matter; and direct staff accordingly.

The Chair started the Closed Session at 10:24 a.m.

The Chair ended the Closed Session at 11:11 a.m.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:12 a.m.

Cassius Lockett, PhD, MS  
District Health Officer/Executive Secretary  
/acm