



MINUTES

SOUTHERN NEVADA DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

April 24, 2025 – 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: Marilyn Kirkpatrick, Chair – Commissioner, Clark County (*via Teams*)
Scott Nielson, Vice-Chair – At-Large Member, Gaming (*via Teams*)
Nancy Brune, Secretary – Council Member, City of Las Vegas (*in-person*)
Scott Black – Mayor Pro Tem, City of North Las Vegas (*in-person*)
Bobbette Bond – At-Large Member, Regulated Business/Industry (*in-person*)
Pattie Gallo – Mayor Pro Tem, City of Mesquite (*via Teams*)
Joseph Hardy – Mayor, City of Boulder City (*in-person*)
Monica Larson – Council Member, City of Henderson (*via Teams*)
Frank Nemec – At-Large Member, Physician (*in-person*)
Shondra Summers-Armstrong – Council Member, City of Las Vegas (*in-person*)

ABSENT: April Becker – Commissioner, Clark County

ALSO PRESENT: Linda Anderson, Toluwanimi Babarinde, Christopher Boyd, Shawn Danoski,
(In Audience) Paul Fenton, Xan Goodman, Carly Hanft, Robert Hunter, Deborah Kuhls,
Bradley Mayer, Achut Reddy, Jacob Stefonek, Minnie Wood

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Cassius Lockett, PhD, District Health Officer

LEGAL COUNSEL: Heather Anderson-Fintak, General Counsel

STAFF: Elizabeth Adelman, Adriana Alvarez, Emily Anelli, Maria Azzarelli, Tawana Bellamy, Haley Blake, Alexis Brignola, Cory Burgess, Daniel Burns, Victoria Burris, Donna Buss, Erin Buttery, Nancy Cadena, Maria Calito, Belen Campos-Garcia, Andria Cordovez Mulet, Cherie Custodio, Gerard Custodio, Nevena Cvijetic, Liliana Davalos, Aaron DelCotto, Lauren DiPrete, Lisa Falkner, Jason Frame, Kimberly Franich, Xavier Gonzales, Jacques Graham, Amineh Harvey, Richard Hazeltine, Raychel Holbert, Dan Isler, Danielle Jamerson, Sabine Kamm, Horng-Yuan Kan, Theresa Ladd, Heidi Laird, Dann Limuel Lat, Josie Llorico, Sandy Lockett, Hetal Luhar, Cassondra Major, Anil Mangla, Blanca Martinez, Keanu Medina, Marco Mendez, Kimberly Monahan, Christian Murua, Todd Nicolson, Brian Northam, Kyle Parkson, Kaylina Penksa, Luann Province, Jeff, Quinn, Cheryl Radeloff, Misty Robinson, Emma Rodriguez, Larry Rogers, Alexis Romero, Kim Saner, Chris Saxton, Dave Sheehan, Karla Shoup, Jennifer, Sizemore, Randy Smith, Rosanne Sugay, Ronique Tatum-Penegar, Candyce Taylor, Will Thompson, William Thompson, Rebecca Topol, Danielle Torres, Renee Trujillo, Shylo Urzi, Sony Varghese, Jorge Viote, Donnie Whitaker, Edward Wynder, Merylyn Yegon

I. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

Secretary Brune called the Southern Nevada District Board of Health Meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Andria Cordovez Mulet, Executive Assistant, administered the roll call and confirmed quorum. Ms. Cordovez Mulet provided clear and complete instructions for members of the general public to call in to the meeting to provide public comment, including a telephone number and access code.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. RECOGNITIONS

1. Public Health Hero

- Minnie Wood, Senior Lecturer, University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Nursing

The Board of Health recognized Minnie Wood, Senior Lecturer at the UNLV School of Nursing, as the Southern Nevada Health District 2025 Public Health Hero. An ANCC-certified adult nurse practitioner, Minnie Wood was being recognized for her outstanding contributions to building a healthier, more resilient community. She collaborated closely with the Health District during the COVID-19 pandemic to educate OB/GYN practices about congenital syphilis and partnered with the Sexual Health and Outreach Prevention Program to develop key educational materials. Minnie Wood also serves on the Academic Health Department Joint Advisory Committee, strengthening ties between public health and higher education. Her extensive community involvement includes work with local organizations such as the Clark County School District, the Just One Project, and the UNLV Student Wellness Center. On behalf of the Board of Health, Secretary Brune congratulated Minnie Wood on this recognition for their valuable contribution and ongoing efforts to promote the health and well-being of our community.

2. Southern Nevada Health District – April Employees of the Month

- Maria Calito and Keanu Medina

The Board of Health recognized the April Employees of the Month; Maria Calito, Medical Assistant, and Keanu Medina, Community Health Worker, both in the Southern Nevada Community Health Center. The Health District, and the Board of Health, recognized those employees that went above and beyond for the Health District and our community and that best represented the Health District's C.A.R.E.S. Values. On behalf of the Board of Health, Secretary Brune congratulated these exceptional employees.

3. Southern Nevada Health District – Supervisor of the Quarter

- Erin Buttery and Elizabeth Adelman

The Board of Health recognized the Supervisors of the Quarter; Erin Buttery, Laboratory Supervisor in the Southern Nevada Public Health Laboratory, and Elizabeth Adelman, Communicable Disease Supervisor in Disease Surveillance and Control. Each quarter two individuals are selected, as nominated by staff, to recognize leadership, teamwork efforts, ideas, or accomplishments, and best represent the Health District's C.A.R.E.S. Values. On behalf of the Board of Health, Secretary Brune congratulated these exceptional employees.

- IV. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT:** A period devoted to comments by the general public about those items appearing on the agenda. Comments will be limited to five (5) 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.

Laura McSwain addressed Item VII.2, the Variance Request for an existing septic system, SNHD Permit #ON0027243, located at 6855 W. Deer Springs Way, Las Vegas, NV to allow existing trees to encroach on the septic system. Ms. McSwain founded the Water Fairness Coalition in 2003 in response to what she believed to be overly burdensome water policies in her neighborhood. Ms. McSwain indicated that she had done research that showed signs of damage to the community and heat trajectory. Ms. McSwain contacted the owner of 6855 W. Deer Springs Way and discovered that he had gone to some financial lengths trying to preserve the existing trees on the property. Ms. McSwain noted that she was not familiar with the potential damage or issues that may result from trees encroaching on a septic system.

Member Larson joined the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

Ms. McSwain requested that the Board take into consideration every possible measure to protect the tree canopy, which will inspire the rest of the community to recognize that the trees are a vital resource protecting the community from a warming planet. Ms. McSwain noted the hardened position that she has noticed at meetings, and hoped that individuals recognized that they have a right to protect their investments, the broader community, and air quality.

Secretary Brune thanked Ms. McSwain for her comments and being an engaged neighbor.

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

V. ADOPTION OF THE APRIL 24, 2025 MEETING AGENDA *(for possible action)*

Item VI.4 was removed from the Consent Agenda and will be put forward at a later date.

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Nemec, and carried unanimously to approve the April 24, 2025 Agenda, as amended.

- VI. 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:** March 27, 2025 *(for possible action)*
- 2. PETITION #29-25: Approve the Revised Budget Augmentation (originally approved January 23, 2025) for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2025 to meet the financial requirements of NRS 354.598005;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

3. **PETITION #30-25: Approve the Revision to the Employee Handbook for the Southern Nevada Health District;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*
4. ~~**PETITION #31-25: Approval of the Interlocal Contract between the State of Nevada, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, and the Southern Nevada Health District;**~~ direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Hardy, seconded by Member Black, and carried unanimously to approve the April 24, 2025 Consent Agenda, as amended.

VII. 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 for an Application to Construct a Septic System located at 4501 Yellow Pine Ave., Mount Charleston, NV to allow installation of a septic system on an undersized lot;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Daniel Isler, Environmental Health Engineer Supervisor, presented the variance request for an application to construct a septic system on an undersized lot. Mr. Isler advised that the application consisted of two parcels, which the owner was in the process of combining into a single parcel. However, even with the combined parcels, the lot size was still 0.2 acres below the minimum lot size requirements. Mr. Isler confirmed that staff was recommending approval of the variance, with the usual conditions along with an additional condition; that the two parcels be combined into a single parcel and recorded on the parcel map before permitting and installing the proposed septic system.

Secretary Brune opened for Public Comment.

Robert Hunter, the general contractor building the home, advised that the owner had gone through a lot of hardship through this process which started over two years ago. Mr. Hunter advised that the mapping process to combine the two parcels was almost completed. Mr. Hunter noted that the owner purchased the second parcel thinking there would be enough space for the septic system. Mr. Hunter stated that the owner invested almost \$200,000 in the entire process to build a house.

Secretary Brune inquired whether the owners agreed with the conditions recommended by staff. Mr. Hunter confirmed that the owner agreed with the conditions and understood that the final recording of the parcel had to be executed prior to permitting and installing the proposed septic system.

Seeing no one further, Secretary Brune closed the Public Comment.

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Hardy, and carried unanimously to approve the Variance Request for an Application to Construct a Septic System located at 4501 Yellow Pine Ave., Mount Charleston, NV to allow installation of a septic system on an undersized lot, with the following conditions:

- 1. Petitioner will complete the process of combining the existing parcels, APNs 129-36-510-077 and 129-36-510-078, into a single new parcel, and record the parcel map before permitting and installing the proposed ISDS.*
- 2. 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 constructed in the future to within 400 feet of the Petitioner's property line when connection can be made by gravity flow, the owner(s) are notified, and they are legally required to do so.*
- 3. Petitioner and their successor(s) will abide by the operation and maintenance requirements of the most current SNHD Regulations governing individual sewage disposal systems.*
- 4. 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.*

2. Variance Request for an existing septic system, SNHD Permit #ON0027243, located at 6855 W. Deer Springs Way, Las Vegas, NV to allow existing trees to encroach on the septic system; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary (for possible action)

Daniel Isler, Environmental Health Engineer Supervisor, presented the variance request for an existing septic system located at 6855 W. Deer Springs Way, Las Vegas, NV to allow existing trees to encroach on the septic system. Mr. Isler advised that there are three septic systems on the property; however, the variance request only affects the septic system connected to a casita. Mr. Isler advised that the variance request was brought through an application for tenant improvement to expand a garage, wherein a condition on the approved building permit was to remove any trees within 10 feet of the septic system. Mr. Isler advised that the owner would like to keep the trees on the property. As part of the variance application, the owner did a water quality test on the well, which showed high nitrate levels; however, the presence of the trees and the proximity of the trees to the septic system should not have anything to do with the nitrate concentration. Mr. Isler confirmed that there was no existing sewer or infrastructure near the property. Mr. Isler advised that it appeared, from aerial photos in the Spring of 1999, that the pecan trees were planted just after the septic system was installed, which was in 1998. Mr. Isler confirmed that staff was recommending approval of the variance, with conditions.

Secretary Brune opened for Public Comment.

Shawn Danoski, the owner of the property, advised that the subject property was 10-acres with four different structures, three different septic tanks, and agriculturally zoned. Mr. Danoski noted that the previous owner transplanted the trees from the historical Alta/Rancho

area when they built the property. Mr. Danoski stated that nitrates in the water were common for farms and ranch land and advised that the property was irrigated through irrevocable water rights. Mr. Danoski indicated that a garage addition was constructed on the property with solar, which was a remote structure to the main structure, and no plumbing. Mr. Danoski advised that the septic system in question was a couple hundred feet from the garage. Mr. Danoski advised that he had spent thousands of dollars doing research, getting documents, consultants, and preparing documentation, which he didn't believe the average home owner had the ability to complete. Mr. Danoski addressed the conditions, 1 through 7. With respect to condition #3, which referred to no additional plumbing fixtures to be added, Mr. Danoski advised that the structure was a remote guesthouse and used intermittently, with no plans to add additional plumbing. With respect to condition #7, which indicated that a copy of the variance must be provided to potential buyers, Mr. Danoski stated that it would be difficult to remember or would be unjust for his family to remember that they must disclose the variance to potential buyers. Mr. Danoski stated that the variance may be recorded at the Health District or on the deed, but was difficult for a homeowner to be required to disclose the variance. Mr. Danoski concluded that the trees provided shade for the horses, barn, chickens and agriculture on the property.

Seeing no one further, the Secretary closed the Public Comment.

Further to an inquiry from Member Hardy, Mr. Isler confirmed that the building with the septic system in question had existing plumbing, however the condition would be that no additional plumbing would be installed.

Member Summers-Armstrong inquired as to the difficulty in filing a note on a deed that would appear during a future transfer of land. Ms. Anderson-Fintak advised that NRS 113 require the variance to be attached to the property and filed with the Recorder's Office as part of the deed, which was a common practice with septic systems in Clark County. Ms. Anderson-Fintak advised this was standard disclosure in a normal real estate transaction. Member Summers-Armstrong stated that the conditions as stated could be met with very little trouble and that she would be supportive of the conditions as stated.

Member Bond noted that any title research on the property at the time of sale would note any title issues, and confirmed she would support the variance request with the conditions.

Chair Kirkpatrick stated that condition #3 was broad and inquired whether the permit number for the septic system in question could be included in the condition. Further, Chair Kirkpatrick inquired as to who was responsible for filing the variance on the deed. Mr. Isler advised that the permit number could be added to condition #3. Ms. Anderson-Fintak advised that as per NRS 113 the obligation to disclose in a real estate transaction fell on the owner for both water and sewage services. Ms. Anderson-Fintak noted that this was a common disclosure for real estate agents, so unless it was a private transaction with individuals not familiar with the law, it would not be an issue.

Mr. Danoski once again expressed his concern with the wording of condition #7. Mr. Danoski understood the intent of the condition, however believed it was unreasonable for his children to know to make this disclosure. Mr. Danoski acknowledged that if the variance was recorded with the Health District, he would not have an issue. Mr. Danoski confirmed that condition #3 should refer to the specific septic system as there were three septic systems on the property.

Mr. Isler confirmed that the permit number could be added to condition #3, and, regarding condition #7, that the Health District records the variance on the property. Ms. Anderson-Fintak reiterated that the language in condition #7 was a restatement of the language in NRS 113, which puts the obligation on the seller to make the disclosure.

A motion was made by Chair Kirkpatrick, seconded by Member Nemec, and carried unanimously to approve the Variance Request for an existing septic system, SNHD Permit #ON0027243, located at 6855 W. Deer Springs Way, Las Vegas, NV to allow existing trees to encroach on the septic system, 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 constructed in the future to 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. No additional plumbing fixtures will be connected to the existing septic system (SNHD Permit #ON0027243).*
- 4. If the existing septic system fails or is replaced for any reason, an advanced treatment system will be installed in lieu of a conventional system.*
- 5. No additional trees are allowed within 10 feet of any of the existing septic systems.*
- 6. The variance will be in effect until the existing residential septic system is inactivated, removed, fails, or if the property changes land use. Conversion of the existing septic system for commercial use will result in the variance becoming null and void.*
- 7. Petitioners and their successor(s) must provide a copy of the variance to potential buyers as part of the disclosure process per NRS 113.*

VIII. REPORT / DISCUSSION / ACTION

- 1. Receive, Discuss and Approve the Board of Health Committees and Committee Membership for FY2025;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary (for possible action)

The Board of Health was provided with a summary of the Committee Participation Interest Forms received and the current composition of the committees. Secretary Brune advised that the composition of each committee would be 3-5 members. Further to an inquiry from Member Bond, Ms. Anderson-Fintak advised that at-large members may serve on the At-Large Member Selection Committee; however, they were not able to vote on the selection of the at-large members. Ms. Anderson-Fintak further advised that, as Dr. Lockett's 5-year contract commenced in February 2025, the DHO Succession & Planning Committee could be considered an ad-hoc committee. Chair Kirkpatrick indicated that there should always be a succession committee looking to the future; however, agreed that the DHO Succession & Planning Committee could remain dormant until needed.

Chair Kirkpatrick impressed on the Board members that it was imperative that they attended the committee meetings as, at times, there are issues due to a lack of quorum. Further, Chair Kirkpatrick noted that it was important for existing Board members to allow for the new Board members to participate in committees. All board members are invited to committee meetings, but they are not voting members unless they are official committee members.

Ms. Anderson-Fintak reminded the Board that the At-Large Member Selection Committee would next meet in June 2026, the DHO Annual Review Committee would next meet in January 2026, the DHO Succession & Planning Committee would be ad-hoc, the Finance Committee met approximately 4-5 times a year, and the Nomination of Officers Committee would next meet in July 2025. Furthermore, Ms. Anderson-Fintak reminded the Board that the bylaws state that the minimum number of members per committee were three, with a maximum of five.

After discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Member Larson, seconded by Member Hardy, and carried unanimously to approve the composition of the SNHD Board of Health Committees as follows:

<u>At-Large Member Selection Committee (Term 2024-2026)</u>	<u>DHO Annual Review Committee</u>	<u>DHO Succession & Planning Committee (inactive)</u>	<u>Finance Committee</u>	<u>Nomination of Officers Committee</u>
A. Becker S. Black B. Bond N. Brune F. Nemec	A. Becker S. Black N. Brune J. Hardy M. Kirkpatrick	A. Becker S. Black B. Bond P. Gallo J. Hardy M. Kirkpatrick M. Larson F. Nemec	A. Becker N. Brune M. Kirkpatrick S. Nielson S. Summers-Armstrong	A. Becker B. Bond M. Kirkpatrick M. Larson S. Nielson

Member Gallo left the meeting at 9:52 a.m. and did not return.

- IX. 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)**

There were no items raised.

X. HEALTH OFFICER & STAFF REPORTS (Information Only)

- DHO Comments

In addition to the written report, Dr. Lockett advised that on April 4th the legislative budget sub-committee reviewed the \$15m Public Health Improvement Fund budget, which was allocated per capita, was the only non-categorical support for public health agencies in Nevada. Dr. Lockett stated that this funding would help with all of our operational public health services.

Dr. Lockett advised that as of April 17th, there were over 800 confirmed measles cases nationwide in 25 jurisdictions. Dr. Lockett further advised that, as of April 22nd, Texas had 624 confirmed cases with only 22 of those being vaccinated. Dr. Lockett advised that last year there were only 285 cases of measles reported for the entire of 2024. Dr. Lockett further

advised that of the 624 cases in Texas, 64 were hospitalized. Dr. Lockett advised that the Health District had a response plan and has been working on an exercise with the Clark County School District. Dr. Lockett urged parents that the best way to protect children and the community was to receive the MMR vaccine.

Dr. Lockett advised that the Community Health Assessment Prioritization meeting was scheduled for April 30, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. at the Health District's Main Facility and via Microsoft Teams. Dr. Lockett advised that the meeting would identify southern Nevada's top health issues for the next 5 years, and guide priorities in the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

Chair Kirkpatrick left the meeting at 9:56 a.m. and did not return.

Member Hardy inquired as to a 'magic medicine' that treated measles for the unvaccinated. Dr. Lockett advised that there was no magic medicine and that individuals should either be vaccinated or receive supportive care if they contract measles.

- 2024 Heat-Associated Deaths & Emergency Department Visits

Alexis Brignola, Epidemiologist, and Jeff Quinn, Manager of the Office of Public Health Preparedness, presented on the 2024 heat-associated deaths and emergency department visits.

Member Nemec left the meeting at 10:00 a.m.

Member Nemec returned to the meeting at 10:02 a.m.

Dr. Lockett stated that heat-related deaths were influenced by a causal web of influencers, which means that the Health District had to have a causal web of partners. The Health District was not the primary on this issue, however, contributed by performing the deep surveillance. Dr. Lockett stated that July was historically when the majority of deaths and mortality occur. Dr. Lockett advised that the Health District had the ability to drill down to a geographic location where the majority of the burden and increase resources in the Fremont area. Further, Dr. Lockett indicated that typically three days after a heat wave, there is an increase in deaths. Dr. Lockett advised that in partnership with Clark County and others, the Health District would be participating in an Extreme Heat press event on May 8th.

Member Summers-Armstrong shared her past experience with heat stroke. Member Summers-Armstrong further inquired whether there was information about employees or workers that passed away from heat-related issues and whether that information was noted on a death certificate. Ms. Brignola advised that death certificate list an individual's employment if it was provided. However, Ms. Brignola advised that the information that is used was from the Health District's Vital Records system; the coroner's database may provide additional details. Further Ms. Brignola advised that in the report she was identifying certain drugs, like methamphetamine, cocaine, and alcohol, and not other medications. Dr. Lockett clarified that typically 30-50% of death certificates were not as accurate as they could be; however, the coroner's office was trying to address this issue by changing their definitions over time to capture more information. Dr. Lockett further advised that the Health District's

Safety Officer follows OSHA recommendations and has developed protocols for field staff during extreme heat.

Member Summers-Armstrong stated that there was a lack of infrastructure for trees to be planted, along with individuals not having the ability to afford additional water expenses and lacking the proper training to grow and maintain trees. Mr. Quinn advised that the tree coalition did training on how to care for a plant and in some cases were going back to water them to ensure that they continued to grow. However, it would take a long time before any of those trees would provide adequate shade.

Member Bond indicated that it looked like the Health District had data on Emergency Department heat-related illness visits. Member Bond inquired whether there was a way to enhance the collaboration with the Emergency Departments to obtain information on work heat-related illness visits.

Mr. Quinn advised that during an extreme heat workshop, the coroner's office presented on improving data, with the target audience of Emergency Department personnel. Mr. Quinn advised that the Health District needed the Emergency Departments to code the necessary information to allow of our epidemiologists to obtain and analyze the data.

Member Larson left the meeting at 10:31 a.m. and did not return.

Mr. Quinn advised that the Health District did a very good job of distributing materials that outline the threats of living in Las Vegas, specifically through the preparedness calendars. The preparedness calendars are distributed to all the municipalities, wherein there were tips for extreme heat. Mr. Quinn further stated that there was a lack of community in areas and encouraged everyone to check on their friends and neighbors during extreme heat.

Dr. Lockett advised that the Health District's data has limitations, such as missing fields, and we are unable to access individual business data. Dr. Lockett stated that occupations were not reportable to the Health District so we do not have the data linkage unless it is under NRS 441A. Member Bond indicated that there had to be a way to merge the databases together. Member Bond stated that the information must be captured in the Emergency Department records and requested a future conversation on how to obtain the information.

Member Hardy stated that there were simple things that could be done, such as drinking water, and wearing a hat when in the sun. Further, Member Hardy advised that the Health District had to lead by example by ensuring adequate water and shade at the extreme heat media event on May 8, 2025.

Secretary Brune advised that the Nevada Department of Business and Industries has been working, over the last two years, on regulations with the goal of protecting workers from extreme heat conditions. Secretary Brune further inquired as to who was collecting and analyzing emergency department visit data, what information was being collected, such as whether the individual had air conditioning, and whether the individual was being referred to a case worker to assist with obtaining services.

Member Hardy left the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Secretary Brune noted that 38% of death were unhoused individuals and inquired as to the percentage of unhoused individuals visiting the emergency department with heat exposure. Ms. Brignola advised that the Emergency Department data is pulled from ESSENCE (Electronic Surveillance System for the Early Notification of Community-based Epidemics), which is gathered by the medical providers and is pulled using the ICD-10-CM codes.

Member Nielson left the meeting at 10:40 a.m. and did not return.

Dr. Lockett advised that ESSENCE monitors syndromes such as heat-like illnesses and pulls from the Emergency Department records, which uses statistical algorithms to indicate spikes that allows the Health District to then deploy messages related to heat in real time.

Secretary Brune inquired about preventative actions, such as whether the emergency departments were inquiring whether individuals had air conditioning when attending for a heat-related illness and then connecting them with a social worker or someone to determine whether they can receive supportive resources. Dr. Lockett advised that the community was missing a case management system for those who are unhoused.

Member Hardy returned to the meeting at 10:43 a.m.

Dr. Lockett expressed the need to coordinate different organizations to establish the questions that are needed at the point of care, which would require modification to the electronic health records. Dr. Lockett stated that the Health District's informatics program works very closely with the Health Information Exchange, however the emergency departments would need to ask the right questions to input the information into the system. Then the informatics program could obtain the information and do a level of analysis.

- **Legislative Update**

Emma Rodriguez, Communications & Legislative Affairs Administrator, and Bradley Mayer, Argentum Partners, provided an update on the current legislative session.

Ms. Rodriguez outlined the following that related to public health funding:

- April 4: SB118 Public Health Budget Closing
- SB423 – Base funding proposal for public health infrastructure

Ms. Rodriguez noted the following bills that did not pass the First House:

- AB536 – Revised provisions relating to tobacco.
- AB438 – Revised provisions relating to nonemergency medical transportations.
- SB360 – Imposed requirements relating to the safety of hotels.
- SB184 – Prohibited the use of latex in certain circumstances.

Ms. Rodriguez outlined the following key bills that passed the First House:

- AB96 – Requires cities and counties to include heat mitigation element in their master plan.
- AB50 – Revises provisions relating to victims of a mass casualty incident. (Mass Casualty Database)
- AB205 – Revises provisions governing sexual education. (Sexual Education Consent)

- AB269 – Revises provisions relating to testing for sexually transmitted diseases. (Syphilis Testing)
- SB295 – Revises provisions related to food establishments. (Mobile Food Vendor)

Ms. Rodriguez outlined the following additional bills that have an exception that haven't passed their first house of origin:

- AB297 – Creates a program for the postnatal visitation of certain persons who have recently given birth. (Postnatal Visitation)
- AB326 – Revises provisions relating to the designation of hospitals as centers for the treatment of trauma. (Trauma Designation)
- AB352 – Revises provisions relating to businesses. (Cottage Cosmetics & Food)

Further to an inquiry from Member Summers-Armstrong, Ms. Rodriguez advised that AB352 had an exception and has been referred to Assembly Ways and Means.

XI. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. SNHD Financial Report, as of December 31, 2024
2. Administration Division Monthly Activity Report
3. Community Health Division Monthly Activity Report
4. Community Health Center (FQHC) Division Monthly Report
5. Disease Surveillance and Control Division Monthly Activity Report
6. Environmental Health Division Monthly Activity Report
7. Public Health & Preventive Care Division Monthly Activity Report

XII. 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 five (5) 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.

Paul Fenton, for Nalco Water, read into the record a written public comment regarding proposed changes to the Nevada Department Environmental Protection Public Water Permit Regulations to speed up supplemental disinfection applications to protect public health from the risk poses by Legionella bacteria in the building environment through a contingent permit application for supplemental disinfection. The written public comment, along with materials provided, will form part of the record.

Seeing no one further, Secretary Brune closed the Second Public Comment portion.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Secretary adjourned the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Cassius Lockett, PhD
District Health Officer/Executive Secretary
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