



MINUTES

SOUTHERN NEVADA DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

March 26, 2025 – 3:00 p.m.

Meeting was conducted via Microsoft Teams

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Scott Nielson – Chair – At-Large Member, Gaming
Nancy Brune – Council Member, City of Las Vegas
Scott Black – Mayor Pro Tempore, City of North Las Vegas
Marilyn Kirkpatrick – Commissioner, Clark County
- ABSENT:** Bobbette Bond – At-Large Member, Regulated Business/Industry
- ALSO PRESENT:** N/A
(In Audience)
- LEGAL COUNSEL:** Heather Anderson-Fintak, General Counsel
- EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** Cassius Lockett, PhD, District Health Officer
- STAFF:** Emily Anelli, Tawana Bellamy, Danielle Bohannon, Daniel Burns, Donna Buss, Nancy Cadena, Andria Cordovez Mulet, Horng-Yuan Kan, Cassius Lockett, Anil Mangla, Jonas Maratita, Kimberly Monahan, Brian Northam, Kyle Parkson, Luann Province, Yin Jie Qin, Alexis Romero Kim Saner, Chris Saxton, Karla Shoup, Jennifer Sizemore, Randy Smith, Renee Trujillo, Justin Tully, DJ Whitaker, Edward Wynder, Lourdes Yapjoco
- I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**
Chair Nielson called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. Andria Cordovez Mulet, Executive Assistant, administered the roll call and confirmed a 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. 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.

Seeing no one, the Chair closed this portion of the meeting.

IV. ADOPTION OF THE MARCH 26, 2025 MEETING AGENDA *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Brune, and carried unanimously to approve the March 26, 2025 Agenda as presented.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

1. APPROVE MINUTES/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING: November 20, 2024 *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Kirkpatrick, seconded by Member Brune, and carried unanimously to approve the March 26, 2025 Consent Agenda as presented.

VI. REPORT / DISCUSSION / ACTION

1. Receive and Discuss the SNHD Federal Poverty Level (FPL) guidelines and Approve Recommendations to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health on March 27, 2025; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Randy Smith, Chief Executive Officer – FQHC, presented the update to the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) guidelines. Mr. Smith advised that the FPL guidelines changed annually in January, with 2025 seeing an increase of 2.9% to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from 2023 and 2024. The guidelines were used to adjust the sliding fee schedules.

Member Kirkpatrick inquired whether the FPL guidelines were specific to health care or were the same guidelines used for housing and childcare, as she understood the levels were different for housing. Mr. Smith advised that the FPL guidelines were dictated by the Department of Health and Human Services based on the CPI.

A motion was made by Member Kirkpatrick, seconded by Member Black, and carried unanimously to adopt the Update Federal Poverty Level Guidelines, as presented, and recommend adoption of same to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health at its meeting on March 27, 2025.

2. Receive and Discuss the SNHD Clinical Sliding Fee Schedules and Approve Recommendations to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health on March 27, 2025; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Mr. Smith advised that offering Sliding Fee Schedules, for qualifying patients, was a requirement for HHS, HRSA and various other pass-through grants. Mr. Smith confirmed that patients were seen regardless of their ability to pay and are not sent to collections to recover outstanding payments. Mr. Smith highlighted the Point of Care Discount, which provides a 50% discount on fees if payment was made at the time of a visit, for patients that had an income of 200% or greater than the federal poverty level, who did not qualify for the sliding fee discount.

Further to an inquiry from Member Kirkpatrick on the write-offs, Donnie (DJ) Whitaker, Chief Financial Officer, advised that the write-offs are recorded against the revenue, different than a bad debt write-off. Dr. Lockett advised that two options available to offset the write-offs are (i) treatment accounts, and (ii) medically indigent accounts. Member Kirkpatrick suggested that staff review the options with the auditors to determine their feasibility.

Further to an inquiry from Member Brune regarding how the Health Center write-off compared to the previous year to other jurisdictions, Mr. Smith advised that the write-off had increased from the previous year. Mr. Smith further advised that the Health Center serves more uninsured patients than other clinics in Nevada and more than others around the country, compared to other FQHCs, which created an unsustainable payor mix. Mr. Smith advised that the Health Center was eligible to be reimbursed under the Perspective Payment System (PPS), which was a cost-based reimbursement for Medicaid, the best payor source. Mr. Smith advised that the Health Center was seeing more patients than the previous year. Member Kirkpatrick advised that Clark County paid 99% of Medicare and funded Medicaid voluntarily. Mr. Smith confirmed that a small portion were Medicare patients. Dr. Lockett advised that the Health District was looking to enhance and develop senior and pediatric services.

Member Kirkpatrick advised of two senior facilities in the vicinity of the Health District in need of primary care and suggested that staff make contact with the facilities. Further, Member Kirkpatrick suggested that Mr. Smith request the assistance of the Board member to help advocate with their senior communities.

Mr. Smith advised that the PPS rate is still based on an interim rate, which was rate setting based on a cost analysis. Mr. Smith advised that the enabling services provided by the Health Center is what sets us apart from other FQHCs.

Mr. Smith further outlined a market study of fees for FQHCs in Nevada.

Further to an inquiry from Member Kirkpatrick on when patients are advised of their fees for service, Mr. Smith advised that patients are advised at the point of care, when they are checking in for their appointment, whether they will be placed on a sliding fee or providing their insurance information. Mr. Smith confirmed that no patient was turned away for their inability to pay.

Mr. Smith shared the results of a patient survey on the sliding fee program. Mr. Smith proceeded to outline the Clinical Sliding Fee Schedules and advised there were no changes from last year.

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Kirkpatrick, and carried unanimously to accept the SNHD Clinical Sliding Fee Schedules, as presented, and recommend approval of same to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health at its meeting on March 27, 2025.

3. Receive and Discuss the SNHD Clinical Master Fee Schedule and Approve Recommendations to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health on March 27, 2025; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Ms. Whitaker presented the proposed updates to the Clinical Master Fee Schedule.

Ms. Whitaker advised that the Billing Fee Schedule was reviewed annually to add new fees or to adjust existing fees based on analysis within the market. Ms. Whitaker further advised that uninsured individuals would see minimal or no impact of the proposed changes, based on the availability of the sliding fee schedules. Ms. Whitaker outlined the review methodology and the proposed changes. Ms. Whitaker outlined there were proposed changes to 305 fees, with 47 being new fees.

Member Kirkpatrick requested that Ms. Whitaker provide additional details at the Board of Health meeting for the new Board members to understand how insurance reimbursement ties into the fee schedule.

A motion was made by Member Kirkpatrick, seconded by Member Black, and carried unanimously to accept the Clinical Master Free Schedule Updates, as presented, and recommend approval of same to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health at its meeting on March 27, 2025.

4. Receive and Discuss the FY2026 Budget and Approve Recommendations to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health on March 27, 2025; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Ms. Whitaker presented the FY2026 Budget, which begins on July 1, 2025 and ends on June 30, 2026, with the following highlights:

Highlights

- Staffing was projected to increase to 872.5 FTE, compared to the FY2025 augmented budget of 864.3 FTE.
- General Fund revenues project at \$121.6M, an increase of \$7.3M from FY2025 augmented budget.
- Special Revenue Fund (Grants) decrease to \$61.9M, a decrease of \$17M from FY2025 augmented budget
 - SB118 funding started in FY2025, total of \$10.95M; an estimated \$6.8M is anticipated to be utilized in FY2026.
 - Reduction in grant expenditure request compared to FY2025 augmented budget.
- Lab Expansion Project, currently underway, was expected to continue in FY2026 with \$8.8M anticipated to be utilized.

Revenues – General & Grants Fund

- Clark County Property Tax revenue is expected at \$38.8M an increase of \$1.8M or 3.0% compared to \$37.7M from FY2025. Pharmacy revenue also increased \$6.1M and Permits and Fees increased \$0.9M from FY2025 Augmentation.
- General Funds Revenue increased from \$114.2M to \$121.6M, a \$7.3M or 6.4% increase from FY2025 Augmentation.

- Special Revenue Funds decreased from \$78.9M to \$61.9M due to the conclusion of grants and reduction in grant expenditures requested compared to FY2025 Augmentation. Examples: COVID 19 Disaster Relief, Ryan White, Family Planning, Public Health Infrastructure (PHI), and Enhancing Detection Expansion grant.

Expenditures – General Fund

- General Fund employee salaries and benefits for FY2026 total \$78.8M, an increase of \$6.5M or 19% from FY2025 Augmented. FY2026 budget includes a full year of salaries and benefits for vacant positions that were partially accounted for in the FY2025 Augmented budget. Additionally, FY2026 proposed budget includes a 4% COLA, 2.5% Merit and the impact of the 3.25% PERS increase that is effective July 1, 2025 (1/2 of the PERS increase is paid by SNHD)
- FTE changes from FY2025 augmented to FY2026 proposed budget includes 15.7 additional FTE (net); 12 of these positions are new and 3.7 are transfers from other funds.
- General Fund Pharmacy Medical supplies increased from \$23.9M to \$28.4M, an increase of \$4.5M or 44%

Expenditures – Grant Fund

- Special Revenue Funds expenses decreased from \$85.2M to \$70.7M due to the conclusion of grants and reduction in grant expenditures requested compared to FY2025 Augmentation. Examples on conclusion of grants and reduction in request: COVID 19 Relief grants, Ryan White, Family Planning, PHI grant, and Enhancing Detection Expansion grant.
- SB118 revenue is estimated at \$6.8M in FY2026. Anticipated FTE total is 13.4 positions (4 New) with estimated salaries & benefits of \$1.6M.
- PHI Grant revenue is estimated at \$7.1M in FY2026. Anticipated FTE total is 45 positions with estimated salaries & benefits of \$5.8M.
- FTE changes from FY2025 augmented to FY2026 proposed budget includes a reduction of 7.5 FTE (net). There are 12 new positions offsetting transfers and reductions.

Ms. Whitaker further reviewed the:

- Revenues vs. Expenditures combined by Division
- Personnel by Division, comparing FY2023, FY2024 and FY2025
- Capital Improvement Projects
- Three Fiscal Year Activity – General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Bond Reserve Fund, and Internal Service Fund

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Kirkpatrick, and carried unanimously to accept the FY2026 Budget, as presented, and recommend approval of same to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health at its meeting on March 27, 2025.

VII. 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.

Seeing no one, the Chair closed this portion of the meeting.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 4:39 p.m.

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

DRAFT