



## MINUTES

### SOUTHERN NEVADA DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

October 9, 2023 – 8:30 A.M.

Meeting was conducted via Webex Event

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Francisco Sy – Chair, Environmental Health (*via WebEx*)  
Kenneth Osgood – Vice-Chair, Physician (*via WebEx*)  
Ronald Kline – Member, City of North Las Vegas (*via WebEx*)  
Paul Klouse – Member, City of Boulder City (*via WebEx*)  
Holly Lyman – Member, City of Henderson (*via WebEx*)  
Reimund Serafica – Member, Nurse (*via WebEx*)  
Jennifer Young – Member, City of Las Vegas (*via WebEx*)
- ABSENT:** N/A
- ALSO PRESENT:** Linda Anderson  
(In Audience)
- LEGAL COUNSEL:** Edward Wynder, Associate General Counsel
- EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH, District Health Officer
- STAFF:** Talibah Abdul-Wahid, Tawana Bellamy, Andria Cordovez Mulet, Rebecca Cruz-Nanez, Aaron DelCotto, Carmen Hua, Jessica Johnson, Brittany Lewis, Cassius Lockett, Cort Lohff, Kimberly Monahan, Brian Northam, Kyle Parkson, Luann Province, Cheryl Radeloff, Larry Rogers, Angel Stachnik, Rosanne Sugay, Rebecca Topol, Greg Tordjman, Donnie Whitaker, Lei Zhang

#### I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Sy called the Public Health Advisory Board meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Andria Cordovez Mulet, Executive Assistant, administered the roll call and confirmed a quorum was present. 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. OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Cordovez Mulet administered the Oath of Office to Members Klouse and Lyman.

#### 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.

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

*Member Osgood joined the meeting at 8:35 a.m.*

*Member Young joined the meeting at 8:35 a.m.*

**V. ADOPTION OF THE OCTOBER 9, 2023 MEETING AGENDA** *(for possible action)*

*A motion was made by Member Klouse, seconded by Member Osgood, and carried unanimously to approve the October 9, 2023 Agenda, as presented.*

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA:** Items for action to be considered by the Southern Nevada District Board of Health Public Health Advisory Board 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/PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING:** July 10, 2023 *(for possible action)*

*A motion was made by Member Serafica, seconded by Member Osgood, and carried unanimously to approve the October 9, 2023 Consent Agenda, as presented.*

**VII. REPORT / DISCUSSION / ACTION**

**1. Update on Select Infections: Malaria, Vibriosis, Leprosy;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Dr. Rosanne Sugay, Medical Epidemiologist, provided an update on malaria, vibriosis and leprosy.

*Member Kline left the meeting at 8:42 a.m. and did not return.*

Further to an inquiry from Member Osgood, Dr. Sugay advised that there were no noted locally acquired cases of vibriosis.

Member Serafica inquired as to whether the malaria cases were all international travelers and whether there was any travel advisory related to the risk of malaria exposure. Dr. Sugay advised that all the malaria cases were international travelers and that normally there are travel advisories issued. Dr. Sugay further advised that the Health District offers travel vaccines. Dr. Sugay advised of the importance for travel advisories to be available to practitioners and the public.

**2. Presentation on the Trends in Clark County: Sexually Transmitted Infections;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Dr. Sugay presented the trends in Clark County related to sexually transmitted infections.

Further to an inquiry from Member Young, Dr. Sugay advised that congenital syphilis testing during the third trimester for pregnant women was a recent change in legislation. Dr. Sugay added that 66% of cases were drop-in deliveries so were being tested at the time of delivery, which was too late to prevent congenital syphilis. On a follow-up question regarding age demographics, Dr. Sugay advised that gonorrhea and chlamydia was typically seen in individuals under 25 and HIV was typically seen in individuals under 30. Dr. Sugay agreed that educating the youth was important. Dr. Sugay advised that traditionally there was a general slight increase nationally of the rates of STI.

Member Lyman advised that Dignity Health-St. Rose Dominican received the 5-year Gilead Focus Grant that would allow them to test every patient in the ER for HIV and syphilis; patients would need to opt-out of testing. Further, they would have health educators available to help patients understand any recent diagnosis.

Chair Sy inquired whether the Health District worked with STI and reproductive health programs. Dr. Leguen advised that the Health District had a Congenital Syphilis Prevention Program, which was implemented approximately two years ago. This consists of nurses and community health workers that do detailing in the community and case management with pregnant women, as well as after delivery, along with sharing community resources.

**3. Presentation on the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Update and the Community Health Assessment (CHA) Process;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Carmen Hua, Health Educator II, presented on the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and the Community Health Assessment (CHA) Process.

Member Lyman thanked Ms. Hua for her update and advised that St. Rose Dominican used the Health District Community Health Needs Assessment.

Further to a suggestion from Member Serafica, Ms. Hua would compile a list of the organizations and associations in the community that currently work with the Health District on the CHIP and CHA and would post it on [www.healthsouthernnevada.org](http://www.healthsouthernnevada.org).

Member Osgood indicated that he would share the information that he had regarding food insecurities.

**4. Receive, Discuss and Approve the 2024 Meeting Schedule;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

The Advisory Board was advised that the proposed 2024 meeting schedule followed the timeline approved by the Advisory Board the previous year.

*A motion was made by Member Osgood, seconded by Member Serafica, and carried unanimously to approve the 2024 Public Health Advisory Board Meeting Schedule, as presented.*

**VIII. BOARD RECORDS:** The Southern Nevada District Board of Health Public Health Advisory Board 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 Public Health Advisory Board unless that subject is on the agenda and scheduled for action. ***(Information Only)***

Member Osgood requested an update/presentation on mental health and food insecurities. Member Serafica followed up the request, related to mental health, to include substance use and suicide rates.

Member Young requested an update/presentation on teen pregnancy.

**IX. HEALTH OFFICER & STAFF REPORTS *(Information Only)***

- DHO Comments

Dr. Leguen advised that the previous week the Health District held their annual All Hands meeting where all employees gathered for a day dedicated to employee health and wellness.

Further, Dr. Leguen advised that last month the Health District hosted the Big Cities Health Coalition (BCHC) Fall meeting at the Decatur Location. The BCHC is comprised of representatives from 30 different health departments across the country. There was large participation in the meeting, which included representatives from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The Health District was able

to share projects and initiatives in the areas of community health, surveillance, environmental health, communications, and community health nursing.

Dr. Leguen further advised that staff, particularly Immunizations and Communications, were working on the COVID-19 and flu vaccine campaigns. Dr. Leguen advised that the COVID-19 vaccine was available 'commercialization', which meant it would require insurance or payment. However, the CDC created a program called The Bridge to ensure that the vaccine was available to all members of the community regardless of insurance. Further, CDC announced that the RSV vaccine was approved only for children, pregnant women, and seniors.

- X. **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.

Member Klouse requested an update on any communications campaigns/strategies related to the earlier presentation on infectious diseases.

XI. **ADJOURNMENT**

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:48 a.m.

Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH  
District Health Officer/Executive Secretary

/acm