



MINUTES

SOUTHERN NEVADA DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING

March 25, 2024 – 2:00 p.m.

Meeting was conducted via Webex Webinar

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Nielson – Chair – At-Large Member, Gaming
Scott Black – Mayor Pro Tempore, City of North Las Vegas
Bobbette Bond – At-Large Member, Regulated Business/Industry
Nancy Brune – Council Member, City of Las Vegas (*Call-in User 2*)
Marilyn Kirkpatrick – Commissioner, Clark County

ABSENT: N/A

ALSO PRESENT: Pattie Gallo, Bernard Sands
(In Audience)

LEGAL COUNSEL: Heather Anderson-Fintak, General Counsel

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH, District Health Officer

STAFF: Jonna Arqueros, Sean Beckham, Tawana Bellamy, Todd Bleak, Victoria Burris, Jonathan Contreras, Andria Cordovez Mulet, Cassius Lockett, Jonas Maratita, Brian Northam, Luann Province, Alexis Romero, Kim Saner, Chris Saxton, Karla Shoup, Randy Smith, Greg Tordjman, Renee Trujillo, Donnie Whitaker, Edward Wynder, Lourdes Yapjoco

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Chair Nielson called the Finance Committee Meeting to order a 2:05 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

Member Bond joined the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

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 25, 2024 MEETING AGENDA *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Brune, and carried unanimously to approve the March 25, 2024 Agenda as presented.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

- 1. APPROVE MINUTES/FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:** November 15, 2023 *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Brune, and carried unanimously to approve the March 25, 2024 Consent Agenda as presented.

VI. REPORT / DISCUSSION / ACTION

- 1. Receive and Discuss the SNHD Clinical Master Fee Schedule and Approve Recommendations to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health on March 28, 2024;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Member Kirkpatrick joined the meeting at 2:11 p.m.

Donnie (DJ) Whitaker, Chief Financial Officer, presented the proposed updates to the Clinical Master Fee Schedule.

Further to an inquiry from Member Bond, Ms. Whitaker introduced Donna Buss, Revenue Cycle Manager, as the subject matter expert related to billing and fees. Ms. Buss advised that the Physician Fee Report 2024 was developed by Context Healthcare, specifically for the Health District, based on fees, demographics, and the Main Facility zip code from the community.

Dr. Leguen advised that the Fee Schedule presented was utilized to charge insurance companies, it was not for uninsured individuals. Uninsured individuals are not impacted by the Fee Schedule but would benefit from the Sliding Fee Discount Schedule, which was the next presentation. Dr. Leguen advised that the Health District's main goal was the patient perspective. Dr. Leguen reiterated that the Fee Schedule was established to ensure that the Health District's fees are closest to the local community indicators, as presented in the Physician Fee Report.

Ms. Buss advised that many of the items in the Fee Schedule were brought up to the 50th percentile last year; this year the recommendation was that all items be brought up to the 50th percentile.

Further to an inquiry from Member Bond regarding the use of bill charges as opposed to the actual amount that was paid, Dr. Leguen advised that a fee schedule for services must be established to allow for a bill to be sent to an insurance company. Member Bond indicated that bill charges were being used to establish the fee schedule and not what providers were paid for services. Member Bond further indicated that the fee schedule should be based on

what was actually being paid to the providers for their services. Dr. Leguen stated that the concept of a fee schedule was to try to recover for the services provided, which was universally used in all health care facilities.

Further to an inquiry from Member Kirkpatrick, Ms. Buss advised that the Physician Fee Report has been used by the Health District since 2021. Further, Ms. Buss advised that the billing staff review the amounts received from insurance companies.

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Kirkpatrick and carried by a vote of 4-0-1 to accept the Clinical Master Fee Schedule Updates, as presented, and recommend approval of same to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health at its meeting on March 28, 2024.

<u>AYES</u>	<u>NAYS</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>
1. Black		1. Bond
2. Brune		
3. Kirkpatrick		
4. Nielson		

2. Receive and Discuss the SNHD Federal Poverty Level (FPL) guidelines and Approve Recommendations to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health on March 28, 2024; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Randy Smith, Chief Executive Officer – FQHC, presented the updates to the Federal Poverty Level (FPL) guidelines, which are published by the Department of Health and Human Services and updated to account for the previous year’s increases. Mr. Smith advised that in 2024 there was an increase of 4.1% to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from 2022 and 2023, and the FPL are adjusted accordingly.

A motion was made by Member Kirkpatrick, seconded by Member Brune and carried unanimously to accept the Update Federal Poverty Level Guidelines, as presented, and recommend acceptance of same to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health at its meeting on March 28, 2024.

3. Receive and Discuss the SNHD Clinical Sliding Fee Schedules and Approve Recommendations to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health on March 28, 2024; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Mr. Smith provided the Clinical Sliding Fee Schedules and advised that offering a Sliding Fee Schedule for qualifying patients was a requirement for HHS, HRSA and various other pass-through grants. Mr. Smith outlined the HRSA requirements related to billing and collections.

Further to an inquiry from Member Kirkpatrick, Mr. Smith confirmed that patients were not sent to collections for outstanding invoices and that any outstanding invoices were written off after 12 months. Mr. Smith reiterated that all patients were seen regardless of their ability to pay. Mr. Smith advised that the Health District had Eligibility Workers to screen for Medicaid eligibility and to assist individuals submitting an application.

Mr. Smith proceeded to outline the Clinical Sliding Fee Schedules, which only had a recommendation to remove the Sexual Health Clinic Follow-up Fee category.

A motion was made by Member Kirkpatrick, seconded by Member Brune 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 28, 2024.

4. Receive and Discuss the FY2025 Budget and Approve Recommendations to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health on March 28, 2024; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Ms. Whitaker presented the FY2025 Budget, which begins on July 1, 2024 and ends on June 30, 2025, with the following highlights:

Highlights

- Staffing is projected to increase to 866.5FTE, compared to 865 FTE.
- General Fund revenues project at \$106.9M, an increase of \$5.4M from FY24 augmented budget.
- Special Revenue Fund (Grants) decreases to \$64.2M, a decrease of \$25.6M from FY24 augmented budget.
 - SB118 funding is expected to start in FY25, total of \$10.95M; an estimated \$6.1M is anticipated to be utilized in FY25.
- Lab Expansion Project is currently underway is expected to continue in FY25 with \$4.1M carryover budget.

Revenues – General & Grants Fund

- Property tax revenue is expected at \$36.6M, an increase of \$2.5M or 7.4% compared to FY2024.
- General Fund Revenue increased from \$101.5M to \$106.9M, a \$5.4M or 5.3% increase from FY2024.
- Special Revenue Funds decreased from \$89.8M to \$64.2M due to the conclusion of grants, examples, state's grant that covered the initial Environmental Health Increase, COVID-19 Disaster Relief, and COVID-19 Vaccine.

Expenditures – General Fund

- General Fund employee salaries and benefits for FY2025 total \$68.6M an increase of \$6.9M to 11% from FY2024. FY2025 budget includes a full year of expense for vacant positions that were partially accounted for in the FY2024 augmented budget.
- Additional personnel needed to support Environmental Health and the transition of positions back to General Fund from grant funding contributed to the increase in salaries and benefits along with conversion of Grant Funded FTEs to General Fund.
- Pharmacy Medical Supplies increase from \$17.6M to \$20.2M, an increase of \$2.6M or 15% which has a revenue offset account.

Further to an inquiry from Chair Nielson, Ms. Whitaker advised that the presented budget did not include any salary, COLA, or merit increases.

Expenditures – Grant Fund

- Special Revenue Funds expenses decreased from \$96.8 M to \$69.6 M due to the conclusion of grants. Examples: state’s grant that covered the initial Environmental Health Increase, COVID-19 Disaster Relief, and COVID-19 Vaccine.
- SB118 total new revenue is estimated at \$6.0 M in FY25. Anticipated FTE total is 13.5 positions (6 new) with estimated salaries and benefits of \$1.4M.
- PHI Grant estimated revenue total in FY25 is \$6.7M. Anticipated FTE total is 50 positions with estimated salaries & benefits of \$5.7M.

Ms. Whitaker further reviewed the:

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

A motion was made by Member Bond, seconded by Member Black and carried unanimously to accept the FY2025 Budget, as presented, and recommend approval of same to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health at its meeting on March 28, 2024.

5. Receive and Discuss the Financial Report, as of December 31, 2023, and Approve Recommendations to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health on March 28, 2024; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary (*for possible action*)

Ms. Whitaker presented the Financial Report, as of December 31, 2024, related to the Combined Funds, General Fund and Special Revenue Fund.

Member Kirkpatrick left the meeting at 4:07 p.m. and did not return.

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Brune and carried unanimously to accept the Financial Report, as of January 31, 2024, as presented, and forward same to the Southern Nevada District Board of Health at its meeting on March 28, 2024.

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 4:10 p.m.

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