



MINUTES

SOUTHERN NEVADA DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

August 22, 2024 – 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 (*in-person*)
Scott Nielson, Vice-Chair – At-Large Member, Gaming (*in-person*)
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*)
Joseph Hardy – Mayor, City of Boulder City (*in-person*)
Frank Nemeec – At-Large Member, Physician (*in-person*)
Brian Knudsen – Mayor Pro Tem, City of Las Vegas (*in-person*)
Jim Seebock – Council Member, City of Henderson (*in-person*)
- ABSENT:** Pattie Gallo – Mayor Pro Tem, City of Mesquite
Tick Segerblom – Commissioner, Clark County
- ALSO PRESENT:** Georgi Collins, Kiran Gill, Olivia GrafMank, Maya Holmes, Deborah Kuhls, Brian Labus, Bradley Mayer, Maria McKinney, Francesca Petrucci, Shana Tello, Nicholas Voell-White
(In Audience)
- LEGAL COUNSEL:** Heather Anderson-Fintak, General Counsel
- EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH, District Health Officer
- STAFF:** Elizabeth Adelman, Emily Anelli, Jacqueline Ayala, Maria Azzarelli, Tawana Bellamy, William Bendik, Haley Blake, Lori Bryan, Daniel Burns, Nikki Burns-Savage, Victoria Burris, Nancy Cadena, Andria Cordovez Mulet, Shea Crippen, Susan Crutchfield, Rebecca Cruz-Nañez, Cherie Custodio, Gerard Custodio, Christian DeHaan, Aaron DelCotto, Lauren DiPrete, Rebecca Drew, Rayleen Earney, Regena Ellis, Kaylina Fleuridas, Jason Frame, Kimberly Franich, Jacques Graham, Sarah Hall, Maria Harris, Raychel Holbert, Carmen Hua, Victoria Hughes, Dan Isler, Danielle Jamerson, Jessica Johnson, Tiana Jones, Horng-Yuan Kan, Matthew Kappel, Theresa Ladd, Dann Limuel Lat, Cassius Lockett, Jocelyn Lopez, Anilkumar Mangla, Marisol Maciel, Chris Elaine Mariano, Elisea Melendez, Samantha Morales, Christian Murua, Semilla Neal, Todd Nicolson, Brian Northam, Verallynn Orewyler, Kyle Parkson, Luann Province, Katarina Pulver, Cheryl Radeloff, Devin Raman, Vivek Raman, D’Mari Reed, Larry Rogers, Alexis Romero, Kim Saner, Aivelhyn Santos, Chris Saxton, Dave Sheehan, Karla Shoup, Jennifer, Sizemore, Randy Smith, Autum Sparlin, Rosanne Sugay, Erik Sumera, Ronique Tatum-Penegar, Candyce Taylor, Will Thompson, Rebecca Topol, Danielle Torres, Shylo Urzi, Lizbeth Vasquez, Jorge Viote, Edward Wynder, Merylyn Yegon, Tearra Yuen, Ying Zhang

I. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

The Chair called the Southern Nevada District Board of Health Meeting to order at 9:03 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. OATH OF OFFICE

Ms. Cordovez Mulet administered the Oath of Office to Chair Kirkpatrick, Vice-Chair Nielson and Secretary Brune.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

1. “Immunization Neighborhood” Immunization Champion (National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit)

- COVID-19 Immunization Staff

The Chair recognized the COVID-19 Immunization Staff for being a National Winner of the “Immunization Neighborhood” Champion at the National Adult and Influenza Immunization Summit. This award recognized the Health District’s efforts in administering the COVID-19 vaccine throughout Clark County to increase access, including the underground tunnels and encampments. On behalf of the Board of Health, the Chair congratulated staff on this recognition.

2. Successful Delivery of Back-to-School Services

- SNHD Immunization Staff

The Chair recognized the Back-to-School vaccination efforts that ran from July 29th to August 15th. The Health District was able to successfully serve our community to ensure that children were ready for the new school year. The Health District’s Immunization staff could not have done this alone – the IZ Clinic and Project, COVID-19 Outreach, Facilities, Communications, IT, MRC, volunteers and many others all helped make this effort a success. On behalf of the Board of Health, the Chair congratulated the entire team on their efforts.

3. Southern Nevada Substance Misuse Overdose Prevention Summit

- Jeffrey Alvarez, Lori Bryan, Belen Campos-Garcia, Rebecca Cruz-Nañez, Brandon Delise, Raychel Holbert, Carmen Hua, Victoria Hughes, Jessica Johnson, Samantha Morales, Marco Mendez, Katarina Pulver, Cheryl Radeloff, Rosanne Sugay

The Southern Nevada Substance Misuse and Overdose Prevention Summit was held on August 1, 2024. The theme of this event was “The Beat of the Community: Exploring the Changing Substance Use Movement”. Over 200 participants, representing numerous agencies attended from across Nevada. Several agencies were a part of the funding and planning of this event including: LVMPD’s LIMA team, Nevada Attorney General’s Office,

There is No Hero in Heroin, The Center, PACT Coalition, Behavioral Health Group, Nevada HIDTA, UNLV School of Public Health, Nevada Institute for Children’s Research and Policy, Trac-B Exchange, and SNHD. On behalf of the Board of Health, the Chair recognized staff who were integral in the planning and execution of this very successful event.

4. Southern Nevada Health District – August Employees of the Month

- Mallory Jones and Prut Udomwattawee

The Chair recognized the Employees of the Month. Each month 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, the Chair congratulated these exceptional employees.

- 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 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 the First Public Comment period.

VI. ADOPTION OF THE AUGUST 22, 2024 MEETING AGENDA *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Nielson, seconded by Member Black, and carried unanimously to approve the August 22, 2024 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: July 25, 2024 *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Black, seconded by Member Nielson, and carried unanimously to approve the August 22, 2024 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 install an Incinerator Septic System (ECOJOHN®) in lieu of a Traditional Septic System, and to install the system on an undersized lot located at 2130

Via Vita St., Mt. Charleston, NV 89124; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary. *(for possible action)*

Daniel Isler, Environmental Health Engineer Supervisor, presented the variance request to install an Incinerator Septic System (ECOJOHN®) in lieu of a Traditional Septic System, and to install the system on an undersized lot located at 2130 Via Vita St., Mt. Charleston, NV 89124. Mr. Isler advised that the staff recommended denial of Variance Issue #1 – Incinerator System. Should the Board of Health, deny Variance Issue #2, staff recommended approval of Variance Issue #2 – Minimum Lot Size, under the condition that a conventional ISDS with a soil absorption system is installed; providing that all trees located within ten feet from the absorption system are removed; and conditions 1, 2, and 3 outlined in the memorandum. Nicholas Voell-White, the representative for the petitioners, and Maria McKinney, the petitioner, were in attendance.

The Chair opened for Public Comment.

Mr. Voell-White advised that soil testing at the property resulted in mostly rocky and difficult to get the right absorption, as the property had a slope. Mr. Voell-White advised that the property was small, and trees would have to be removed, which the petitioner did not want to remove.

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

Member Hardy inquired as to whether odors were an issue with the incinerator and whether the soil on the property was unique rocky soil. Mr. Voell-White advised that there were no issues with odor and that the soil was generally the same as other properties in the area.

Further to an inquiry from Member Hardy, Mr. Isler clarified that the previous application for a variance request from the petitioners was not denied. Mr. Isler stated that that staff requested the soil information on the percolation tests that were not provided and the petitioners elected to submit an application for the incinerator system.

The Chair advised of a new type of septic system that was brought to Moapa Valley was not successful and inquired whether the state had to approve the incinerator system. Mr. Voell-White advised that the incinerator system was approved in other states.

Ms. McKinney advised that they found a representative for the incinerator system that had been approved in Arizona and Utah. Ms. McKinney advised that there was one well for the neighborhood and they would obtain electricity from solar, propane and generators.

Member Black inquired whether the incinerator system was in operation in southern Nevada and whether it would have to be approved by the state. Member Black stated that it appeared that a traditional septic system could be installed with challenges. Mr. Burns advised that the incinerator system was not in operation in Southern Nevada and did not require state approval. Mr. Burns advised that he understood that the purpose of the incinerator system was to maintain the trees on the property. Ms. McKinney advised that she did not want to remove the trees as they were what drew her to the property.

The Chair advised that she was uncomfortable with the new technology; however, was willing to hold the variance request a month to allow for research from other states.

Further to an inquiry from Member Brune on the number of trees that would need to be removed, Ms. McKinney provided the Board with a diagram of the property. Mr. Voell-White advised that approximately 5-10 trees would have to be removed and would not be able to be replanted as the property was small.

Member Hardy indicated that he would be interested to visit to property to see the trees that would have to be removed and that postponing a decision on the variance request was reasonable.

Member Knudsen stated that there had been a number of variance requests regarding septic systems during his time on the Board. Member Knudsen advised that his position would remain consistent to follow staff recommendations.

Member Seebock stated that trees on the property would have to be removed prior to construction of the house. Member Seebock stated that proceeding with a new technology opened potential challenges in the future and he would be in favor of a traditional septic system. Member Seebock indicated proceeding with the incinerator option created a regulatory precedent with many unknowns.

Ms. Anderson-Fintak advised the Board of the option to request staff to perform additional research in other jurisdictions to be presented at the next meeting.

After discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Member Seebock, seconded by Member Bond, and carried unanimously to deny the Variance Issue #1 related to the Incinerator System, and approve the Variance Issue #2 related to the Minimum Lot Size, located at 2130 Via Vita St., Mt. Charleston, NV 89124 under the condition that a conventional ISDS with a soil absorption system is installed; providing that all trees located within ten feet from the absorption system are removed; and 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 by any community sewage system constructed in the future to within four hundred (400) feet of the applicant's property line when connection can be made by gravity flow and the owner(s) are notified and legally required to do so.*
- 2. Petitioners and their successor(s) will abide by the operation and maintenance requirements of the most current SNHD Regulations governing individual sewage disposal systems.*
- 3. Permitting of the ISDS must be completed within one year of the date of approval of the variance. If the permit has not been approved 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 Petitioners or their successor(s) in interest.*

IX. 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.

A motion was made by Chair Kirkpatrick, 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</u>	<u>Finance Committee</u>	<u>Nomination of Officers Committee</u>
Scott Black Pattie Gallo Joseph Hardy Marilyn Kirkpatrick Frank Nemeč	Scott Black Nancy Brune Joseph Hardy Marilyn Kirkpatrick Jim Seebock	Scott Black Nancy Brune Pattie Gallo Marilyn Kirkpatrick Frank Nemeč	Scott Black Bobbette Bond Nancy Brune Marilyn Kirkpatrick Scott Nielson Jim Seebock	Scott Black Bobbette Bond Nancy Brune Marilyn Kirkpatrick Frank Nemeč

- 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)***

The Chair advised of the joint meeting with the Health District and Board of County Commissioners on September 5, 2024 to discuss trauma systems, catchment areas and emergency departments.

The Chair advised that she had been contacted regarding mpox in the community and requested an update. Dr. Leguen advised that there were currently no new or acute issues with mpox in the community. Dr. Leguen reminded that there was a vaccine for mpox that had been offered to the community, with added efforts to provide the vaccine, and other medical assistance, to individuals with mpox or at risk of exposure to mpox. Dr. Leguen advised that he would request that the surveillance team provide a more detailed report, along with updated information on the Health District’s website.

Member Black expressed his thanks to Health District staff for attending the Back-to-School event hosted by him and Chair Kirkpatrick.

The Chair advised of the signing celebration event with the union representatives for the Collaborative Bargaining Agreements.

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

- DHO Comments

Dr. Leguen provided his written report.

- Legionella Update

Devin Raman, Senior Disease Investigation and Intervention Specialist, commenced the presentation from the Disease Surveillance and Control perspective.

Following an inquiry from the Chair, Ms. Raman advised provider awareness was the main focus for testing and noted that Legionnaires' Disease was under tested, and under reported.

*Member Nemec left the meeting at 10:22 a.m.
Member Nemec returned to the meeting at 10:25 p.m.*

Member Nielson inquired regarding the requirements for public notification of a Legionella cluster investigation. Ms. Rama advised that public notification was part of the public health investigation and if there was a case of Legionella at a resort facility, there would be a media release and guest notification. Ms. Raman advised that the Health District works with the resort facilities throughout the investigation process.

William Bendik, Laboratory Manager, presented from the Southern Nevada Public Health Laboratory perspective.

Mr. Bendik advised that samples for Legionella were from both resorts and residences.

Robert Cole, Senior Environmental Health Specialist, presented from the Environmental Health perspective.

Further to an inquiry as to whether a patient could be linked to a specific location for contracting Legionnaires' Disease, Mr. Cole advised that DNA analysis from a water sample could be matched to a swab sample from a patient's lungs.

Member Black inquired as to the requirements for facilities to have a Water Management Plan. Mr. Cole advised that only medical facilities were required to have a Water Management Plan, however many major resort properties had a Water Management Plan voluntarily.

*Member Hardy left the meeting at 10:46 a.m.
Member Hardy returned to the meeting at 10:50 a.m.*

- Mosquito Control / West Nile Virus / St. Louis Encephalitis Update

Vivek Raman, Environmental Health Supervisor, commenced the presentation from the Environmental Health perspective.

Mr. Bendik presented from the Southern Nevada Public Health Laboratory perspective.

Matthew Kappel, Senior Epidemiologist, presented from the Disease Surveillance and Control perspective.

Member Knudsen left the meeting at 11:01 a.m.

Member Knudsen returned to the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Member Seebock left the meeting at 11:04 a.m.

Member Nemecek left the meeting at 11:05 a.m. and did not return.

Member Seebock returned to the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Mr. Raman concluded with the long-term next steps.

Further to an inquiry from the Chair regarding best practices for a framework for a mosquito abatement district, Dr. Leguen advised that staff was in the process of researching mosquito abatement districts to prepare a proposal for the Board of Health, including costs.

Mr. Raman advised that, historically, Southern Nevada is the most active for West Nile Virus. Mr. Rama further advised that Washoe County and Douglas County have mosquito abatement districts and the establishment of a mosquito abatement district was not unprecedented for Nevada.

Dr. Leguen reiterated the Chair's earlier comments regarding the signing celebration event with the union representatives later in the day. Dr. Leguen expressed his pride in the negotiations team on the collaboration with the union to reach a positive outcome.

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. Primary & 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 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 the Second Public Comment portion.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:16 a.m.

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