



MINUTES

SOUTHERN NEVADA DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

July 8, 2024 – 8:30 A.M.

Meeting was conducted via Webex Event

- MEMBERS PRESENT:** 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*)
Brian Labus – Member, Environmental Health (*via WebEx*)
Holly Lyman – Member, City of Henderson (*via WebEx*)
Jennifer Young – Member, City of Las Vegas (*via WebEx*)
- ABSENT:** Susan VanBeuge – Member, Nurse
- ALSO PRESENT:** Linda Anderson, Kanani Espinoza, Allison Genco, Olivia Graf-Mank, Jared Hansen, Erin Midby, Sabrina Santiago
(In Audience)
- LEGAL COUNSEL:** Edward Wynder, Associate General Counsel
- EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:** Fermin Leguen, MD, MPH, District Health Officer (*absent*)
- STAFF:** Heather Anderson-Fintak, Emily Anelli, Tawana Bellamy, Jacob Billings, Daniel Burns, Nikki Burns-Savage, Victoria Burris, Andria Cordovez Mulet, Rebecca Cruz-Nañez, Carmen Hua, Josie Llorico, Cassius Lockett, Anil Mangla, Kyle Parkson, Kim Saner, Chris Saxton, Randy Smith, Rosanne Sugay, Greg Tordjman, Tamera Travis, Donnie Whitaker

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Vice-Chair Osgood called the Public Health Advisory Board meeting to order at 8:31 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 Vice-Chair Osgood and Member Labus.

- 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 Vice-Chair closed this portion of the meeting.

V. ADOPTION OF THE JULY 8, 2024 MEETING AGENDA *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Klouse, seconded by Member Young, and carried unanimously to approve the July 8, 2024 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.

Member Osgood requested a follow-up on nutrition and mental health, including substance abuse and suicide rates, at a subsequent meeting.

Member Klouse requested a presentation on mosquito surveillance and control, including coordinating efforts with the local jurisdictions.

- 1. APPROVE MINUTES/PUBLIC HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEETING:** April 8, 2024 *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Kline, seconded by Member Lyman, and carried unanimously to approve the July 8, 2024 Consent Agenda, as presented.

VII. REPORT / DISCUSSION / ACTION

- 1. Update on Unpermitted Food Vending;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Nikki Burns-Savage, Environmental Health Supervisor of the Specialized Food Office, provided an update on unpermitted food vending.

Further to an inquiry from Vice-Chair Osgood, Ms. Burns-Savage advised that staff continue to experience pushback and cultural challenges from vendors. Ms. Burns-Savage advised that, despite the pushback, staff continue to educate vendors on proper permitting and food borne illness, specifically on the source of the food, the preparation and storage, and how food borne illnesses pass from food to a person and from person to person. Ms. Burns-Savage further advised that staff further explain how the Health District's regulations were based on science. Ms. Burns-Savage confirmed that there were staff that spoke Spanish.

Dr. Lockett advised that Senator Doñate invited Health District staff to meetings with mobile truck and stationary food vendors. Ms. Burns-Savage further outlined that at any meetings with food vendors, administrative staff is present to generate invoices and assist with online payments. Further, Ms. Burns-Savage outlined available payment plans.

Vice-Chair Osgood requested that this item be brought back to the Public Health Advisory Board for a follow-up presentation in one year.

Further to inquiries from Member Kline and Member Klouse, Ms. Burns-Savage advised that permits may be location specific or roaming. Ms. Burns-Savage clarified that the large food vendor stands that were stationary were too large to be permitted as a sidewalk vendor.

3. Community Status Assessment Survey Launch; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary (*for possible action*) **(Heard out of Order)**

Carmen Hua, Health Educator II, presented on the Community Status Assessment Survey Launch.

Members were encouraged to share the link to the survey with their networks to extend the reach to more participants.

2. Update on Surveillance for Tuberculosis and Congenital Syphilis; direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary (*for possible action*) **(Heard out of Order)**

Dr. Rosanne Sugay, Medical Epidemiologist, presented an update on surveillance for Tuberculosis and Congenital Syphilis.

Further to an inquiry from Member Labus on outreach for pregnant patients, Dr. Sugay advised that there has been a drive for STI screenings for all patients, along with an increase in educating providers to screen patients regardless of whether they were pregnant or not.

Vice-Chair Osgood reminded the members that the Public Health Advisory Board had the responsibility to make recommendations to the Board of Health. Dr. Lockett confirmed that any recommendations from the Public Health Advisory Board would need to be consistent with the foundational public health services.

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)**

There were no additional items raised.

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

- DHO Comments

On behalf of Dr. Leguen, Dr. Cassius Lockett, Deputy District Health Officer-Operations, advised that the CDC Director, Dr. Mandy Cohen, was in Las Vegas in June and visited the Trac-B Impact Exchange, the Health District's Decatur location and UNLV School of Public Health. There were discussions on substance use, wastewater surveillance and family planning.

Dr. Lockett advised that the Vector Surveillance Team was busy trapping mosquitos. Dr. Lockett advised that, as of June 21st, there had been 230 West Nile Virus positive mosquito pools, across 30 zip codes. Dr. Lockett further advised that in addition to West Nile Virus, there was also detection of St. Louis encephalitis. Dr. Lockett advised that at the last Board of Health meeting there was discussion of a mosquito abatement district.

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.

Jared Hansen, Co-founder and CEO of Thrilling Foods, which is a manufacturer of a plant-based bacon. Mr. Hansen advised that he started the company in Oregon in 2021, serving tens of thousands of customers across the United States and Canada, which has since moved to Las Vegas employing approximately 17 individuals. Mr. Hansen advised that on June 26th the Health District closed his facility not because of any specific health or sanitation concern, but due to a misunderstanding on his part about the status of required permits. Mr. Hansen took fault for the misunderstanding and took immediate action to rectify the issue. Mr. Hansen advised that they were still waiting on special permits team to process their paperwork that would allow them to re-open. Mr. Hansen advised that the cost of the facility being closed had been over \$40,000 and continued to rise approximately \$3,000 per day. Mr. Hansen advised that as a small business, they were in danger of bankruptcy, in addition to risking the livelihoods of their employees with two employees at immediate risk of homelessness. Mr. Hansen stated that the facility had been FDA registered since 2022, which allowed them to qualify for certain waivers of the Health District's hazard preview rules. Mr. Hansen again stated that the documentation related to the waivers was submitted early last week. Mr. Hansen respectfully requested that anyone with any authority to direct staff in Environmental Health to take immediate action on the waiver request. Mr. Hansen stated that he and his company recognized and were deeply appreciative of the role that the Health District played in creating and maintaining a safe and reliable food system. Mr. Hansen clarified that he was not requesting an exemption from the rules. However, due to the slow process times, the Health District was putting his company in immediate and severe danger of destruction. Mr. Hansen concluded that he respectfully requested that the invoice for their expedited review request be processed immediately. Mr. Hansen's contact information was obtained and provided to staff.

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

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The Vice-Chair adjourned the meeting at 10:01 a.m.

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

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