



MINUTES

SOUTHERN NEVADA DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

July 24, 2025 – 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 (*via Teams*)
Nancy Brune, Secretary – Council Member, City of Las Vegas (*via Teams*)
April Becker – Commissioner, Clark County (*in-person*)
Scott Black – Mayor Pro Tem, City of North Las Vegas (*in-person*)
Bobbette Bond – At-Large Member, Regulated Business/Industry (*in-person*)
Pattie Gallo – Mayor Pro Tem, City of Mesquite (*via Teams*)
Joseph Hardy – Mayor, City of Boulder City (*in-person*)
Monica Larson – Council Member, City of Henderson (*via Teams*)
Frank Nemec – At-Large Member, Physician (*in-person*)

ABSENT: Shondra Summers-Armstrong – Council Member, City of Las Vegas

ALSO PRESENT: Victoria Abramowi, Linda Anderson, Toluwanimi Babarinde, Christopher
(In Audience) Boyd, Cynthia Corso, Tiffany Corso, Aika Dietz, Cade Grogan, Megan
Quintana, Evan Sommer

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Cassius Lockett, PhD, District Health Officer

LEGAL COUNSEL: Heather Anderson-Fintak, General Counsel

STAFF: Adriana Alvarez, Emily Anelli, Tonia Atencio, Jacqueline Ayala, Maria Azzarelli,
Sean Beckham, Tawana Bellamy, Haley Blake, Amanda Brown, Lori Bryan,
Nicole Bungum, Cory Burgess, Daniel Burns, Nikki Burns-Savage, Nancy
Cadena, Belen Campos-Garcia, Nicole Charlton, Melissa Constantin, Andria
Cordovez Mulet, Rebecca Cruz-Nanez, Liliana Davalos, Aaron DelCotto,
Amanda DiGoregorio, Lauren DiPrete, Tabby Eddleman, Rayleen Earney, Lisa
Falkner, Xavier Foster, Jason Frame, Kimberly Franich, Nicholas Gabler, Joe
Ginty, Xavier Gonzales, Jacques Graham, Roberto Griffin, Heather Hanoff,
Maria Harris, Amineh Harvey, Richard Hazeltine, Valerie Herzog, Raychel
Holbert, Carmen Hua, Dan Isler, Danielle Jamerson, Jessica Johnson, Theresa
Ladd, Heidi Laird, Dann Limuel Lat, Josie Llorico, Randy Luckett, Sandy
Luckett, Cassondra Major, Anil Mangla, Blanca Martinez, Eric Matesen, Marco
Mendez, Kimberly Monahan, Deborah Moran, Kristina Moreno, Corey
Morrison, Todd Nicolson, Semilla Neal, Brian Northam, Kyle Parkson, Neleida
Pelaez, Lilliana Posocco, Luann Province, Emma Rodriguez, Larry Rogers,
Alexis Romero, Kim Saner, Chris Saxton, Dave Sheehan, Karla Shoup,
Cameron Smelcer, Randy Smith, Angel Stachnik, Ronique Tatum-Penegar,
Candyce Taylor, Rebecca Topol, Greg Tordjman, Danielle Torres, Renee

I. CALL TO ORDER and ROLL CALL

The Chair called the Southern Nevada District Board of Health Meeting to order at 9:02 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 Member Becker, Member Black, Member Brune, Member Gallo, Member Hardy and Member Kirkpatrick.

IV. RECOGNITIONS

1. Tabby Eddleman, Heidi Laird, Dr. Cassius Lockett, Dr. Jessica A. Penney, Dr. Cheryl Radeloff, Angel Stachnik and Dr. Ying Zhang

- Co-authored the published article "*Missed Opportunities for Congenital Syphilis Prevention — Clark County, Nevada, 2017–2022*" in the CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report (MMWR)

The Chair recognized Tabby Eddleman, Heidi Laird, Dr. Cassius Lockett, Dr. Jessica A. Penney, Dr. Cheryl Radeloff, Angel Stachnik and Dr. Ying Zhang for co-authoring the published article "*Missed Opportunities for Congenital Syphilis Prevention — Clark County, Nevada, 2017–2022*" in the CDC Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report. Health District surveillance data on syphilis cases identified in pregnant females during 2017–2022 were analyzed to identify missed opportunities for congenital syphilis prevention in Clark County. It was noted that the lack of prenatal care was a barrier to timely syphilis testing and treatment, and that encounters in nontraditional settings such as emergency departments, could provide an opportunity for timely testing and, if linked to timely treatment, might help prevent congenital syphilis. On behalf of the Southern Nevada Health District and District Board of Health, the Chair congratulated staff on this publication.

2. Southern Nevada Health District – July Employees of the Month

- Tonia Atencio and Kristina Moreno

The Chair recognized the July Employees of the Month; Tonia Atencio, Community Health Worker in the Southern Nevada Community Health Center, and Kristina Moreno, Environmental Health Specialist II. 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 Southern Nevada Health District and District Board of Health, the Chair congratulated staff on this recognition.

3. Southern Nevada Health District – Manager & Supervisor of the Quarter

- Lauren DiPrete and Corey Morrison

The Chair recognized the Manager and Supervisor of the Quarter; Lauren DiPrete, Environmental Health Supervisor, and Corey Morrison, Facilities Manager. Each quarter two individuals are selected, as nominated by staff, to recognize leadership, teamwork efforts, ideas, or accomplishments, and best represent the Health District's C.A.R.E.S. Values. On behalf of the Southern Nevada Health District and District Board of Health, the Chair congratulated staff on this recognition.

- 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 JULY 24, 2025 MEETING AGENDA *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Hardy, seconded by Member Nemec, and carried unanimously to approve the July 24, 2025 Agenda, as amended.

- 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: June 26, 2025 *(for possible action)*

A motion was made by Member Hardy, seconded by Member Black, and carried unanimously to approve the July 24, 2025 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.

There were no items heard.

IX. REPORT / DISCUSSION / ACTION

1. **Receive, Discuss and Approve the Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary) of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health for a One Year Term Beginning July 1, 2025;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

The summary of the nomination and interest forms regarding the officer positions for the Board of Health was presented. After discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Member Kirkpatrick, seconded by Member Hardy, and carried unanimously to approve the appointment of Scott Black as Chair, Frank Nemec as Vice-Chair, and Joe Hardy as Secretary for the Southern Nevada District Board of Health for FY2026.

2. **Receive, Discuss and Approve the Officers (Chair and Vice-Chair) of the Public Health Advisory Board for a One Year Term Beginning July 1, 2025;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

The summary of the nomination and interest forms regarding the Public Health Advisory Board was presented. After discussion, the following motion was made:

A motion was made by Member Hardy, seconded by Member Black, and carried unanimously to approve the appointment of Kenneth Osgood as Chair, and Susan VanBeuge as Vice-Chair for the Southern Nevada District Board of Health Public Health Advisory Board for FY2026.

3. **Presentation from Aika Dietz, Student Attorney, UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law, Poverty Law, and Policy Clinic, on Long-Term COVID-19 in Congregate Housing in Clark County;** direct staff accordingly or take other action as deemed necessary *(for possible action)*

Aika Dietz, Student Attorney with the Poverty Law and Policy Clinic at the UNLV William S. Boyd School of Law, presented the Clark County commissioned research paper on Long-Term COVID-19 in Congregate Housing. Ms. Dietz advised that the research project was commissioned by Commissioner Tick Segerblom to provide options on how to better support homeless individuals.

The Chair requested clarification of the information presented as the data was countrywide as opposed to data specific to southern Nevada. The Chair noted that there were no longer many congregate shelters in southern Nevada. Ms. Dietz advised that the research paper addressed the lack of specific data on long COVID in Nevada, particularly in southern Nevada and Clark County. A proposed long-term solution was to better understand the local impact of long COVID by: (i) collecting and tracking state- and county-specific data, (ii) training healthcare providers, (iii) raising public awareness, and (iv) coordinating with workforce, housing, and healthcare sectors. Ms. Dietz advised that a key recommendation was to establish a dedicated long COVID task force in Clark County, involving the health department, medical professionals, universities, housing, and workforce agencies, and long COVID patients. The task force could monitor cases, assess community needs, and guide future interventions.

Member Nemec commented that there was currently limited understanding of Long COVID prevalence in the community, especially as symptoms like fatigue overlap with other pre-existing conditions. The widespread presence of COVID antibodies further complicates diagnosis. A focused study—ideally involving collaboration between the School of Medicine, the Health District, and the Poverty Law and Policy Clinic—would be valuable in clarifying these issues and guiding effective responses.

Member Hardy noted that diagnosing Long COVID as complex due to symptoms overlapping with other conditions, and that focus should shift toward actionable solutions—what treatments are effective and what can be done to help. A streamlined list of evidence-based interventions would be more valuable than an exhaustive list of symptoms. Member Hardy requested a copy of the presentation and suggested it be shared to support broader awareness and understanding.

Member Bond expressed support in Member Nemec's comments regarding further investigation. Member Bond noted that many individuals with long COVID struggle to be taken seriously and simply knowing that there is support and a commitment to understanding this condition can make a significant difference.

Member Gallo commented, from being based in a senior community, that she has noticed a surprising number of residents being diagnosed with Lyme disease. Given the significant impact COVID-19 had in the Mesquite area, Member Gallo wondered if some of the cases might be misdiagnosed. Ms. Dietz responded, as Member Nemec noted, that diagnosing long COVID often involved a process of exclusion, with conditions like Lyme disease identified first. Ms. Dietz noted that nationally, this pattern of misdiagnosis was recognized, though it was unclear whether the same trend was occurring in Nevada.

The Chair noted that forming new task forces for long COVID research was challenging due to statewide financial constraints, however there were opportunities to build on existing community efforts. The Chair advised that, for example, during the pandemic, a group of Asian community physicians and UMC created a learning-focused initiative, which could potentially be re-engaged. Additionally, UNLV's medical school could be approached to incorporate long COVID into continuing education or awareness programs. The Chair further noted that the key challenge remained data collection. The Chair suggested that by asking targeted questions—such as how many times an individual has had COVID—could help identify patterns, especially among those who experienced multiple infections and vaccinations. The Chair commented that if specific data points were identified, intake forms could be updated to support more effective tracking and research. Ms. Dietz confirmed that she will prepare supplemental information and provide it to the Chair. Member Bond noted that direct engagement with patients experiencing long COVID could offer critical insights that quantitative data alone may not capture. The Chair confirmed that she would work with UMC to send a notice to their patients on whether they would be interested in being part of a study.

- 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)**

There were no items raised.

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

- DHO Comments

In addition to the written report, Dr. Lockett advised that the first West Nile virus-positive mosquito has been identified this season, which was detected in 1 of 38 mosquitoes in one pool tested. Dr. Lockett noted that it may indicate a delayed onset of activity, but it was a development worth monitoring closely.

Dr. Lockett advised that the Health District officially closed separate *Legionella* outbreaks at The Grandview and South Point facilities, with final reports pending. Additionally, the number of travel-associated Legionnaires' disease cases linked to Harrah's Laughlin has increased to three, all of whom were hospitalized—two have recovered, and one remains hospitalized at the time it was reported. Environmental sampling at the facility returned multiple positive results, and remediation efforts were underway. Separately, the Health District was investigating two cases of Legionnaires' disease at Harrah's Las Vegas that were reported within the past 12 months. Dr. Lockett advised that, while this was not classified as an outbreak, testing was ongoing, and results were pending.

Dr. Lockett advised that on July 14, 2025, the US Department of Health and Human Services issued a significant reinterpretation of the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act (PRWORA), that was first enacted in 1996. The new policy reclassified several Department of Health and Human Services programs as Federal Public Benefits, including Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC) and Title X Family Planning, which would restrict access for undocumented individuals to these programs. Dr. Lockett advised that the Health District was monitoring the potential impact on the Southern Nevada Community Health Center (SNCHC) patients. Dr. Lockett noted that three service categories remained exempt: (i) immunizations, (ii) communicable disease screening and testing, and (iii) emergency Medicaid. Dr. Lockett noted an unintended consequence of this new policy could be an increase in emergency department visits. Dr. Lockett noted that the Health District was committed to protecting public health and will continue to serve all individuals regardless of immigration status within the boundaries allowed by federal and state law. Randy Smith, Chief Executive Officer of the SNCHC, confirmed that of the SNCHC uninsured patient population, there was no specific knowledge of their immigration status. Mr. Smith confirmed that federal resources could not be used to serve undocumented patient. Mr. Smith advised that the SNCHC generates program income from billable services. The Board expressed concern about the new policy and requested regular updates. Dr. Lockett advised that the sliding fee schedule would still apply if we were to use other funding sources that were not federal funding sources. Dr. Lockett further advised that also due to these restrictions, 340B discounts would no longer apply, which would mean increased drug prices. The Chair commented on the need for a payer mix and expressed concern about the potential impact of this new policy. The Chair confirmed that the Board would be committed to retaining the SNCHC. Dr. Lockett was confident in ensuring the community will continue to be vaccinated

and screened for communicable disease, through the Public Health and Preventive Care Division and Disease Surveillance and Control Division. Dr. Lockett advised that Mr. Smith was in communication with the Nevada Primary Care Association, which was actively discussing this issue. The Chair requested a written update in approximately two weeks, along with regular updates as they become available. Further to Member Nemec's request regarding the messaging to the public, Mr. Smith advised that staff were currently working on the response, which will emphasize the public health implications. Further to an inquiry from Member Hardy, Mr. Smith advised that as SNCHC was within the Health District, it would be required to assess eligibility. Dr. Lockett confirmed that he directed the Deputy District Health Officer-Administration to review the financial implications. Dr. Lockett confirmed that he will update the Board as information becomes available. Further, Dr. Lockett agreed to speak with other local health authorities that also have FQHCs.

- Rising Temperatures: Rising Responsibilities – How SNHD Safeguards Staff from Heat Illness

Ruby Rosano, Safety Officer, provided an overview of the Health District's efforts in protecting employees working in high heat conditions.

The Chair noted that the Health District's main facility was located on a heat island, where surrounding asphalt contributes to temperatures rising by 10–15 degrees. Previous evaluations suggested misting systems as a cooling solution were not supported by the water district. Alternative strategies, such as cool paving or increased tree coverage, should be explored. These could improve conditions for employees and clients walking long distances across the parking lot. If a list of viable options was available, the Chair agreed to assist in identifying potential grant opportunities to support implementation.

Ms. Rosano advised that any ideas would be shared through Dr. Lockett. Ms. Rosano further advised that some programs have already implemented effective strategies, particularly with back-to-school immunizations. For instance, the Red Rock Conference Room has been utilized as an indoor waiting area to avoid long outdoor lines. The teams have demonstrated a proactive approach, consistently exploring practical solutions. Dr. Lockett confirmed that staff will develop a wish list to share with the Board.

- Barbershop Health Outreach Project (BSHOP) and Beauty Shop Outreach Project (BeSHOP)

Amineh Harvey, Senior Health Educator, provided an overview of the Barbershop Health Outreach Project (BSHOP) and Beauty Shop Outreach Project (BeSHOP). This presentation was a request from Member Summers-Armstrong.

XII. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

1. Board of Health and Public Health Advisory Board
 - A. Letter from the City of Boulder City reappointing Mayor Joe Hardy as member of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health and reappointing Paul Klouse as the Public Health Advisory Board representative, both for the term July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027.
 - B. Letter from Clark County reappointing Commissioner Marilyn Kirkpatrick and Commissioner April Becker as members of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health, both for the term July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027.

- C. Letters from the City of Las Vegas reappointing Councilwoman Nancy Brune and Councilwoman Shondra Summers-Armstrong as members of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health, and reappointing Jennifer Young as the Public Health Advisory Board representative, all for the term July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027.
- D. Letters from the City of Mesquite reappointing Councilwoman Pattie Gallo as member of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health for the term July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025.
- E. Letters from the City of North Las Vegas reappointing Mayor Pro Tempore Scott Black as member of the Southern Nevada District Board of Health, for the term July 1, 2025 – November 30, 2026, and reappointing Ronald Kline as the Public Health Advisory Board representative, both for the term July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027.

2. Monthly Reports

- A. Administration Division Monthly Activity Report
- B. Community Health Division Monthly Activity Report
- C. Community Health Center (FQHC) Division Monthly Report
- D. Disease Surveillance and Control Division Monthly Activity Report
- E. Environmental Health Division Monthly Activity Report
- F. Public Health & 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 10:51 p.m.

Cassius Lockett, PhD
District Health Officer/Executive Secretary
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