

Washoe County District Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Members

Kristopher Dahir, Chair
Devon Reese, Vice Chair
Mariluz Garcia
Michael D. Brown
Dr. Reka Danko
John Novak, DMD
John Klacking, PhD

Thursday, June 22, 2023
1:00 p.m.

Washoe County Health District
Commission Chambers, Building A
1001 East Ninth Street
Reno, NV

1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum.

Chair, Kristopher Dahir called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

The following members and staff were present:

Members present: Kristopher Dahir
Devon Reese
Mariluz Garcia
Dr. Reka Danko
John Novak
Dr. John Klacking

Members absent: Michael D. Brown

Dawn Edwards verified a quorum was present.

Staff present: Kevin Dick, District Health Officer
Jordyn Marchi
Craig Petersen
Brendan Schnieder
Lisa Sheretz
Andrea Esp
Francisco Vega
Lisa Lottritz
Jim English
Dr. Nancy Diao

2. Pledge of Allegiance.

John Novak, DMD led the pledge to the flag.

3. Approval of Agenda.

June 22, 2023

John Novak, DMD moved to approve the agenda for the June 22, 2023, District Board of Health regular meeting. Vice-chair Reese seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

4. **Recognitions.**

Years of Service

- i. Nennette Cano, 5 years, hired June 11, 2018 – AQM
Health Officer, Kevin Dick, acknowledged Ms. Cano for her years of service.

New Hires

- i. Robert Fyda, June 20, 2023, Division Director – EHS
- ii. Gustavo Marquez, June 20, 2023, Public Health Investigator – CCHS

Health Officer, Kevin Dick, invited Erin Dixon to introduce EHS’s new Division Director and Ms. Lottritz to introduce CCHS staff.

Ms. Dixon introduced Mr. Fyda to the Board and briefly shared his background and experience and welcomed him to the Division.

Mr. Fyda thanked the Board and Ms. Dixon for such a warm welcome.

Ms. Lottritz introduce Mr. Marquez to the Board and briefly shared his background and experience and welcomed him to the Division.

Chair Dahir welcomed Mr. Fyda and Mr. Marquez on behalf of the Board.

Promotions

- i. Megan Rennie from AQM Trainee to AQM Specialist effective May 24, 2023 – AQM
 - ii. Brittany Lucier from EHS Trainee to EHS Specialist effective May 10, 2023 – EHS
- Health Officer, Kevin Dick, acknowledged and congratulated Ms. Rennie and Ms. Lucier on their promotions.

Resignations

- i. Camille Haga, Program Coordinator effective May 10, 2023 – ODHO
Health Officer, Kevin Dick, acknowledged Ms. Haga on her resignation.

Washoe County Health Heroes

- i. Alejandra Rosales – CCHS
- ii. Leah Gardner – CCHS

Health Officer, Kevin Dick, acknowledged and thanked Ms. Rosales and Ms. Gardner for being fully recognized as Health Heroes.

Extra Mile Awards

- i. STEP2
Staff Representative: Dollie Dhillon and Jasmine Olvera
Mari Hutchinson, CEO, STEP2

Mr. Dick invited Ms. Dhillon and Ms. Olvera to present the Extra Mile Award to Ms. Hutchinson, CEO for STEP 2.

Ms. Dhillon briefly explained the background of the award and provided details that merited STEP 2 as the recipient of the award for going above and beyond.

Ms. Olvera continued to explain the efforts of STEP in providing a smoke-free and

vape free campus that protects clients, staff, and visitor from the harms of tobacco smoke and vape aerosol. She concluded by thanking STEP 2 for their efforts.

Chair Dahir invite Ms. Hutchinson to speak.

Ms. Hutchinson accepted the award and provided the Board with an update on her program and explained the philosophy behind the treatments provided at STEP 2.

Chair Dahir thanked and congratulated Ms. Hutchinson.

5. Proclamations/Resolutions.

Resolution – Honoring Dr. Steven C. Zell, M.D.

Staff Representative: Kevin Dick

Health Officer, Kevin Dick, read the resolution into the record and provided a brief background of the resolution to include designating the CCHS consultation room as the Dr. Steven C. Zell consultation room. He shared that the resolution would be presented to Dr. Zell at a retirement celebration scheduled on June 24, 2023.

Vice-Chair Reese moved to approve the resolution. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

6. Public Comment.

Chair Dahir opened the public comment period.

Having no public comment, Chair Dahir closed the public comment period.

7. Consent Items.

Matters which the District Board of Health may consider in one motion. Any exceptions to the Consent Agenda must be stated prior to approval.

A. Approval of Draft Minutes.

i. May 25, 2023.

B. Budget Amendments/Interlocal Agreement.

i. Approve the Grant Agreement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the amount of \$213,204.00 retroactive to May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2025 for the Air Quality Management, EPA Enhanced Air Quality Monitoring grant, IO# 12194 and authorize the District Health Officer to execute the Agreement and any future amendments.

Staff Representative: Francisco Vega and Kristen Palmer

ii. Approve the Grant Agreement from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in the amount of \$755,870.00 retroactive to October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023 for the Air Quality Management, EPA Air Pollution Control Program, IO# 12064 and authorize the District Health Officer to execute the Agreement and any future amendments.

Staff Representative: Francisco Vega and Kristen Palmer

iii. Approve the Right of Entry and Use Agreement between The Washoe County Health District, Air Quality Management Division and The Washoe County School District from date of approval for the purpose of installing, operating, making repairs, modifications or improvements as needed to an Air Quality Monitoring Station on the Verdi Elementary School property; and further authorize the Board Chair to execute the agreement and authorize the District Health Officer to execute any future amendments.

Staff Representative: Francisco Vega and Kristen Palmer

- iv. Approve a Notice of Subaward from the State of Nevada Department of Health And Human Services, Division of Public & Behavioral Health retroactive to June 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in the total amount of \$935,091.56 (no required match) in support of the Community and Clinical Health Services Division (CCHS) COVID-19 Immunization (IO# TBD) and authorize the District Health Officer to June 22, 2023 Washoe County District Board of Health Meeting Agenda - Final Page 3 of 9 execute the Notice of Subaward and any future amendments.
Staff Representative: Irene Dominguez and Victoria Nicolson-Hornblower
- v. Approve a Subaward from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public & Behavioral Health for the period July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 in the total amount of \$138,323.00 (no required match) in support of the Community and Clinical Health Services Division (CCHS) Nevada State Healthy Eating Active Living Program Subaward IO (TBD), which includes the creation of 1.0 FTE, fully benefited, full-time position, Health Educator II; and authorize the District Health Officer to execute the Subaward and any future amendments.
Staff Representative: Irene Dominguez and Kelli Goatley-Seals
- vi. Approve a Subaward from the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health in the total amount of \$117,559.00 (no match required) for the period retroactive to April 29, 2023 through April 28, 2024 in support of the Community and Clinical Health Services Division (CCHS) Tobacco Prevention and Control Grant Program, IO# (TBD) and authorize the District Health Officer to execute the Subaward and any future amendments.
Staff Representatives: Irene Dominguez and Kelli Goatley-Seals
- vii. Approve Agreement between Washoe County Health District (WCHD) and Keep Truckee Meadows Beautiful (KTMB) in the amount of \$240,000 for the period July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2025 in support of the Recycling and Solid Waste Plan program activities on behalf of the Environmental Health Services Division of the Washoe County Health District; authorize the Chair or the Board designee to execute the Agreement and related documents.
Staff Representative: David Kelly and Anne Stoll-Truelock
- viii. Approve the Professional Services Agreement with Visionary Integration Professionals (VIP) in the approximate amount of \$545,565 from issuance of a Purchase Order through December 31, 2023 to support Washoe County Health District (WCHD) with the Accela Environmental Health Remediation Project; and authorize the Board Chair to execute the agreement and authorize the District Health Officer to execute any future amendments.
Staff Representative: Erin Dixon and Kristen Palmer
- ix. Approve a Notice of Subaward from the State of Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public & Behavioral Health for the period July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2026 in the total amount of \$10,000,000 (no match required) in support of the design and construction of a Tuberculosis (TB) Clinic, and other Public Health or Community and Clinical Health Services offices to serve the residents of Washoe County, (IO# TBD) and authorize the District Health Officer to execute the Notice of Subaward and any future amendments.
Staff Representative: Erin Dixon and Kristen Palmer

C. Recommendation for the Board to Uphold Citations Not Appealed to the Air Pollution Control Hearing Board.

Staff Representative: Francisco Vega

i. Storwise Self Storage, Case No. 1435, NOV-AQMV23-0004

D. Acknowledge receipt of the Health Fund Financial Review for May, Fiscal Year 2023.

Staff Representative: Kristen Palmer

John Novak, DMD approved the consent agenda. John Klacking, PhD seconded the motions which was approved unanimously.

8. Inter-Hospital Coordinating Council (IHCC) Presentation of Accomplishments. Staff Representative: Jordyn Marchi

Jordyn Marchi, Public Health Emergency Response Coordinator, opened her presentation by introducing Bryan Taylor, REMSA Health Emergency Manager to provide the Board with an update on IHCC's accomplishments for the current fiscal year.

Mr. Taylor began by providing history of the IHCC as well as the coordinating of the regional approach to healthcare and medical response. He continued to provide details about their accomplishments which included National Disaster Medical System (NDMS) exercise, WebEOC update, multi-casualty incident alpha plan update, alternate care site plan review, coalition member's resource and gap analysis provider plan updates, and triennial exercise.

Mr. Taylor continued to provide more detail regarding NDMS, Triennial Airport exercise, and various trainings related to preparedness. Mr. Taylor highlighted the Patient Tracking port on the WebEOC site. He reported on the Regional Hazard Vulnerability Assessments that took place amongst healthcare members and was used to identify the top ten hazards/risks to healthcare.

Mr. Taylor concluded by reporting on top preparedness gaps/activities for 2023 and expressed his passion for emergency medical services.

He opened his item for question from the Board.

John Novak, DMD commended Mr. Taylor and the IHCC and shared some of the activities the council is involved in.

Chair Dahir asked to be invited to next event and invited the Board to attend.

Mr. Dick reminded Board members that the IHCC is a nationally recognized hospital coordinating council.

Chair Dahir asked if earthquakes were the biggest difficulty.

Mr. Taylor affirmed.

Chair Dahir asked to be apprised of the needs of the IHCC in this area.

9. Presentation and acceptance of the "Washoe County, Nevada Air Quality Trends (2013-2022)" Report.

Staff Representative: Craig Petersen

Mr. Petersen began this presentation by providing a background on the Trends Report and introducing Brendan Schnieder, Sr. Air Quality Specialist.

Mr. Schnieder continued the presentation by reporting on the requirements of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards and a more detailed background on the Annual Trends Report reiterating that the report was used to help make air quality planning decisions. He continued to provide a monthly summary for 2022 regarding the air quality index.

Mr. Schnieder reported that although improvements were made during the wintertime, those improvements were harder to be seen due to the wildfire smoke as the 10-year AQI Trend chart showed. Mr. Schnieder further stated that wintertime improvements were a result of wood-burning device regulations and programs; however, summertime air pollution is worse due to wildfire smoke and local source or air pollution like motor vehicles. Additionally, he shared a graph depicting PM_{2.5} Annual Design Value.

Mr. Schnieder concluded by summarizing the takeaways from the presentation and opened the item for question from the Board.

Chair Dahir stated that the standards will become more stringent with time and asked Mr. Schnieder to expand on the subject, as he opined it would affect businesses

Mr. Schnieder explained that ambient air quality standards are revised every 5 years which results in implementing new strategies and could be a burden on businesses and residents.

John Novak, DMD thanked Mr. Schnieder for his well explained report.

John Novak, DMD approved the consent agenda. John Klacking, PhD seconded the motions which was approved unanimously.

10. Presentation: Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention - Youth Vaping.

Staff Representative: Lisa Sheretz

Ms Sheretz began her presentation by defining epidemic and e-cigarettes and how they are affecting Washoe County.

Ms. Sheretz continued to speak about the harm of youth e-cig use and the various forms of the product. Additionally, she shared some indicators of e-cig use for parents to be aware of as well as the harms of its use including behavioral health.

Ms. Sheretz reported on the challenges of prevention including flavors and addiction. Additionally, she reported on usage in middle and high schools through Washoe County as it compared to the State of Nevada.

Ms. Sheretz concluded by sharing the impacts e-cigs have on the community as well as resources and efforts to promote cessation.

Ms. Sheretz opened her item for questions from the Board.

Chair Dahir asked if the effects of e-cigs are the same as regular cigarettes as it related to cancer.

Ms. Sheretz explained that the long-term effects are unknown as e-cigs are fairly new in the market; however, lungs are still growing until the age of 25, so this product is especially harmful to youths.

11. Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority.

A. Recommendation to accept the REMSA Health Operations Report for May of 2023 which includes REMSA Accounts Receivables Summary, Compliance by Zones, Average Response Times, Incident Details Reporting, Penalty Fund Reconciliation,

Ground Ambulance Operations Report, and the Patient Experience Report and provide possible Board direction.

Presented by: Barry Duplantis

Barry Duplantis, REMSA Health CEO and President, opened his item by highlighting that REMSA Health was compliant with priority 1 calls in zones A, B, C, and D. Additionally, he pointed out that staffing is in exceptional position to address all REMSA Health's special events.

Mr. Duplantis reported that their system is 6% busier this year than it was last year.

Mr. Duplantis opened his item for questions from the Board.

John Novak, DMD moved to accept REMSA Health's Operations Report for May 2023. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

B. Update of REMSA Health's Public Relations during May 2023.

Presented by: Alexia Jobson

Alexia Jobson, Director of Public Relations for REMSA Health opened this item by sharing recent updates.

Ms. Jobson shared that REMSA Health hosted their Annual Summer Safety press conference to remind the community about the importance of not leaving children alone in or around hot cars, the importance of designating a water watcher, and recognizing the signs of heat related illness. She continued to share that Nevada Peer Support network enlisted the assistance of REMSA Health Dispatch to receive notifications when responding to an incident. She continued to report that leaders from the organization would be traveling to the American Ambulance Association's Annual Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Ms. Jobson expressed REMSA Health's appreciation for Sheriff Balaam and the Sheriff's office for raising and donating a gift to benefit the colleagues and family members of the team members that were lost in the care flight accident earlier this year.

Ms. Jobson opened her item for questions from the Board.

C. Discussion and possible approval of the REMSA Franchise Compliance Checklist with an effective date of July 1, 2023.

Staff Representative: Andrea Esp

Andrea Esp, Public Health Preparedness and EMS Program Manager, opened her presentation by highlighting some of the listed revisions on the Franchise Compliance Checklist including but not limited to the recent Zone Map that was presented to the Board during last month's meeting.

Ms. Esp made note that the revisions were focused on eliminating confusion, questioning, or allowing interpretation.

Ms. Esp opened her item for questions from the Board.

Chair Dahir asked if a finalized copy is provided to the Board.

Ms. Esp noted that the agenda packet had a finalized copy for their review.

John Novak, DMD moved to approve REMSA Franchise Compliance Checklist. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

12. Presentation and Possible Acceptance of the 2022-2025 Community Health Improvement Plan.

Staff Representative: Julia Ratti

Ms. Ratti began her presentation by defining the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). She continued to add details of the process that was implemented to identify the needs of the community and ways of working together to improve community health.

Ms. Ratti took the opportunity to identify the partnerships within the community that lead to the focus priorities and development of strategic goals and included a list of members of the CHIP Steering Committee.

Ms. Ratti continued to discuss 2022-2025 CHIP Focus area to include Mental Health, Preventive Health Behaviors, Access to Healthcare and Social Determinants of Health as well as Transportation and Language Accessibility. Ms. Ratti provided highlights on additional details on the listed focus areas including goals and initiatives.

Ms. Ratti concluded by sharing next steps and reported that implementation is underway, owners and supporters of the plans are identified in the action plans, the Health District will be providing support to all the committees and activities, and an annual report and updates will be provided to the Board.

Vice-chair Reese thanked and commended Ms. Ratti and the team for an outstanding job. He opined that this report is set apart from other reports because of the concept of objectives and key results. Vice-chair Reese focused on youth mental health and stated the indicators under Black and LGBTQ Youth Empowerment are concerning and stated he was interested in following along in the metrics that focus on both equity-based inclusionary models and outcomes attached to those models.

Commissioner Garcia commended Ms. Ratti on the report and stated she uses the assessment as a reference. Commissioner Garcia stated she was curious about the items listed on the next steps and asked how the report would be disseminated so that it can be used as a tool or a conversation starter to bring in additionally community stake holders.

Ms. Ratti provided details on how the report would be disseminated including press releases and social media. She added that her team was counting on elected Board members to share with the respective bodies in an effort to highlight the CHIP. Ms. Ratti commended Rayona LaVoie, the EPHP team, and the steering committee members for all her hard work.

Chair Dahir opined that one of the reasons the CHIP worked well was because it included everyone's input and work. He continued to echo that as electeds, those board members can help disseminate the presented information. He continued to ask if the team worked with RTC regarding the transportation piece.

Ms. Ratti affirmed and continued to explain the objective of adding transportation to the presented effort, which included considering the location and attendance of meetings.

Chair Dahir continued to commend the team for being organized and ready for the finances that come from the decision at the legislation. He continued to ask if there were any conversations regarding licensing as it referred to mental health at the statewide level.

Ms. Ratti reported that while those conversation are happening, they did not make it to the CHIP as it didn't float as a Washoe County level priority.

Chair Dahir opined the process needs to be fixed at the State level and asked to have a conversation regarding this matter, so that a bill can be potentially introduced at the next session.

Vice-chair Reese moved to accept the 2022-2025 Community Health Improvement Plan. Commissioner Garcia seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

- 13. Review, discussion and direction to staff regarding the provisions of the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) entered into by the Cities of Reno and Sparks and Washoe County for the creation of the Health District. Take action to accept the ILA in its current form or direct staff to forward any additional recommendations for possible amendments to Reno, Sparks and Washoe County.**

Staff Representative: Dania Reid

Mary Kandaras, Deputy District Attorney, for Dania Reid introduced the item and provided a brief recommendation of the potential action that the Board could take to accept the Interlocal Agreement in its current form which included the most recent name change amendment.

Vice-chair Reese commented that he was unsure as to whether his jurisdiction had contemplated its role in this process. He opined his city was not aware of this item and hadn't had the opportunity to provide feedback.

Ms. Kandaras informed that she was unaware if there had been conversations with the other entities; however, if this item is accepted, she would ensure that the other city attorneys would be made aware. She added that she had not been made aware of any suggested changes.

Vice-chair Reese asked if it was possible to bring the item back in the event that his entity was interested in making changes to the interlocal agreement.

Ms. Kandaras affirmed that was possible and reported that amending an interlocal agreement is time consuming due to the process. She further explained that in the event an entity wanted to suggest amendments her office would be made aware, so that the process could be initiated.

Vice-chair reiterated that he also believed if there was an issue that needed to be address that the managers and staff from his office, would have initiated it.

Ms. Kandaras affirmed.

Chair Dahir asked if this agreement needed to be presented to EMSAB.

Ms. Kandaras responded that this agreement is not related to EMSAB.

Chair Dahir reiterated that if there were questions this item can always be brought back for action and asked if this would be brought back to the Board once regionalization conversations were completed.

Mr. Dick affirmed that if there are changes to the Interlocal Agreement regarding regionalization the item would be brought back further down the road.

Vice-chair Reese moved to accept the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) entered into by the Cities of Reno and Sparks and Washoe County for the creation of the Health District. Take action to accept the ILA in its current form. John Novak, DMD seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

14. Staff Reports and Program Updates.

- A. Air Quality Management – D.C. Circuit Dismisses Case Challenging EPA’s Endangerment Finding on GHG’s, May 2023 Small Business at EPA Bulletin, Divisional Update, Program Reports, Monitoring and Planning, Permitting and Compliance.**
Staff Representative: Francisco Vega

Mr. Vega opened his item by highlighting recent updates. He reported that the court upheld the EPA’s endangerment finding and added that the link to the EPA Small Business Assistance is a valuable resource.

Mr. Vega opened his item for questions from the Board.

Chair Dahir asked if the school district buses were attained.

Mr. Vega reported those discussions are ongoing.

- B. Community and Clinical Health Services - Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention Program - Youth Vaping Prevention; Data & Metrics; Sexual Health (HIV and Disease Investigation), Immunizations, Tuberculosis Prevention and Control Program, Reproductive and Sexual Health Services, Chronic Disease Injury Prevention Program, Maternal Child and Adolescent Health, Women Infants and Children, and Community Health Workers.**
Staff Representative: Lisa Lottritz

Ms. Lottritz began her presentation by providing one addition to her report. Ms. Lottritz reported that before the next Board of Health meeting CCHS will be sponsoring the Northern Nevada Pride on July 22 and invited the Board to join them on this effort. Additionally, the Health District will have a booth offering COVID-19 and mpox vaccines.

Ms. Lottritz opened her item for questions from the Board.

- C. Environmental Health Services (EHS): Program Activities; Consumer Protection (Food/Food Safety, Commercial Development, Permitted Facilities); Environmental Protection (Land Development, Safe Drinking Water, Vector-Borne Diseases, Waste Management/Underground Storage Tanks); and Inspections.**
Staff Representative: Erin Dixon

Ms. Dixon opened the item by adding some information to her report. She provided updates on Vector-Borne Diseases program and reported that they continue to work with a new pilot, but there are some things that need to be finalized. She added that drones have been purchased and received. Ms. Dixon reported that her division continues to monitor the mosquito populations and traps are set around the community. She reported that the activity that has been seen is not necessarily of those mosquitoes that carry West Nile Virus and the existing mosquitoes have not reached levels where CDC has determined disease transmission likely.

Chair Dahir asked if the Health District is prepared to help mitigate.

Ms. Dixon affirmed that spot treatments can be applied and mosquito fish have been made available.

Mr. Dick reported that there are a lot of bugs; however, it doesn’t mean they are mosquitoes. He reported on some existing complaints that are likely midges. Mr. Dick clarified that as a Health District they run a Vector-Borne Disease program and not a

Mosquito Abatement District, therefore, not set up to respond to nuisance complaints. He concluded by informing the Board that he had been invited to present to the Board of County Commissioners on July 27 regarding this topic.

Chair Dahir added that the Board asks residents to ensure that there is no standing water in their area.

Ms. Dixon resumed by reporting on the Division's Food Program and their plan to discuss options with Kava Bar. Kava Bar has opted to appeal the denial to brew kava and the team is assisting with the process.

Ms. Dixon reported on pool inspections stating they are challenging, but these issues are happening in southern Nevada as well.

Ms. Dixon reported on an appeal hearing with the Sewage, Wastewater and Sanitation Advisory Board scheduled on July 6 and the outcome will be reported by July or August to the Board.

Ms. Dixon concluded by announcing that their very own Oliva Alexander-Leeder and Mia Gzebb, inspectors with EHS, will have their article "Active Managerial Control Implementation and Insight" published in the July/August issue of the Journal of Environmental Health.

Ms. Dixon opened her item for questions from the Board.

D. Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness - Epidemiology, Public Health Preparedness, Emergency Medical Services, Vital Statistics.
Staff Representative: Dr. Nancy Diao

Dr. Diao began her presentation by highlighting recent updates. She reported that the new Epi News Series covers West Nile Virus, St. Louis Encephalitis, and Western Equine Encephalitis.

Dr. Diao continued to report on outbreak and a decrease of 14% drop compared to the uptick for the month of April. Also, the Marburg virus outbreak in Tanzania was declared over on June 2 and the outbreak in Equatorial Guinea on June 8.

Dr. Diao reported that with the flu season ending on with low levels the Health District will not be distributing reports during the Summer. However, the COVID-19 reports will continue monthly as opposed to biweekly.

Chair Dahir stated he would like to receive the report,

Dr. Diao opened her item for questions from the Board.

E. District Health Officer Report - Health District Communications Update, EHS Permitting Timeframes, Division Assessments, Regionalization Discussions, Legislative Session, and Public Communications and Outreach.
Staff Representative: Kevin Dick

Health Officer, Kevin Dick, opened his item by highlighting Ms. Dixon is leading efforts to come up with a report regarding permitting timeframes in Environmental Health Services due to some complaints that have been received. Mr. Dick explained that some of the reasons for the delays are independent of the Health District because they involve working with different workflow processes instituted by each of the jurisdictions. He reported that

creating this report is not an easy task, but Ms. Dixon will continue to work with Technology Services in order to provide better information and transparency.

Mr. Dick continued to report that it has been a while since the Health District had a fundamental review, which was a great effort where a third-party team would evaluate processes and provide valuable recommendations. Mr. Dick will work with Ms. Dixon to initiate this process again to assess operations in each of the divisions over the next few years, beginning with Community and Clinical Health Services looking at an assessment of their clinical services operations.

Mr. Dick highlighted that in Ms. Gutman-Dodson's absence, he had included a summary of the bills that concerned the Health District, in his report and continued to highlight SB92, SB172, and SB237.

Mr. Dick specifically provided details of SB118, which was a top priority for the legislative session. He added that this bill provided an appropriation of \$15 million statewide for the Public Health Improvement Fund dollars which translated to a \$2.4 million allocation to the Health District that must be expended by June 30, 2026. Mr. Dick explained the reporting to the legislature required for the funds that are received through this bill.

The Health District will be required to report on the process that the DBOH used to identify the community priorities they expend the funds on. He believed that the Health District was well positioned to do this because of the Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan work that had been conducted, and the Foundational Public Health Services staffing assessment. He stated that conversations were occurring with DPBH, SNHD, and CNHD to have some consistency in the processes that are used.

Mr. Dick added that the critical need the Health District sees coming is at the end of June 2024, when COVID-19 grant funding ends. Mr. Dick reported that while the Health District did not receive part of the Other Tobacco Products Tax which would have provided continuing funding, the Health District did get on the record for both the Senate and the Assembly side that the intent is for this funding to be sustainable in the future as part of the DPBH budget. Additionally, Allison Genco, Health Resources Officer for the Governor, testified in support of the bill and the continuing funding.

Mr. Dick opened his item for question from the Board.

15. Board Comment.

Dr. Novak, DMD expressed he was pleased with focusing on the needs of the community. He added he was happy with the with the decision to bring in a third-party team to evaluate the Health District. Additionally, he asked for a monthly update regarding this review and offered his cooperation.

Vice-chair Reese shared that he was happy with the task to serve as a liaison for some divisions. He thanked EHS for their collaboration and the time they've spent with him. Vice-Chair Reese thanked Mr. Dick for his responsiveness regarding issues that were brought forth to him. Additionally, he commended the work that is done to ensure compliance and understanding of the process. He reported he is scheduled to go on inspections with the team and follow with an update to the Board.

Chair Dahir echoed Vice-chair Reese’s statement of providing updates of the liaison meeting that are being held with Board members.

Having no further comments from the Board, Chair Dahir closed this item.

Adjournment.

Chair Dahir adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Possible Changes to Agenda Order and Timing: Items on the agenda may be taken out of order, combined with other items, withdrawn from the agenda, moved to the agenda of another later meeting; moved to or from the Consent section, or they may be voted on in a block. Items with a specific time designation will not be heard prior to the stated time, but may be heard later. Items listed in the Consent section of the agenda are voted on as a block and will not be read or considered separately unless withdrawn from the Consent agenda.

Special Accommodations: The District Board of Health Meetings are accessible to the disabled. Disabled members of the public who require special accommodations or assistance at the meeting are requested to notify Administrative Health Services in writing at the Washoe County Health District, 1001 E. 9th Street, Building B, Reno, NV 89512, or by calling 775.328.2416, 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Public Comment: Members of the public may make public comment by submitting an email comment to svaldespin@washoecounty.gov before the scheduled meeting, which includes the name of the commenter and the agenda item number for which the comment is submitted. Reasonable efforts will be made to hear all public comment during the meeting. During the “Public Comment” items, emails may be submitted pertaining to any matter either on or off the agenda, to include items to be heard on consent. For the remainder of the agenda, public comment emails will only be heard during items that are not marked FOR POSSIBLE ACTION. All public comment should be addressed to the Board of Health and not an individual member. The Board asks that your comments are expressed in a courteous manner. All public comment is limited to three minutes per person. Unused time may not be reserved by the speaker nor allocated to another speaker.

Response to Public Comment: The Board of Health can deliberate or take action only if a matter has been listed on an agenda properly posted prior to the meeting. During the public comment period, speakers may address matters listed or not listed on the published agenda. The *Open Meeting Law* does not expressly prohibit responses to public comments by the Board of Health. However, responses from the Board members to unlisted public comment topics could become deliberation on a matter without notice to the public. On the advice of legal counsel and to ensure the public has notice of all matters the Board of Health will consider, Board members may choose not to respond to public comments, except to correct factual inaccuracies, ask for Health District staff action or to ask that a matter be listed on a future agenda. The Board of Health may do this either during the public comment item or during the following item: “Board Comments – District Board of Health Member’s announcements, reports and updates, request for information or topics for future agendas. (No discussion among Board Members will take place on the item)”

Posting of Agenda; Location of Website:

Pursuant to NRS 241.020, Notice of this meeting was posted electronically at the following locations:

Washoe County Health District Website <https://www.washoecounty.gov/health>

State of Nevada Website: <https://notice.nv.gov>

Under an emergency directive issued by Governor Sisolak on March 22, 2020, and extended by a subsequent directive issued on July 31, 2020, the physical location requirement has been suspended.

How to Get Copies of Agenda and Support Materials: Supporting materials are available to the public at the Washoe County Health District located at 1001 E. 9th Street, in Reno, Nevada. Ms. Susy Valdespin, Recording Secretary to the District Board of Health is the person designated by the Washoe County District Board of Health to respond to requests for supporting materials. Ms. Valdespin is located at the Washoe County Health District and may be reached by telephone at (775) 328-2415 or by email at svaldespin@washoecounty.gov. Supporting materials are also available at the Washoe County Health District Website <https://www.washoecounty.gov/health> pursuant to the requirements of NRS 241.020.