

WASHOE COUNTY DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING  
August 27, 2009

PRESENT: Denis Humphreys, OD, Chairman; Mr. Matt Smith, Vice Chairman; Councilman Dan Gustin; Commissioner Kitty Jung; and Councilwoman Julia Ratti

ABSENT: George Furman, MD and Amy Khan, MD

STAFF: Dr. Mary Anderson, District Health Officer; Eileen Coulombe, Administrative Health Services Officer; Andrew Goodrich, Director, Air Quality Management; Mary-Ann Brown, Director, Community and Clinical Health Services; Bob Sack, Director, Environmental Health Services; Dr. Randall Todd, Director, Epi and Public Health Preparedness; Patsy Buxton, Fiscal Compliance Officer; Jeanne Rucker, Environmentalist Health Specialist Supervisor; Stacy Hardie, Public Health Nursing Supervisor; Steve Fisher, Department Computer Application Specialist; Noel Bonderson, Air Quality Management Supervisor; Dave McNinch, Environmentalist Health Specialist Supervisor; Susie Dugger, Air Quality Specialist; Mary Ames, Office Assistant II; Kathleen Hanley, Senior Environmentalist Specialist; Mike Ezell, Senior Environmentalist Health Specialist; Bev Bayan, WIC Program Manager; Judy Davis, Public Information Officer; Jennifer Hadayia, Public Health Program Manager; Janet Smith, Recording Secretary and Leslie Admirand, Deputy District Attorney

At 1:05pm, Chairman Humphreys called the Washoe County District Board of Health meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Ms. Julia Ratti, member of the District Board of Health.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and a quorum noted. Mrs. Janet Smith, Recording Secretary, advised that Drs. Furman and Khan are excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bill Fine, Executive Director of Impact, stated that he has "been following the news about H1N1"; however, he has not heard any news regarding "a plan" for the swine flu (H1N1), specifically "whether there is the plan in-place." Mr. Fine questioned "when Washoe County would be receiving the vaccine; how much will the shots cost, who has to pay, and how much vaccine will be received."

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In response to Chairman Humphreys regarding providing an answer to Mr. Fine, Ms. Leslie Admirand, Deputy District Attorney, advised that the Board can discuss these issues during Board comment not during public comment. Ms. Admirand advised that should the Board request additional information from Staff it can be agendaized for next month's meeting.

Chairman Humphreys advised Mr. Fine that additional information regarding the H1N1 will be presented at the end of today's meeting.

APPROVAL/ADDITIONS – AGENDA – AUGUST 27, 2009

Chairman Humphreys called for approval of the agenda of the Washoe County District Board of Health meeting of August 27, 2009.

Ms. Jung requested that her report item 17. Update on the Attendance of the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) regarding her attendance at the conference be continued to next month.

**MOTION: Ms. Ratti moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, that the District Board of Health agenda for the August 27, 2009 meeting be approved as amended.  
Motion carried unanimously.**

MINUTES RESPONSE – MR. GUSTIN – JUNE 25, 2009 MEETING

APPROVAL/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS – MINUTES - JULY 23, 2009

Chairman Humphreys stated that the Board members have been provided with a response to Mr. Gustin's question from the June 25, 2009 meeting; that Ms. Brown has additional information.

Ms. Mary-Ann Brown, Director, Community and Clinical Health Services, advised that in regard to the contract with Social Services, which was approved by the Board of Health in June, Social Services makes payments to the Health District for the provision of LEEPS (Loop Electro-Excision Procedure) or colposcopy procedures for those clients "at the poverty level", who would be unable to pay. Ms. Brown advised that Staff is in the process of transitioning the provision of these services to other community agencies and will no longer be providing these services. Ms. Brown advised that there are community agencies who are willing to provide these services to individuals able to pay; that those individuals 'at or below the poverty level' will be referred directly to Social Services, which will be responsible for "preparing a plan of care to address that." Ms. Brown stated

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the benefit of the transition plan is that those clients will have "a medical home through Social Services Clinic"; therefore, the contract "remains in-place to ensure no client was unable to receive those services until the transition" occurred.

Chairman Humphreys called for any additions, deletions to the minutes of the District Board of Health meeting of July 23, 2009.

**MOTION: Mr. Gustin moved, seconded by Ms. Ratti, that the minutes of the July 23, 2009 District Board of Health meeting be approved as received.  
Motion carried unanimously.**

RECOGNITIONS

Chairman Humphreys and Dr. Mary Anderson, District Health Officer, presented Certificates of Recognition to Ms. Jennifer Hadayia for **5 Years-of-Service** and Mr. Micheal Ezell for **15 Years-of-Service**. Dr. Anderson advised that prior to the meeting, she and Dr. Humphreys presented Ms. Jackie Goatley with a Certificate of Recognition for **15 Years-of-Service**, as Ms. Goatley was unable to attend today's meeting. Dr. Anderson advised that a Certificate of Recognition will be presented to Dr. Jeff Brasel for **15 Years-of-Service**.

Chairman Humphreys and Dr. Anderson introduced Ms. Mary Ames, Office Assistant II, advising that Ms. Ames has completed the Excellence in Public Service for Essentials in Personal Effectiveness Program; Essentials of High Performing Teams Program; and Essentials in Support Staff Program.

Chairman Humphreys and Dr. Anderson presented a Certificate to Ms. Kathleen Hanley, Senior Environmentalist Health Specialist, in recognition of being invited by the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Association Commissioner to participate in the National Food Protection Workgroup established by the FDA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Dr. Anderson advised that, as a member of the "*Response Workgroup*", Ms. Hanley has been working with representatives of other local, Federal and State agencies to address action items recommended by state and local regulators during the "*Gateway to Food Protection*" National Meeting held last summer. Dr. Anderson stated that this project is an effort of FDA and the CDC in establishing a "long-term process to achieve uniformity and consistency in food protection across the nation"; that Ms. Hanley is to be congratulated for her involvement in "such an important, national workgroup."

CONSENT AGENDA – UNAPPEALED NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Staff advised that **Citation No. 4697, Case No. 1042**, was issued to **MERITAGE HOMES OF NEVADA** on May 19, 2009, for failure to control fugitive dust emissions at the Breckenridge job site in violation of Section 040.030 (Dust Control) of the Washoe County District Board of Health Regulations Governing Air Quality Management. Staff advised that Meritage Homes of Nevada was advised of the right to appeal; however, no appeal was filed; that Staff recommends Citation No. 4697, Case No. 1042 be upheld and a fine in the amount of **\$1,000** be levied as a **negotiated settlement**.

**MOTION:** Mr. Gustin moved, seconded by Ms. Jung, that **Citation No. 4697, Case No. 1042 (Meritage Homes of Nevada)**, be upheld and a fine in the amount of **\$1,000** be levied as a **negotiated settlement**.  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

CONSENT AGENDA – UNAPPEALED NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Staff advised that **Citation No. 4699, Case No. 1043** was issued to **CAL NEVA RESORT SPA/CASINO** on June 16, 2009, for the improper removal and disposal of asbestos-containing materials after a fire in the hotel in violation of Section 030.107 (Hazardous Air Pollutants), Subsections A, B and C of the Washoe County District Board of Health Regulations Governing Air Quality Management. Staff advised that Cal Neva Resort Spa/Casino was advised of the right to appeal; however, no appeal was filed; that Staff recommends Citation No. 4699, Case No. 1043 be upheld and a fine in the amount of **\$1,250** be levied as a **negotiated settlement** for a **major violation**.

**MOTION:** Mr. Gustin moved, seconded by Ms. Jung, that **Citation No. 4699, Case No. 1043 (Cal Neva Resort Spa/Casino)**, be upheld and a fine in the amount of **\$1,250** be levied as a **negotiated settlement** for a **major violation**.  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

CONSENT AGENDA – UNAPPEALED NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Staff advised that **Citation No. 4700, Case No. 1044** was issued to **TOP CARPET CARE** on June 16, 2009, for improper removal and disposal of asbestos-containing materials after a fire at the Cal Neva Resort Spa/Casino in Crystal Bay, in violation of Section 030.107 (Hazardous Air Pollutants), Subsections A, B and C of the Washoe County District Board of Health Regulations Governing Air Quality Management. Staff advised that Top Carpet Care was advised of the right to appeal;

however, no appeal was filed; that Staff recommends Citation No. 4700, Case No. 1044 be upheld and a fine in the amount of **\$2,000** be levied as a **negotiated settlement** for a major violation.

**MOTION:** Mr. Gustin moved, seconded by Ms. Jung, that Citation No. 4700, Case No. 1044 (Top Carpet Care), be upheld and a fine in the amount of **\$2,000** be levied as a **negotiated settlement** for a major violation.  
**Motion carried unanimously.**

Mr. Gustin stated that Air Quality Management "may want to conduct an asbestos-awareness clinic in Incline Village"; that he appreciates Air Quality's diligence in these matters.

#### CONSENT AGENDA – BUDGET AMENDMENTS/INTERLOCAL AGREEMENTS

The Board was advised that Staff recommends **retroactive approval** of the District Health Officer's **acceptance** of the **Subgrant Amendment #1** from the **Nevada State Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics** for the **Public Health Preparedness – Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Grant Program** extending the term of the grant period for one (1) year through August 8, 2010, and authorizing expenditures in the amount of **\$66,939**.

The Board was advised that Staff recommends **retroactive approval** of the District Health Officer's **acceptance** of **Subgrant Amendment #2** from the **Nevada State Health Division, Bureau of Health Planning and Statistics** in the **total amount** of **\$1,013,550** in support of the **Public Health Preparedness (PHP) Program** for the period of August 10, 2008 through August 9, 2009; **approval of amendments totaling an increase** of **\$4,326** in revenue and expense to the **PHP Base Grant Program (internal order # 10713) FY 10 Budget** and **approval of amendments totaling an increase** of **\$750** in revenue and expense to the **PHP Pan Flu Carry Forward Grant Program (internal order # 10738) FY 10 Budget**.

The Board was advised that Staff recommends **approval** of **Subgrant Amendment #1** from the **Nevada State Health Division, Bureau of Health Statistics, Planning, and Emergency Response** in the amount of **\$92,178** in support of the **HIV Surveillance Program** for the period of January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009; and **approval of the amendments totaling an increase** of **\$6,949** in both revenue and expenses to the **adopted FY 10 HIV Surveillance Grant Program, IO 10012** to bring the FY 10 adopted budget into alignment with the Grant.

The Board was advised Staff recommends **approval** of the **Notice of Grant Award** from the **Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Grants Management Unit, Fund for a**

**Healthy Nevada**, in the total amount of \$192,883 in support of **Comprehensive Tobacco Prevention Program**, for the period of July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010; and approval of amendments totaling a net increase of \$15,115.37 to the adopted **FY 10 Comprehensive Tobacco Prevention Program Grant budget, IO 10418**.

The Board was advised Staff recommends approval of **Subgrant Amendment #1** from the **Nevada State Health Division, Bureau of Child, Family and Community Wellness**, for the **Women, Infants and Children (WIC) Clinic Grant Program** extending the term of the Grant period for one (1) year, through September 30, 2010 (current award amount totals \$1,200,096).

The Board was advised Staff recommends approval of **FY 10 Budget Amendments totaling an increase of \$10,021** in both revenue and expense in support of the **Tuberculosis Program Grant budget (IO 10035)**.

**MOTION:** Mr. Gustin moved, seconded by Ms. Jung, that the Subgrant Amendment #1 for Public Health Preparedness (ASPR); Subgrant Amendment #2 for the Public Health Preparedness (PHP), with the corresponding budget amendments; Subgrant Amendment #1 for the HIV Surveillance Grant, with the corresponding budget amendments; Notice of Grant Award for Comprehensive Tobacco Prevention Program, with the corresponding amendments; Subgrant Amendment #1 for the WIC Program; and the FY 10 Budget Amendments for the Tuberculosis Program, be approved as outlined with the Chairman authorized to execute on behalf of the Board where applicable.

Motion carried unanimously.

#### REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

##### A. Review and Acceptance of the Operational and Financial Report – June and July 2009

Mr. Patrick Smith, President, REMSA, advised that the Board members have been provided with a copy of the June 2009 Operations and Financial Report; that the emergency response time for life-threatening calls in June was 92% and 97% for non-life threatening calls, with an overall average response time of six minutes and four seconds (6:04); and an overall average travel time of four minutes and fifty-eight seconds (4:58). Mr. Smith advised that the monthly average bill for air ambulance service for June 2009 was \$6,543, with the year-to-date average of \$6,166; that the allowable annual average for air ambulance is \$6,341. Mr. Smith advised that the monthly average bill for ground ambulance service for June 2009 was \$888, with a year-to-date average of \$882; that the allowable annual average for ground ambulance is \$886.

Mr. Smith advised that the Board members were provided with a copy of the July 2009 Operations and Financial Report; that the emergency response time for life-threatening calls in July was 92% and 95% for non-life threatening calls, with an overall average response time of five minutes and fifty-six second (5:56); and an overall average travel time of four minutes and forty-six seconds (4:46). Mr. Smith advised that the monthly average bill for air ambulance service was \$8,323, which is the year-to-date average. Mr. Smith advised that the monthly average bill for ground ambulance service was \$944, which is the year-to-date average.

**MOTION:** Ms. Ratti moved, seconded by Mr. Gustin, that the REMSA Operations and Financial Reports for June and July 2009 be accepted as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

B. Update of REMSA's Community Activities Since July 2009

Mr. Smith advised that REMSA has begun preparations for the *Burning Man Festival*; that staff is in the process of "setting-up" the clinic as participants are on-site building the structures; therefore, REMSA is on-site in the event of injuries.

Mr. Smith advised that because *Burning Man* participants "are from all over the world" REMSA has been working in conjunction with the Health District Staff to establish a procedure for evaluating patients at the clinic at the *Burning Man Festival* for possible cases of H1N1, conducting respiratory screenings for those presenting with fever, respiratory coughs, etc. Mr. Smith advised that clinic staff have a specific "set of questions" for those patients; that there will then be precautionary procedures implemented (i.e., masks, isolation, etc. per CDC and Health District guidelines). Mr. Smith stated that with the large number of participants from "all over the world" an outbreak of H1N1 could occur.

Mr. Smith stated that REMSA is also working with the Health District regarding a possible H1N1 outbreak; that REMSA Dispatch has the surveillance capabilities, which will indicate any noticeable increases in respiratory complaints. Mr. Smith stated the surveillance system has the capability of monitoring 'where the calls are occurring, how often the calls are occurring, by time of day and day of week, etc.' Mr. Smith stated that should the data collected 'trigger' an alert the Health Department will be notified to allow a review of the data for possible trends indicating a possible outbreak. Mr. Smith stated that REMSA is working in conjunction with the Health Department regarding possible POD distribution of vaccine for H1N1 and seasonal flu; that REMSA and Care Flight employees, who will be in contact with patients, will be encourage to receive the vaccines.

Mr. Smith advised that REMSA will also be on-site at the State Fair and the *Rib Cook-Off*.

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In response to Mr. Gustin regarding the courses REMSA teaches outside of Washoe County, Mr. Smith advised that REMSA has the "preeminent paramedic education program for the west coast; that a recent graduating class had individuals from Las Vegas, California, the rural areas, REMSA personnel, etc." Mr. Smith advised that REMSA does provide public and professional education, which has been a mission of REMSA ~ that of assisting the "more rural areas with the capabilities for maintaining certification(s) for both professional and communities." Mr. Smith stated it is now well known that REMSA provides a variety of training throughout the west coast; that REMSA has recently been contracted by the military through the Department of Defense in Washington, DC to "provide all of the Advanced Life Support (ALS), Cardiac Life Support (CLS) and Trauma Life Support (TLS) training for all instructors in the military."

In response to Mr. Gustin regarding REMSA "going to outside areas (i.e., Nye County) to provide the training", Mr. Smith stated that REMSA has traveled to Nye County and other areas to provide training; that "sometimes the students come to REMSA."

In response to Chairman Humphreys regarding the increase in the Care Flight rate for the month of July, Mr. Smith stated that, as the Board is aware, the REMSA Governing Board establishes the rates; that for the past Fiscal Year the Governing Board "anticipated no increase in volume and only authorized the CPI (Consumer Price Index) for a rate increase. Mr. Smith stated that this resulted in a slight increase in both ground and air ambulance rates; that there "have been some of the more outer area transports, which are very mileage dependent." Mr. Smith stated that July's average "came in higher than anyone expected; that the rates will be monitored and the rates adjusted to the allowable average bill should it become necessary."

In response to Ms. Jung regarding Paramedics having the authority to pronounce a death, Mr. Smith advised that REMSA units work in conjunction with the area hospitals; that should Paramedics attempt a resuscitation on a patient resuscitation efforts have to be continued until such time as a doctor indicates resuscitation efforts can be halted, which can be achieved through radio contact. Mr. Smith stated that should Paramedics arrive on-scene and "it is an obvious death Paramedics can 'call-it' and turn it over to the police department."

REVIEW – ACCEPTANCE – MONTHLY PUBLIC HEALTH FUND REVENUE & EXPENDITURE – JULY 2009

Ms. Eileen Coulombe, Administrative Health Services officer, advised that the Board members have been provided with a copy of the Health Fund Revenue and Expenditure Report for the month



of July 2009. Ms. Coulombe reviewed the Report in detail, as this is the beginning of the new Fiscal Year; that "any time there is a noteworthy variance Staff will bring it to the Board's attention."

Mr. Gustin stated that he noted "56% of the equipment non-capital has been expended; that he would question if that is usual for this time of the year."

In response to Mr. Gustin, Ms. Coulombe advised that she will review this and report back to the Board next month."

**MOTION: Mr. Gustin moved, seconded by Ms. Jung, that the District Health Department's Revenue and Expenditure Report for July 2009 be accepted as presented.**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

#### FY 10 ADOPTED BUDGET – PROJECT ACCOUNTING SHEETS

Ms. Coulombe advised that the Board members have been provided with a copy of the "*Washoe County Health District Fiscal Year 2010 Programs*" project accounting sheets (a copy of which was placed on file). Ms. Coulombe advised that Tab 8 of the Health District's Budget Book was the "appropriations of the different programs by cost centers (local dollars) and by the internal order (grants)." Ms. Coulombe stated that, in the future, rather than delineating by cost centers (local dollars) and grant funding, Staff will present the Budget "by program."

Ms. Coulombe reviewed the "*Washoe County Health District Fiscal Year 2010 Programs*", advising that the document delineates the various programs in the "adopted financials rolled-up" indicating "what is being proposed (requested), and where the Health Department ended-up." Ms. Coulombe stated that the last line on the Revenue and Expense Report indicates the General Fund Tax Transfer to the District; that the last line of each program accounting sheet indicates the amount of the General Fund Tax Transfer for that individual program. Ms. Coulombe reviewed Air Quality Management's sheet, advising that it delineates the internal order and grants, and with grants "revenues have to equal expenditures." Ms. Coulombe stated that she would request the Board members retain this document for their budget books (Tab 8); that next month she will present the "per capita cost sheets" for the various programs. Ms. Coulombe stated that she will present both the proposed per capita project account sheet presented at the Board's budget meeting and the current per capita sheet, after approval of the budget at the Strategic Retreat.

In response to Mr. Gustin regarding the disposition of the air quality management fines levied by the Board of Health, Ms. Coulombe advised that the fines are accepted by the District Health Department but deposited into the School District's account.

Dr. Anderson advised that recently Mr. George Ochs, formerly of the Washoe County School District presented a plaque to the Board in recognition of the support of the Western Nevada Regional Science and Engineering Fair; that it was monies collected through the payment of fines that was utilized to support that Fair.

The Board thanked Ms. Coulombe for the update.

#### FY 10 ORGANIZATIONAL CHARTS – APRIL 9, 2009 AND JULY 1, 2009

Ms. Coulombe advised that the Board members have been provided with a copy of the Health District's FY 10 Organizational Charts for both April 9, 2009, which were presented during the annual budget meeting and as of August 27, 2009 (copies of which were placed on file), to provide a comparison. Ms. Coulombe advised that usually the Organizational Chart for the new Fiscal Year would be dated July 1<sup>st</sup>; however, as there have continued to be changes in the organization Staff provided the most current Chart. Ms. Coulombe reviewed the Organizational Chart, advising that the Project Accounting sheets can be utilized to indicate the budget appropriations for the positions, including those positions which are categorized as "delimited."

Ms. Coulombe advised that all of the Health District's vacant positions, which were presented through the County's requisitioning process through Human Resources, Finance and the vacancy review have all been approved. Ms. Coulombe advised that Staff will begin the recruitment process for these approved positions.

Ms. Coulombe advised that there was an anticipated Storekeeper vacancy; that the Health Department did accept "a bump back" position, which filled that Storekeeper position; however, there has been a promotion within the Division; therefore, there will again be a vacant Storekeeper position in Administration. Ms. Coulombe stated that the Health Department must comply with the "Return on Investment (ROI) with the County;" that the incentive separations, to achieve the necessary reductions, included the PERS buyout, which is a substantial amount. Ms. Coulombe advised that vacancies from incentives "may not be a direct position for position" exchange. Ms. Coulombe advised that ROI can be met when a successful internal candidate is appointed to a new position, the position that individual vacated will become the vacant position for ROI. Ms.

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Coulombe advised that, previously vacancy savings, through a position being held vacant, may have been available for divisional leave; however, those funds will not be available; "ROI will be achieved at a fund level."

Ms. Coulombe briefly reviewed the positions within each Division that are being recruited, delimited, or being held vacant. Ms. Coulombe advised that the Health Educator position within the Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness Division has given notice and this position will become vacant within two (2) weeks; that Staff will be submitting a request to recruit for that position.

Chairman Humphreys stated that the Board is aware there has been a great amount of change within the Division; that he appreciates the update.

UPDATE – REPORT – ILLEGAL FOOD VENDORS - POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF

Chairman Humphreys advised that the update on illegal food vendors has been continued to the Board's September 24, 2009 meeting.

UPDATE – OLD WASHOE HOME OWNERS ASSOCIATION – SOLID WASTE COMPLAINT – POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF

Chairman Humphreys stated that by mutual agreement with the Old Washoe Home Owners Association and Staff, the solid waste complaint review will be continued to the Board's September 24, 2009 meeting.

DISCUSSION – POSSIBLE DATES – 2009 STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION – POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF

Chairman Humphreys advised that he would request the Board members review their calendars regarding the availability of Thursday, October 8, 2009 as the date for the Board's 2009 Strategic Planning meeting. In response to Mr. Gustin regarding the time for the Strategic Planning Session, Chairman Humphreys advised that the start time is usually 8:30 or 9:00a.m.; that usually the meeting concludes at approximately 2:00p.m., with lunch being served.

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Chairman Humphreys requested Mrs. Smith contact Dr. Furman and Dr. Khan to determine if either or both are available on October 8, 2009.

Ms. Coulombe advised that, as the Strategic Planning Retreats have been in the month of October for the past number of years, when Staff prepares the calendar of monthly meetings for 2010, there will be a date scheduled in October for the annual Strategic Planning Session.

**MOTION: Ms. Jung moved, seconded by Mr. Smith, that the Board of Health's 2009 Strategic Planning Session be tentatively scheduled for Thursday, October 8, 2009.  
Motion carried unanimously.**

PRESENTATION – DATES – NATIONAL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCES FOR 2010

Dr. Anderson advised that the Board members have been provided with a list of the dates and locations for the various national association conferences for 2010, which are public health specific. Dr. Anderson advised that the NALBOH (National Association of Local Boards of Health) 2010 annual conference, which is a budgeted item for a Board of Health member to attend, is scheduled for August 5-7, 2010 in Omaha, Nebraska.

UPDATE – NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL BOARDS OF HEALTH (NALBOH) ANNUAL MEETING – JULY 1 – 3, 2009

Chairman Humphreys stated that, at the request of Ms. Jung, the update on her attendance at the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) annual conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from July 1 – 3, 2009, will be continued to the Board's September 24, 2009 meeting.

STAFF REPORTS AND PROGRAM UPDATES

A. Director – Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness

Dr. Randall Todd, Director, Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness, presented his monthly Division Director's Report, a copy of which was placed on file for the record.

Dr. Todd advised that in his Report he indicated Staff had applied for a Public Health Emergency Response (PHER) Grant to support anticipated costs associated with possible mass-dispensing for H1N1. Dr. Todd stated that Staff had "very little time in which prepare the grant application"; however, it was submitted on time and Staff has been "unofficially notified" it will receive approximately \$635,000 in PHER funding. Dr. Todd stated that the funding will assist in the purchase of equipment and supplies required in the event it becomes necessary to conduct mass-dispensing for H1N1 vaccine.

Dr. Todd stated that initially the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Prevention indicated it would begin shipping H1N1 vaccine "as early as the third week in September"; however, CDC is now reporting there will be delays in shipping the vaccine. Dr. Todd stated that indications are it will be mid-October prior to any shipments being received; that further, it is anticipated there will be smaller quantities of the vaccine received than was initially reported. Dr. Todd stated that the Health District's planning for Washoe County was "for the uncertainty of vaccine being available"; therefore, Staff will adjust "to that uncertainty" prior to the planning for any "mass dispensing."

Dr. Anderson stated that she recently participated in telephone conference calls with Dr. Tracey Green, State Health Officer; Mr. Richard Whitley, State Health Administrator and Dr. Larry Sands, Health Officer, Southern Nevada Health District to discuss the distribution of the grant funding for H1N1. Dr. Anderson stated that the proposed awards have to be forwarded to CDC for final approval. Dr. Anderson stated that the grant request was "severity-based", whereby Staff had to indicate whether Washoe County would experience "mild, moderate or severe" cases of H1N1; that Washoe County submitted its request based upon a "moderate" number of cases. Dr. Anderson advised that the Nevada State Health Division "was very pleased with that format and chose to utilize the 'severity-based' format for the State's entire submission." Dr. Anderson stated that Staff received "a considerable amount of praise for this type of approach"; that this format "was responsible for the Health District receiving an award that coincided with the request for moderate-severity scenarios."

In response to Ms. Jung regarding concerns specific to "who will receive the H1N1" and having enough individuals trained to administer immunizations, Dr. Todd stated the concerns are legitimate, as the Health Department "does not have enough Staff to vaccinate 80% (severe scenario – 122,000 individuals) of the age-defined targeted population." Dr. Todd stated that to immunize 122,000 people would require approximately 400 individuals to staff the PODs. Dr. Todd stated that Staff requested funding for a moderate scenario, which would be approximately 50% of the age-defined targeted population and would require a lesser number of people to staff. Dr. Todd stated that approximately 50% of the grant award is for "staff acquisition", which could include per diems, temporary employees, etc., who could be recruited to administer immunizations. Dr. Todd stated that currently there are "no signed contracts" for per diems or temporary employees; that

volunteers is a resource Staff "will actively pursue." Dr. Todd stated that he is aware Board members have been contacted regarding "specific concerns about the Medical Reserve Corp (MRC)"; that the County's Volunteer Task Force "has made some significant progress." Dr. Todd stated that there currently is "an approved agreement and Waiver of Liability form, which is much improved from the previous version." Dr. Todd stated that there "are remaining concerns some of the (MRC) physicians have regarding the revised document"; that a number of those concerns are "addressable" and should be resolved when the physicians understand the County's position is these physicians "are covered to the full extent of the protections provided by *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) 41 and the Federal Volunteer Protection Act of 1997." In response to Ms. Jung regarding the parameters of the Federal Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, Dr. Todd advised that Federal Volunteer Protection Act is "for anything; that there are additional protections, which become effective with declarations; however, the Volunteer Protection Act is always in effect." Dr. Todd advised that the VPA "is very comprehensive"; that he has been conferring with the District Attorney's Office to ensure he fully comprehends the Volunteer Protection Act; that the recommendation was to provide a copy of the Volunteer Protection Act to anyone who has questions regarding legal protection of those who volunteer. Dr. Todd stated that the efforts of the County's Volunteer Task Force "has been tremendously successful"; that Staff will be utilizing these new documents. Dr. Todd stated that currently there are "just more than 100 volunteers in the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)". Dr. Todd stated that the Health Department has utilized the services of the Rotary Club volunteers, students from the Orvis School of Nursing and staff from the area hospitals and "will continue to do so"; however, this has been for the one (1) day POD event for seasonal flu. Dr. Todd stated that to immunize 80% of the age-targeted population would require operating PODs six (6) hours per day for fifteen (15) days; that "there would probably be a week off" followed by another fifteen (15) six (6) hour days for providing the second dose of the H1N1. Dr. Todd stated "that is a prolonged deployment"; that utilizing the services of "all the volunteers combined" would not be adequate; that the PHER grant funding will allow for the hiring of per diems and temporary personnel. Dr. Todd stated that "there may be an issue of the availability" of per diem and temporary personnel as all entities "will be doing the same thing." Dr. Todd stated that when the District has confirmation regarding the PHER funding, Staff will begin initiating contacts with those organizations, which could possibly "supply personnel that would be necessary."

In response to Mr. Smith regarding scheduling a POD when the H1N1 vaccine is received, Dr. Todd advised that the targeted populations for receiving the vaccine are "those defined by their age; defined by their occupation; and those who are risk-defined (i.e., pregnant women, people with chronic underlying medical conditions, etc.)" Dr. Todd stated that it will "be easy to mass dispense to those who are age or occupationally defined, as a matter of checking IDs to ensure they are within that group." Dr. Todd stated that Staff estimated approximately 120,000 individuals "within the worst-case scenario for age-defined categories who may request the vaccine, with approximately 75-80,000 within a moderate scenario." Dr. Todd stated that in a regular seasonal flu POD "400 people per hour per lane" are immunized; however, it would not be possible to

conduct a mass-dispensing site "where it is all about speed", as it would not provide adequate time "to assess a chronic underlying medical condition or determine pregnancy." Dr. Todd stated that Staff is planning to encourage those with underlying medical conditions and pregnant women to obtain the immunizations from "their private health care provider." Dr. Todd stated that "the assumption is 75%" of the individuals encouraged to utilize their private health care provider will be able to obtain the vaccine from their individual private health care provider. Dr. Todd stated that Staff has requested funding for additional temporary staff "beyond what would be necessary for PODs" for the remaining 25% of the target population, who may not have a private medical care provider or the private medical care provider doesn't administer the immunization, to establish a "task force or clinic similar to the HAWC Clinic ~ a strike team of clinicians" to administer the immunizations. Dr. Todd stated that in conferring with Ms. Brown, Director, Community and Clinical Health Services, it is the consensus of Staff that this type of clinic strike team would have the capability of immunizing approximately 100 people per day. Dr. Todd stated that, while this would be a much slower process the intent is to have these individuals receive the immunizations from their individual health care provider.

Mr. Smith stated that "this is assuming the Health District receives enough vaccine."

Dr. Todd stated that Staff will not be scheduling PODs until such time "as there is enough vaccine on-hand to make it appropriate to do so." Dr. Todd stated a possibility is that the vaccine will be in "such short supply the only people receiving the vaccine will be defined by risk, which would result in a 'purely' clinical operation and PODs would be unnecessary."

The Board thanked Dr. Todd for the update.

#### B. Director – Community and Clinical Health Services

Ms. Mary-Ann Brown, Director, Community and Clinical Health Services, presented her monthly Division Director's Report, a copy of which was placed on file for the record.

Ms. Brown advised thanked the Board for its support of the Obesity Forum, being held on Thursday, September 10, 2009, at the Reno/Sparks Boys and Girls Club; that Mr. Smith has volunteered to 'represent the Board of Health and Dr. Furman has indicated he, too, will be attending. Ms. Brown stated that Staff has received a tremendous amount of interest in the Forum; that Staff anticipates "a broad level of audience participation." Ms. Brown stated that Staff has been advised that Dr. Tracey Green, the new State Health Officer and Ms. Katy Simon, Washoe

County Manager will be in attendance. Ms. Brown stated that Staff "is looking forward to releasing the data and creating momentum in the community to address a critical public health issue."

In response to Chairman Humphreys regarding obesity among school-age children, Dr. Anderson advised that obesity among school age children is currently considered an epidemic. Ms. Brown advised that it was difficult obtaining passage of the legislation requiring "the gathering of this data; however, it has produced a wealth of information and direction on how to address this issue in the community." Ms. Brown stated that due to these efforts a number of rural counties will begin gathering Body Mass Index (BMI) data to investigate the scope of the problem in the rural areas. Ms. Brown advised that the intent of the forum is to present an overview of what is occurring in the community and discuss possible methods for addressing this issue.

Dr. Anderson advised that a number of years ago Dr. Furman was involved in an effort to address the food products sold in school vending machines; that he participated on a task force to discuss replacing the high calorie, high sugared products with more nutritional food and beverage choices.

Ms. Brown advised that the Board members have been provided with a flyer for the event, which lists the topics that will be discussed.

Ms. Ratti stated she appreciates that the "food insufficiency and its role in obesity" will be discussed; that studies have documented that low income families have a more difficult time maintaining a healthy weight due to the quality of food that is available to them."

The Board thanked Ms. Brown for the update.

#### C. Director – Environmental Health Services

Mr. Bob Sack, Director, Environmental Health Services, presented his monthly Division Director's Report, a copy of which was placed on file for the record.

Mr. Sack stated that Staff will be partnering with the Boys and Girls Club "Day for Kids" event conducting a hand washing competition in recognition of September as "Clean Hands Month", on Saturday, September 12, 2009 at Ardmore Park in Sparks from 11:00am – 2:00pm. Mr. Sack advised that Staff would invite any of the Board members to participate in this event; that the



Health Department will be "highlighting hand washing for disease prevention." In response to Chairman Humphreys regarding the contest "being speed or quality", Mr. Sack stated that the results will be based on quality.

In response to Ms. Jung regarding Staff contacting the Latino Lions Club to discuss the illegal food vendors, Mr. Sack advised that Staff has left a message expressing a desire to discuss the issue of illegal food vendors; however, no one has returned Staff's call.

The Board thanked Mr. Sack for the update.

D. Director – Air Quality Management

Mr. Andrew Goodrich, Director, Air Quality Management, presented his monthly Division Director's Report, a copy of which was placed on file.

Mr. Goodrich advised that at last month's meeting the Board reviewed an Air Quality Management case specific to the mastication process utilized by The Nevada Fire Safe Council; that the Board requested a follow-up regarding a draft proposal from The Nevada Fire Safe Council specific to dust control and notification delineating information as to project location, acreage to be masticated, fuel type, etc.; however, Staff has not yet received this information from The Nevada Fire Safe Council. Mr. Goodrich advised Staff will present that information to the Board when it is received.

The Board thanked Mr. Goodrich for the update.

E. Administrative Health Services Officer

There was no monthly Administrative Health Services Officer Report.

F. District Health Officer

Dr. Mary Anderson, District Health Officer, presented her monthly Health Officer's Report, a copy of which was placed on file.

Dr. Anderson presented 'hand-outs' she obtained at the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Conference, including a "*National Profile of Local Health Departments*" and one from the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers (ASTHO). Dr. Anderson advised that the "*National Profile of Local Health Departments*" "highlights various local jurisdictions and how they responded to specific emergencies, everything from foodborne illness outbreaks to gigantic snow storms, loss of power, floods, etc." Dr. Anderson stated that "should anyone wish to read one of the articles in the books they are free to borrow the book or she will obtain a copy through NACCHO or ASTHO upon request."

In response to Ms. Jung regarding "how Washoe County did over all as a local district, Dr. Anderson advised that those States with less than five (5) health districts were not included; that Nevada has less than five (5) health districts. Dr. Anderson advised that the document is a profile of the characteristics of the different health departments, with the focus being specific to "how those districts are funded, how the Boards are elected, the priorities of the particular health departments are by state." Dr. Anderson advised that it was not a ranking "on how well a health department did; that it was a characterization profile of local health districts."

The Board thanked Dr. Anderson for the update.

BOARD COMMENT

Chairman Humphreys requested a "total report" on H1N1, including the availability of vaccine, the costs associated with the vaccine and immunizations, and who will be administering the immunizations. Chairman Humphreys requested Staff's report include the "public information aspects" on educating the public as to "the H1N1 requiring two (2) immunizations, which will be in addition to the one (1) immunization for seasonal flu."

Ms. Jung stated that she would request the report include an update regarding volunteer and temporary staff recruitment for possible H1N1 PODs, including "what is available and what are the 'Best Practices'. Ms. Jung stated that she has been advised "the University will be responsible for its own immunizations"; that she would question "how the rural areas will manage dispensing and

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administering the vaccines, as those areas would affect Washoe County." Ms. Jung stated that she would request Staff contact her should the assistance of the Nevada Association of Counties (NACO) be necessary.

Ms. Jung stated that she would request a presentation of the American Red Cross' "Scrubby Bear Program" to the Board of Health at next month's meeting; that this Program is being presented in the School District as a method for teaching children proper hand washing techniques.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 2:20pm.

  
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MARY A. ANDERSON, MD, MPH, FACPM, DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICER  
SECRETARY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JANET SMITH  
RECORDER