MINUTES
HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, June 3, 2014, 4:00 p.m.
101 Grove Street, Room 300 or Room 302
San Francisco, CA  94102

1) CALL TO ORDER
Present:   Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D., President
Commissioner Sonia E. Melara, M.S.W, Vice President
Commissioner Judith Karshmer, Ph.D., PMHCNS-BC
Commissioner David B. Singer
Commissioner Belle Taylor-McGhee

Excused:   Commissioner Cecilia Chung
Commissioner David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner Belle Taylor-McGhee

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 pm.


Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the minutes of the meeting of May 20, 2014.

3) DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Barbara Garcia, Director of Health, gave the report. The full report can be viewed at: http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/aboutdph/insideDept/dirRpts/default.asp

Mayor Lee Presents Proposed Balanced Budget for Fiscal Year 2014-15 & 2015-16
Mayor Edwin M. Lee presented his proposed two-year balanced budget for Fiscal Year 2014-15 and 2015-16. The Mayor’s proposal balances a two year budget that closes budget deficits of $66.7 million in FY 2014-15 and $133.4 million in FY 2015-16. To deliver this two-year consensus budget proposal, Mayor Lee worked with the Board of Supervisors and heard directly from residents and community leaders in their districts, held an online budget town hall, and met with hundreds of residents, nonprofit organizations, City Commissioners, labor organizations, business owners, and advocates to discuss priorities and address concerns.

Mayor Lee’s two-year budget invests in people who live, work and visit San Francisco; protects the social safety net and supports seniors, youth and residents who need it the most; invests in housing, transportation and
affordability for low-income and working class families; and supports the City’s critical infrastructure and thriving diverse neighborhood corridors.

The 25th Anniversary of the Discovery of the Hepatitis C Virus: Looking Back to Look Forward
Dr. Philip Coffin with the Center for Public Health Research within the Population Health Division has been selected to present on Hepatitis C at the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Public Health Grand Rounds. Dr. Coffin, MD, MIA, will be speaking on “Steps toward Ending Hepatitis C in the U.S.” The Rounds will take place Tuesday, June 17 at 1:00 p.m., EST at the CDC Campus Global Communications Center.

US Department of Health and Human Services Lifts Medicare Ban on Sexual Reassignment Surgery
On Friday, May 30, 2014, the US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) ended a 33-year ban on using Medicare to cover gender reassignment surgery. Ruled by an HHS independent board, the decision responds to a 2013 lawsuit filed on behalf of Denee Mallon, 74, a transgender woman and army veteran from Albuquerque, New Mexico. While Medicare is only for individuals age 65 and older and people with disabilities, private insurance plans often look to Medicare for guidance on what should be considered medically necessary treatment. As a result, the HHS decision may put pressure on more insurance providers to cover gender reassignment surgery. Medi-Cal, California’s Medicaid program, already covers some gender reassignment procedures.

Chinatown Health Center Graduation
Chinatown Public Health Center graduated over 70 families at the May 10th We Can!® Chinese Families graduation at Chinatown YMCA. Assemblyman Phil Ting and the SF Board of Supervisors presented certificates to honor the Chinese We Can campaign, commending them for advocating healthy eating and active living in the Chinese community. The campaign graduated over 550 families. The We Can!® workshops inspired the participants to adopt healthy eating and active lifestyles by empowering them with 10 healthy skills, including: eat a balanced diet, more fruits and vegetables, choose low-sugar and low-fat foods, limit portion sizes, "Choose MyPlate,” increase physical activity, limit sugar-sweetened beverages, reduce screen time, read food labels, and cook healthily. Three “Champions for Change” moms shared the healthy changes they made for themselves and their families, and their strategies on how to shop, cook, eat and drink wisely.

June is World Refugee Awareness Month
Since the mid-1970’s, San Francisco has become home to over 50,000 refugees from countries throughout the world. More recently, the City has seen an increase in individuals and families seeking asylum status. In the past year, over 250 refugees and asylees from over 34 countries have received services through the collaborative services of Newcomers Health Program and Family Health Center’s Refugee Medical Clinic.

Ron Weigelt, Director of SFDPH Human Resources stated that negotiations with all unions have concluded and that the proposed agreement includes a 3% salary increase for employees in 2014, 3.25% in 2015 and another increase of approximately 2.25-3.25% in 2016. He added that the proposed agreement with the nurses’ union is for two years. He also stated that the next step in the process is for the Mayor’s Office and Board of Supervisors to approve the agreements.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:
Commissioner Chow stated that he attended the meeting in which the Mayor presented his budget. He noted that the budget outlook for the City and the SFDPH is positive.

Regarding the union negotiations, Commissioner Singer asked for an update on how the negotiated salary increases will impact the SFDPH budget.
4) **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT**  
There was no general public comment.

5) **FINANCE AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**  
Commissioner Melara, who served as Chair for the meeting, stated that the Committee recommended that the Health Commission approve all the items on the Consent Calendar. However, because Commissioner Melara serves on the Board of Directors for the Public Health Foundation, she recused herself from voting on the request for a new contract with the Public Health Foundation. Without her, there was not a quorum of Health Commissioners present to vote on this contract; the contract was removed from the Consent Calendar and will be voted on at the June 17, 2014 full Health Commission meeting.

Commissioner Melara also stated that the Committee heard presentations on the SFDPH Primary Care Capacity Calculator and an update on Ryan White Part D funding.

6) **CONSENT CALENDAR**  
Action Taken: The following were unanimously approved by the full Health Commission:

- **JUNE 2014 CONTRACTS REPORT**
- **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW CONTRACT WITH THE HEALTH RIGHT 360, IN THE AMOUNT OF $1,128,324, WHICH INCLUDES A 12% CONTINGENCY, TO PROVIDE FISCAL INTERMEDIARY SERVICES TO SUPPORT THE DEPARTMENTS HIV HEALTH SERVICES UNIT HEALTH RESOURCE AND SERVICE ADMINISTRATION PROJECT, FOR THE PERIOD OF MARCH 1, 2014 THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2018 (4 YEARS).**

The contract request below was removed from the Consent Calendar due to lack of quorum of Health Commissioners to vote on the item. See explanation above, under “Finance and Planning Committee.”

- **REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW CONTRACT WITH THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC HEALTH FOUNDATION, FUNDED BY THE MAYOR’S FUND FOR THE HOMELESS (MFH) IN THE AMOUNT OF $775,040, WHICH INCLUDES A 12% CONTINGENCY, TO PROVIDE PROGRAM SUPPORT TO THE HOPE PROGRAM - ENSURING SERVICES TO THE HOMELESS AND THE COSTS INCURRED FOR PROMOTION OF THE FUND WHICH SUPPORTS HOMELESS SAN FRANCISCANS WHICH INCLUDE INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE HIV POSITIVE, FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2014 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2017 (3 YEARS)**

7) **PUBLIC HEALTH DIVISION (PHD) STRATEGIC PLAN: RESOLUTION**  
Tomas Aragon, MD, Health Officer and Director of PHD introduced the following co-presenters:  
Richard Lee, Acting Director of Environment Health; Tracey Packer, Director of Community Health Equity and Promotion; Israel Nieves, Director of Office of Equity and Quality Improvement; Mary Hansell, MD, Director of Maternal Child and Adolescent Health; and Susan Philip, MD, Director of Disease Prevention and Control.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:  
Commissioner Melara asked how the Plan addresses violence prevention especially for children. Mr. Nieves stated that the Plan covers this area through its Child Maltreatment prevention activities.

Commissioner Singer congratulated Dr. Aragon and the PHD staff for the Plan. He noted that in the County rankings, San Francisco ranked 5th in health factors and added that the SFDPH is impacting health of all San Franciscans. Dr. Aragon stated that San Francisco was 22nd in terms of health outcomes and added that there is still much work to be done in regard to health disparities.
Commissioner Karshmer asked for more information regarding the strategy to communicate the Plan to the public. Mr. Nieves stated that the PHD Strategic Plan is one of the important contributions to SF HIP, which has the capacity to get the word out to the public.

Commissioner Chow congratulated Dr. Aragon and the PHD leadership for the Plan; he added that the tangible goals will be helpful for outcome measurement. However, he suggested that target populations be included to add to the outcome measurement of the Plan.

Commissioner Chow stated that the body mass index (BMI) information should reflect that the standard BMI index does not reflect norms for many Asian communities. He requested that the Plan reflect this so that outcomes can be accurate for this population. Dr. Aragon stated that the SFDPH is doing in-depth work through the Community Health and Equity Section with a focus on decreasing the amount of sugary beverages consumed; he noted that some Asians develop Diabetes at a lower BMI ratio.

Commissioner Chow requested that the formatting of the report be standardized. He also requested that for the sections regarding HIV, that the Plan should include information for partnerships with private-sector entities including private medical practices.

8) **SFDPH 3RD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT**

Greg Wagner, Chief Financial Officer, gave the report.

**Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:**
Commissioner Singer asked for clarification of the 11% increase of “bad debt” at SFGH. Mr. Wagner stated that in order to determine whether there was a meaningful change in bad debt would require continued analysis of billing data and trends over time, and that the quarterly numbers do not provide sufficient data to draw a conclusion.

Director Garcia noted that in the Mayor’s budget, community-based organizations received a 1.5% increase in their contracts for an increase in cost-of-doing-business in San Francisco.

9) **SFDPH SECURITY UPDATE**

Roland Pickens, Director of the San Francisco Health Network, gave the update. Sheriff Mirkarimi also spoke to the Health Commission as part of the update.

Sheriff Mirkarimi thanked Director Garcia for the productive collaboration and highlighted several actions he has taken to improve security at SFGH:

- A Captain reporting directly to the Sheriff was installed at the SFGH campus;
- Increased vehicle patrol on the SFGH campus;
- Added presence of security at urgent care clinics and substance abuse clinics;
- Implementation of a site-specific training for Sheriff’s cadets working at SFGH.

He added that he continues to make attempts to include the Sheriff’s Department in the city-wide emergency response system which currently only utilizes the Police and Fire Departments.

Director Garcia thanked Sheriff Mirkarimi for the improvements already made and added that there is still work to do to improve security throughout the SFDPH. She also stated that she and the Sheriff will be speaking to the SFGH staff to provide updates on security issues at SFGH.
Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:
Commissioner Singer stated that he is unclear whether the obligation to fix all relevant security problems has been met. He added that patient and staff safety issues are of primary concern; he also noted that security issues impact ongoing accreditation for the hospitals and clinics. He asked the Sheriff what areas should be a focus in the next step in improving security through the SFDPH. Sheriff Mirkarimi stated that the Sheriff’s Department is striving to improve the response time so that patients and staff feel safe. He added that alarm systems need to be working properly and protocols for both SFDPH and Sheriff’s staff have to be codified along with provision of proper staff training.

Commissioner Singer asked if an MOU with the Sheriff’s Department the most efficient and cost effective way to provide security at SFDPH sites. Sheriff Mirkarimi stated that the MOU is an investment in the City and wants to continue to improve the partnership between the SFDPH and the Sheriff’s Department. Director Garcia stated that one of the important aspects of the effort to improve security at SFGH is clarifying the role of law enforcement and security activities.

Commissioner Karshmer suggested that outcome measures be developed to evaluate the impact of the Sheriff staff SFGH training; the Health Commission needs this data to help understand if current efforts are having a positive impact. She also stated that she would like information regarding the quality of interactions between Sheriff Cadets and patients. She also requested data showing the frequency of “code green.” Kathy Jung, SFGH Hospital Associate Administrator, stated that a SFGH Committee reviews each “code green” situation thoroughly after the incident and conducts a root-cause analysis.

Commissioner Singer stated that the UCSF consultant report which reviewed all aspects of SFGH security recommended that one staff person be in charge of SFGH security; he asked if this is the planned strategy. Roland Pickens, San Francisco Health Network Director, stated that when the SFGH Security Data Manager positive is filled, the staff person will oversee trainings and will work on operational activities. He added that the Sheriff’s Captain will be in charge of daily security. Commissioner Singer stated that this strategy is not in alignment with what the UCSF consultant stated was necessary. Director Garcia stated that SFDPH will revisit their planned strategy.

Commissioner Chow stated that the SFGH security issues will continue to be reported on and discussed at the SFGH JCC meetings; periodic updates will also be made to the full Health Commission. He requested a presentation on SFDPH-wide security efforts at a future full Health Commission meeting. He also requested an update on any changes in the “911” system.

10) SFDPH PATIENT RATES
Greg Wagner, Chief Financial Officer, presented the SFDPH patient rates.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:
Commissioner Singer asked for information on how many patients pay the rates presented in this item. Mr. Wagner stated that a small portion of the overall SFDPH accounts include these rates but that those accounts in which these rates are paid represent a large portion of revenue.

Commissioner Karshmer asked if these rates bring the SFDPH to the industry standard. Mr. Wagner stated that the rates bring the SFDPH to around 30% of cost-to-charge ratio which is still higher than the industry standard.

Commissioner Chow requested that primary care clinics conduct time-studies to be sure there are in alignment with the hospital rates.

11) UPDATE: PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE HEALTH CARE SECURITY ORDINANCE

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Colleen Chawla, Deputy Director of Health and Director of Policy and Planning, gave the update.

Director Garcia thanked Supervisor Campos and the Health Commission for their flexibility in working with the SFDPH on this issue.

Commissioner Comments/Follow-Up:
Commissioner Chow asked if the proposed legislation does not include a Covered California program option. Ms. Chawla stated that the program may be something new and not contained in what Covered California currently offers.

Commissioner Chow requested that the Health Commission receive a monthly update on this topic; if there is significant news to share, the Health Commission should be updated sooner.

12) OTHER BUSINESS
Commissioner Singer asked Director Garcia for more information regarding a letter from CPMC sent to the Health Commission regarding staffing changes the St. Luke’s Diabetes clinic. Director Garcia stated that she is hoping to meet with CPMC to discuss the matter further and will update the Health Commission as more information is known.

13) JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS
Commissioner Karshner, LHH JCC Chair, stated that at the Committee’s May 27, 2014 meeting, the following Items were discussed: Hospital Report, FY 2013-14 3rd Quarter Financial Report, and Patient Flow. In open session, the JCC approved hospital-wide procedures and medical staff standardized procedures. In closed session, the JCC approved the Credentials report.

14) COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING
This item was not discussed.

15) CLOSED SESSION
   A) Public comments on all matters pertaining to the closed session
   B) Vote on whether to hold a closed session (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.11)
   C) Closed session pursuant to Evidence Code Sections 1157(a) and (b); 1157.7; Health and Safety Code Section 1461; and California Constitution, Article I, Section 1

   PERSONNEL EVALUATION: MARK MOREWITZ, HEALTH COMMISSION EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

   D) Reconvene in Open Session

      Action Taken: The Commission voted not to disclose discussions held in closed session.

16) ADJOURNMENT
The meeting was adjourned at 6:38pm.