

James M. Illig
President

Sonia E. Melara
Vice President

Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner

Margine A. Sako
Commissioner

David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner

Steven Tierney, Ed.D.
Commissioner

Catherine M. Waters, R.N., Ph.D.
Commissioner

HEALTH COMMISSION

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

Gavin C. Newsom, Mayor

Department of Public Health



Mitchell H. Katz, M.D.
Director of Health

Michele M. Seaton
Executive Secretary

TEL (415) 554-2666
FAX (415) 554-2665

Web Site: <http://www.sfdph.org>

MINUTES

HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, March 18, 2008

At

3:00 p.m.

**101 GROVE STREET, ROOM 300 or ROOM 302
San Francisco, CA 94102**

1) CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Illig called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

Present: Commissioner James M. Illig, President
Commissioner Edward A. Chow, M.D.
Commissioner Margine A. Sako
Commissioner David J. Sanchez, Jr., Ph.D.
Commissioner Steven Tierney, Ed.D.
Commissioner Catherine M. Waters, R.N., Ph.D.

Absent: Commissioner Sonia E. Melara, MSW, Vice President

2) APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 4, 2008

Action Taken: The Commission (Chow, Illig, Sako, Sanchez, Tierney, Waters) approved the minutes of the March 4, 2008 Health Commission meeting.

3) APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT CALENDAR OF THE BUDGET COMMITTEE

Commissioner Tierney chaired and Commissioner Chow attended the Budget Committee meeting.

For Approval

(3.1) PHP-STD Prevention & Control – Request for approval of a retroactive contract renewal with Public Health Foundation Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$624,691, which includes a 12% contingency, to provide fiscal intermediary support for the STD Prevention & Control “Syphilis Prevention Project”, for the period of January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2010 (3 yrs).

(3.2) PHP-STD Prevention & Control – Request for approval of a contract modification with Public Health Foundation Enterprises, Inc., in the amount of \$414,214, which includes a 12% contingency, to provide fiscal intermediary services for staff support for HIV Prevention Services which include; Health Education and Risk Reduction, Prevention with Positives and Third-Party Notification services, for the period of January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2008 (2 yrs).

(3.3) PHP-Maternal Child and Adolescent Health – Request for approval to accept and expend a grant from the Vitamin Cases Consumer Settlement Funds, in the amount of \$343,000, in support of a three year project to increase folic acid supplementation among women of childbearing age in San Francisco, for the period of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011.

(3.4) DPH-Administration – Request for approval of a resolution authorizing the Department of Public Health to retroactively accept a gift of Buprenorphine medication from Reckitt Benkiser Pharmaceuticals with a monetary value of up to \$300,000, for ongoing and new patients receiving Opiate Replacement Treatment in San Francisco, for the period of March 1, 2008 through August 31, 2008.

For Discussion and Approval

(3.5) PHP-Housing and Urban Health – Request for approval of a retroactive contract renewal with Mission Creek Senior Community, in the amount of \$1,078,153, which include a 12% contingency, to provide rental subsidies and tenant supportive services to fifty-one Direct Access to Housing residents who are frail, former homeless seniors, for the period of January 1, 2008 through June 30, 2010 (2.5 yrs).

(3.6) CHN-Medical Social Work – Request for approval of a new contract with Protransport-1, in the amount of \$952,000, which includes an initial term of 4 years and 3 months, with 2 options to renew of 2 years in each option, in the amount of \$103,030 per year, and a 12% contingency in the amount of \$102,000, to provide non-emergency ambulance transportation services, for the Department of Public Health, for the term of April 1, 2008 through June 30, 2016 (up to 8.25 yrs).

Secretary’s Note – Item 3.6 and Item 3.7 were presented together.

Commissioners’ Comments

- Commissioner Chow asked why Protransport’s rates are higher than Angotti’s. Sharon Kwong, DPH, said since the budget summary documents were prepared the contract with Protransport was renegotiated and their rates are the same as the rates for Angotti.

(3.7) CHN-Medical Social Work – Request for approval of a new contract with Angotti Health Care Systems dba St. Joseph’s Ambulance Service, in the amount of \$952,000, which includes an initial term of 4 years and 3 months, with 2 options to renew of 2 years in each option, in the amount of \$103,030 per year, and a 12% contingency in the amount of \$102,000, to provide non-emergency

ambulance transportation services for the Department of Public Health, for the term of April 1, 2008 through June 30, 2016 (up to 8.25 yrs).

(3.8) CHN-MIS – Request for approval of a new contract with Morrisey Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$161,009, which includes a 12% contingency, to provide a web-based credentialing and privileging system for the Department of Public Health, for the period of April 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011 (up to 3.25 yrs).

Commissioner Tierney announced that the Commission will be discussing changes to Budget Committee procedures. One change is that agencies that have contracts on the Approval section of the agenda will not need to send a representative to the meeting. The second change is to develop a report of best practices and have selected contractors present these best practices at meetings. The Commission is working out the logistics of these changes, which will be presented at a future meeting.

Action Taken: The Commission (Chow, Illig, Sako, Sanchez, Tierney, Waters) approved the Budget Committee Consent Calendar.

4) GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5) DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Anne Kronenberg, Deputy Director of Health, presented the Director's Report.

Valencia Street Fire

The Department's emergency response team responded to an early evening fire last night in several apartment buildings on Valencia Street that displaced 59 individuals. Of those burned out of the buildings, 21 spent last night at a shelter. A Spanish-speaking DPH staff member is working on site today to assist individuals with prescriptions and other health needs, including assessment for mental health counseling. We will continue to monitor the situation today to determine if additional staff and services are needed. The Human Service Agency and the Red Cross are helping the victims find more permanent housing solutions.

Staff Testifies in Sacramento

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and the California Office of Traffic Safety convened a panel of national experts on Child Passenger Safety in Sacramento recently to assess the California's Occupant Protection for Children Program. Michael Radetsky, DPH Injury Prevention Coordinator, testified about the San Francisco Child Passenger Safety Program that focuses on outreach to low-income, minority communities, such as recent immigrant and refugee families, where English is not the first language. The local program involves community agencies and providers of health services to make sure that infants and children are safely seated in cars. In the past two years, 1896 car seats have been distributed and agencies have conducted 181 educational presentations and done demonstrations and outreach at 32 community fairs.

2008 Crissy Field Center Community Heroes Award

The Crissy Field Center, an urban environmental center, has awarded its 2008 Community Heroes Award to the entire staff of the Children's Environmental Health Promotion unit. The Community Heroes Award honors "the accomplishments, challenges and successes of community members who

work tirelessly to preserve, protect, and raise awareness about our environment.” The Children’s Environmental Health Promotion unit earned the award as a result of its work with citizen advisory groups and community members to ameliorate the effects of lead, asthma, mold and other issues that affect the health of children and youth in an urban environment, particularly in underserved areas. Congratulations to Karen Cohn, David Lo, Harriet Lem, Joe Walseth, Ihsan DuJaili, Amanda Smith, Karen Yu, Meldy Hernandez, Sarah Saavedra, Haroon Ahmad and Gail Herrick.

Our Community Heroes will be honored in a ceremony at Crissy Field Center on Saturday, May 10, 2008, where a year-long exhibit depicting each of the heroes in life-size photographic portraits and companion digital stories will tell their unique experience about making positive environmental changes.

PBS to Air Unnatural Causes

PBS will be airing California Newsreel’s ground breaking series, *Unnatural Causes* starting March 27th. This series describes how the public and certain populations' health and well being are adversely impacted by social and physical factors. California Newsreel worked with national and local county Health Officers in the planning and development of this series, which focuses on non-biological and non-behavioral causes of poor health and disparities.

Four parts are to be shown as follows:

March 27, *In Sickness and in Wealth*

April 3, *When the Bough Breaks* and *Becoming American*

April 10, *Bad Sugar* and *Place Matters*

April 17, *Collateral Damage* and *Not Just a Paycheck*

Public Health Departments, including the San Francisco Department of Public Health and community groups plan to use the video series to address health disparities and to illustrate how to engage in partnerships to reduce the impact of structural, social and environmental determinants of health. DPH pre-screened a segment of the film January 30th in a town hall meeting that focused on ways San Francisco could protect and promote health through land use planning and policy. For more information on the series, go to the website at www.unnaturalcauses.org. For information on DPH activities to promote and use the film as a tool for health equity see the Department's Website at: http://dphwww.sfdph.org/phes/phes_Unnatural_Causes.htm.

Active for Life Program Looking for Team Leaders

The American Cancer Society's Active for Life program is a 10-week, points-based program that allows individual employees to set their own personal exercise goals that get folded into a larger team effort and, ultimately, the Department’s goal. Teams compete with other city departments to see whose employees meet and exceed their exercise goals. It’s easy, fast and a fun way to get active. Over ten teams from the Department of Public Health competed last year with great success.

The Active for Life program is launching again in May and we are encouraging Department staff to participate by identifying captains and forming teams. If any of the Health Commissioners would like to put together a team, join a team or serve as a team captain, please contact Yete.McMahon@sfdph.org.

Hoarding & Cluttering Seminar

The front page of today’s *Chronicle* featured a story on the problem of hoarding and cluttering. Later this evening, the Mental Health Association of San Francisco Institute on Compulsive Hoarding and Cluttering is holding a seminar entitled, “Digging Out: Helping Your Loved One

Manage Clutter, Hoarding and Compulsive Acquiring.” Individuals who acquire and fail to discard possessions create safety and health hazards which frequently lead to isolation and homelessness. Compulsive hoarding and cluttering affects many San Francisco residents, regardless of income or housing status. Last year, at least six individuals in San Francisco were evicted as a result of this condition. A Task Force has been formed to help those affected with the disorder and reduce the likelihood of losing housing. The event is being sponsored by the Mental Health Association, Aging and Adult Services and the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

Commissioners’ Comments

- Commissioner Sanchez said there have been a series of fires in the Mission corridor over the past 20 years and various groups have expressed concerned about inadequate water pressure in this sector. He asked DPH to work with the PUC to see if the water pressure in this area could be increased. Ms. Kronenberg will follow up.

6) APPROVAL OF THE CLOSURE OF THE BRIDGE TO WELLNESS PROGRAM

Gregg Sass, Chief Financial Officer, presented a Budget Status Update. He gave a combined presentation that covered the proposals in Item 6 and Item 7. Mr. Sass summarized budget revisions that bring the Department closer to a balanced base budget: four changes to revenue projections; one change in structural initiatives; and three additional budget reductions—reduction of vacant positions, DCYF to fund \$1.1 million in DPH children’s services, and the closure of the Bridge to Wellness Program. Bridge to Wellness is scheduled to close on May 2, 2008. In addition to these budget revisions, there are a number of reduction initiatives that are pending Health Commission approval. Mr. Sass and Dr. Katz provided additional information on these proposals. Dr. Katz said he is looking for Commission feedback about how to achieve the 15% reduction in unmatched general fund for Community Programs. Once the Commission gives policy principles for achieving the cuts the staff will do the technical work and bring a reduction recommendation to the next Health Commission meeting. He is looking for the same policy direction for the HIV Health Services cuts.

Commissioner Illig called for public comment and Commission discussion and action on the Bridge to Wellness Program.

Commissioner Waters abstained from the discussion of and voting on this item.

Public Comment

Kavoos Bassiri, Executive Director of RAMS, said that Bridge to Wellness has accomplished much in the past 14 years and he appreciates the thousands of clients that have been served by the program since 1994. This has been a successful partnership with SFGH.

Commissioners’ Comments

- Commissioner Chow supports the fact that the reason for the closure is not because the program was not performing as it should, but because the reimbursement rate made it such that general fund would be needed to supplement the program and alternative services are available. This program has been quite successful.

Action Taken: The Commission (Chow, Illig, Sako, Sanchez, Tierney voting aye, Waters abstained) approved Resolution #07-08, "Approving the Closure of the Bridge To Wellness Program," (Attachment A).

7) **FY 2008-2009 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH BUDGET UPDATE AND CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING BUDGET PROPOSALS**

See Item 6 for a summary of the staff presentation.

Public Comment

Larry Nelson, Walden House, said cutting residential beds will just exacerbate the long waiting list for beds. Residential beds are housing.

Rod Libbey, CEO of Walden House, said non profits run on very small margins. Cuts should be minimized and agencies would like to know where they stand in terms of specific cuts.

Jason Yerger, National Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction, asked the Commission to exempt the information center from the 15 percent cut since the services they provide are primary prevention and reject substance abuse cuts.

Arielle Dengrove, National Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction, asked the Commission to not cut the Council's program, which is prevention.

Pamela San Cristobal, National Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction, spoke against cuts to substance abuse programs.

Eddy McLary, Director of the Information Center, National Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction, spoke against cuts to substance abuse services.

Arthur Bosse, Executive Director, National Council on Alcohol and Drug Addiction, spoke against cuts to the Information Center, which provides primary prevention services.

Steve Fields, Executive Director, Progress Foundation, said they have generally supported the across-the-board approach, with some qualifiers: that each agency is allowed to present its approach to cuts and that the cuts are done within previous identified policies.

Jacob Moody, Executive Director of Bayview Hunters Point Foundation for Community Improvement, said he wants the agencies to be able to decide how they implement the cuts.

Jonathan Vernick, Executive Director, Baker Places, said all licensed residential treatment centers should be taken off the cut list.

Eve Meyer, San Francisco Suicide Prevention, spoke against the 15 percent reduction to Community Programs. There are other programs that can be eliminated instead.

Kavoos Bassiri, CEO of RAMS, president of Association of San Francisco Mental Health Contractors, said if the cuts have to happen please allow agencies to direct the process, within certain parameters, to apply the cuts. The department and contractors should sit down and look at the service delivery system.

Ed Melendez, Larkin Street Youth Services, spoke about the impact of the cuts to Community Programs.

Cheryl Barth, Larkin Street Youth Services, spoke about the impact of the cuts to Community Programs. Their other sources of funding are also being jeopardized. They support HSN's position, and knowing the impact of the cuts sooner rather than later.

Megan Corcoran, AIDS Legal Referral Panel, asked the Health Commission to oppose the cuts to HIV health services.

Max Haptonstahl, Mobile Assistance Patrol, spoke against closing Buster's Place and cuts to substance abuse services.

Richard Jimenez, Director of Community Treatment at Walden House, spoke against cutting residential treatment beds.

Jackie Jenks, Executive Director, Central City Hospitality House, expressed support for an across-the-board cuts approach if cuts happen. She spoke about the deep impacts of these cuts.

Elvis Byrd, Central City Hospitality House, Hospitality House, expressed concern about the impact of a 15% cut in Community Programs.

Kenya Hatcher, Program Manager, 6th Street Self-Help Center, spoke about the impact of cuts to Community Programs.

Jenny Wiley, Central City Hospitality House, spoke against the 15% cut to Community Programs and the closure of Buster's Place. Please try to maintain as much of the system as possible.

Michael Badolato, Director of Broderick Street Residential Program, said a 15% reduction in their budget would result in the loss of five staff members who provide services to Broderick's vulnerable population.

Felicia Houston, A Women's Place, said A Women's Place is the only gender specific program of its kind. The program would be impacted by both the Community Program cuts and the cuts to HIV Health Services.

Patrick Regan, CVE, said the budget cuts would have a devastating impact on his agency, at a minimum a 12-month waiting list for clients.

Mike Smith, Executive Director, AIDS Emergency Fund and President of the HIV Providers Network, said the budget proposes a 40% cut in general fund to HIV Health Services. Ask for changes to the formula.

Laura Thomas, co-chair HIV Health Services Planning Council, said the proposed general fund cuts appear to violate maintenance clause of Ryan White CARE Act. Further, HIV Health Services should take the same cut as other Community Programs.

Debbi Lerman, Human Services Network, said if the cuts are implemented, HSN supports an across-the-board approach rather than cuts to certain modalities. Also, we need a planning process that looks at the entire system of care for next year now.

Mark Molnar, co-chair, HIV Health Services Planning Council, said the Planning Council's priorities are currently under review and will not be finalized until next Monday so he asked that the Commission hold off on making a decision about the cuts until the priorities are finalized.

Wai-Ching Kwan said if the SRO Family Collaborative is cut the program is unsustainable.

Tammie Character, Program Manager, Central City Hospitality House, asked the Commission to keep their wrap around services open and oppose cuts to any services that help the homeless.

Jeff Mori, Executive Director of Asian American Recovery Services, said people are feeling insecure about the level of support for the system of care. Please allow the people who participated in building the system be in charge of participating in the implementation of the reductions.

Ed Warshauer, SEIU, spoke against the cuts to Health at Home. This cut, in combination with cuts to the Chronic Care program and Buster's Place is devastating. The budget is a citywide problem. We need to fix this structural problem.

Perry Zinnanti, CATS/Redwood Center/Golden Gate for Seniors, spoke against cuts to licensed residential facilities.

Ms. Kronenberg reported out from the Mayor's emergency meeting on the budget, which she just returned from. The budget deficit has gotten worse since originally projected. They are looking at a \$350 million shortfall. The Mayor is looking for an additional eight percent salary cut, with proposals due by March 29th.

Areas of Agreement/Follow Up

- The resolution will approve all of the items on the reduction spending list expect for Community Programs, HIV and Buprenorphine. (Approved reductions are: SRO Collaborative; reduction of Health at Home Program; administrative reductions/elimination of vacant positions; closure of the Bridge to Wellness Program; request to transfer programs to Children's Baseline.)
- All Community Programs, including HIV Health Services, will be treated equally in terms of the level of cuts.
- The Commission asked for information about the total funding and service categories for the HIV Health Services and the HIV Planning Council's decisions about what goes into CARE.
- Agreed to back out cost of doing business for the CBOs and the UC programs that are scalable and community-based. (Staff to provide the Commission with what is being funded by non-affiliation agreement UC staffing to see what programs and positions are not tied to hospital census.)
- More detailed information about reduction of residential treatment slots and the impact of the HIV cut.
- Staff to bring information about what is left in TB, in terms of services provided.
- Dr. Katz will take a look at structural increases at SFGH and LHH to see if these can instead be applied toward the 8% salary reductions.
- The Health Commission will be prioritizing restorations at a future meeting.
- The next Health Commission resolution will include a whereas clause about staff returning to the Health Commission about the impacts of the budget reductions.

Action Taken: The Commission (Chow, Illig, Sako, Sanchez, Tierney, Waters) approved Resolution #08-08, "Approving Selected Reduction Initiatives for the Department of Public Health for Fiscal Year 2008/09," (Attachment B).

8) CLOSED SESSION

A) Public Comments on All Matters Pertaining to the Closed Session

None.

B) Vote on Whether to Hold a Closed Session (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.11)

The Commission voted to hold a closed session. The Commission went into closed session at 6:45 p.m. Present in closed session were Commissioner Chow, Commissioner Illig, Commissioner Sako, Commissioner Sanchez, Commissioner Tierney, Commissioner Waters, Mitchell H. Katz, M.D., Health Director, John Kanaley, LHH Executive Administrator, Margaret Baumgartner, Deputy City

Attorney, Elizabeth Jacobi, DPH Human Resources Director and Michele Seaton, Health Commission Executive Secretary.

C) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(d)

Action Taken: The Commission (Chow, Illig, Sako, Sanchez, Tierney, Waters) approved settlement of Hill v. City and County of San Francisco, Case No. 458664, in the amount of \$55,000

D) Reconvene in Open Session

The Committee reconvened in open session at 6:47 p.m.

1. Possible Report on Action Taken in Closed Session (Government Code Section 54957.1(a)2 and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(b)(2).)

2. Vote to Elect Whether to Disclose Any or All Discussions Held in Closed Session. (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(a).)

Action Taken: The Commission (Chow, Illig, Sako, Sanchez, Tierney, Waters) voted not to disclose any discussions held in closed session.

9) **CLOSED SESSION**

A) Public Comments on All Matters Pertaining to the Closed Session

None.

B) Vote on Whether to Hold a Closed Session (San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.11)

The Commission went into closed session at 6:47 p.m. Present in closed session were Commissioner Chow, Commissioner Illig, Commissioner Sako, Commissioner Sanchez, Commissioner Tierney, Commissioner Waters, Mitchell H. Katz, M.D., Health Director, Ellen Shapiro, Deputy City Attorney, Mark Lipton, Deputy City Attorney, Gene O'Connell, SFGH Executive Administrator, Troy Williams, SFGH Director of Risk Management and Michele Seaton, Health Commission Executive Secretary.

C) Closed Session Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9 and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.10(d)

Action Taken: The Commission (Chow, Illig, Sako, Sanchez, Tierney, Waters) approved settlement of Weatherspoon v. City and County of San Francisco, Case No. 452083 in the amount of \$5,150,000.

D) Reconvene in Open Session

The Committee reconvened in open session at 7:00 p.m.

1. Possible Report on Action Taken in Closed Session (Government Code Section 54957.1(a)2 and San Francisco Administrative Code Section 67.12(b)(2).)

Action Taken: The Commission (Chow, Illig, Sako, Sanchez, Tierney, Waters) voted not to disclose any discussions held in closed session.

10) OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Illig announced that next week's Health Commission meeting will be held at the CHN Administration Building.

11) **COMMISSIONER REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/JOINT CONFERENCE
COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

12) **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.



Michele M. Seaton
Health Commission Executive Secretary