

**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

**James M. Soos**  
Acting Executive Secretary

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## MINUTES

### HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

**Tuesday, September 15, 2009**

**At**

**4:00 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 4:10pm

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

2) **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF  
SEPTEMBER 1, 2009**

The Commission (Illig, Melara, Sako, Sanchez, Tierney, Waters) approved the minutes of the September 1, 2009 meeting with the following modifications: 1.) Under item 10, Commissioner Sako requested an update of the paramedics in firehouses because DPH is still involved in the medical quality of the EMS system. 2.) Under item 10, Commissioner Illig, Commissioner Sanchez, and Commission Waters will sit on the Hiring Committee.

3) **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**San Francisco General Hospital Long-Term Care Licensing Survey**

San Francisco General Hospital & Trauma Center underwent its annual Long-Term Care licensing survey on September 1-9, 2008. California Department of Public Health (CDPH) surveyors

inspected the Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) in the Behavioral Health Center as well as the Medical-Surgical SNF in the Main Hospital. The surveyors recommended several areas for improvement, with most of the recommendations requiring only minor improvements. The CDPH surveyors remarked during their exit conference that SFGH has an excellent long-term care program. I would like to specifically thank the hard work of Alfredo Abarca, Peggy Wilson, Yifang Qian, Ana Sampera, Margo Dextrose-Cardova, and the Regulatory Affairs team. Congratulations on a successful LTC licensing survey!

### **U.S. Department of Justice Completes Site Visit to Laguna Honda Hospital**

The U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ) completed its regularly scheduled site visit to Laguna Honda Hospital on September 4. The DOJ clinical consultants are making periodic visits to gauge implementation of the 2008 settlement agreement.

LHH discharge and community reintegration efforts received high marks from the DOJ team members, who said that progress on reintegration has exceeded expectations under the settlement. As a result of the success of the hospital's discharge efforts, the DOJ community living consultants will exercise their option under the settlement terms to forgo the next site visit. Congratulations to Laguna Honda social services director Janet Gillen for a job well done.

DOJ consultants monitoring other LHH quality improvement initiatives urged nurses, physicians and medical records custodians to capture more accurately the care being delivered by improving chart notes and coding practices. Chart and coding improvements will be the focus of work leading up to the next visit, scheduled for January 25, 2010.

### **SF FIRST Program Featured on KALW**

SF FIRST (San Francisco Fully-Integrated Recovery Services) serves vulnerable homeless and marginally housed clients and is a partnership between DPH, the Human Services Agency, and Community Awareness & Treatment Services (CATS). In addition to providing outreach, case management and medical care, SF FIRST promotes recovery and independence among its clients by providing vocational rehabilitation, recreation, and peer services.

SF FIRST initiated a unique 12-week client-guided program, POWER (Peer Outreach Workers Exemplifying Recovery) to address the quality of life of their clients and to help them help themselves to meaningful living. POWER was recently featured in public radio KALW's (91.7 FM) *Cross Currents* broadcast, aired on 8/24/09. The report was also carried nationally on NPR. Here is a link to the podcast: [http://www.crosscurrentsradio.org/podcast/?p=episode&name=2009-08-24\\_web\\_2009\\_08\\_24.mp3](http://www.crosscurrentsradio.org/podcast/?p=episode&name=2009-08-24_web_2009_08_24.mp3).

### **SFGH Makes Additional Strides in HIV/AIDS Care**

SFGH has become the first hospital-based lab in the United States to offer a prospective test for HIV patients who are considering abacavir antiretroviral drug therapy. For some patients, this medication can cause a serious and often fatal skin condition known as Stevens Johnson Syndrome. It is therefore crucial to find out who is a good candidate for abacavir and who is not.

Alan Wu, Ph.D., Chief of the Clinical Chemistry Laboratory and Brad Hare, MD, of the Positive Health Program, worked with researchers from Perth, Australia to devise a test that can answer the question in days that used to take weeks and require a costly trip to an outside lab.

We are proud to note another successful innovation from the clinical staff of SFGH and congratulate them and all of the staff who worked on this project.

### **HIV Prevention Section Presents at National HIV Prevention Conference**

At the recent National HIV Prevention Conference, the HIV Prevention Section gave multiple presentations on San Francisco's current prevention efforts, including one by Dr. Moupali Das-Douglas, "Population-Based Monitoring of ART Effectiveness--Correlates of Virologic Suppression and Extremely High Viral Loads." This analysis looked at all the HIV-positive people in San Francisco who were receiving antiretroviral therapy and examined what factors were associated with a good clinical outcome (undetectable viral loads <75 copies) and an undesirable clinical outcome (viral loads more than 100,000 copies). Geographic disparities such as living in a neighborhood with low median household income or being homeless, and clinical disparities, including lack of engagement in primary care, were associated with having extremely high viral loads. These findings suggest that efforts to continue to address these disparities, such as efforts to increase access to and engagement in care, and to provide supportive housing for HIV/AIDS patients, could improve virologic outcomes and health. Additional presentations highlighted San Francisco's efforts to expand rapid HIV testing and detect recent (acute) HIV infection.

### **Feeling Good Project Celebrates National Fruit & Vegetable Month**

On September 16, the Feeling Good Project will be hosting a table at the Heart of the City's Farmers Market in the Civic Center from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. This is an annual event that the nutritionists and health workers plan to raise the public's awareness of the importance of incorporating more fruits and vegetables into our diet. During the Farmer's market staff from the Feeling Good Project will be distributing nutrition education materials and cookbooks and providing special thank you gifts to the farmers who grow and bring this important fresh food resource to our city. For more information on the Feeling Good Project go to:

<http://www.sfdph.org/dph/comupg/oprograms/MCH/FeelingGood.asp> or call 575-5689.

### **Laguna Honda Hospital Welcomes New Chief Financial Officer**

I am pleased to announce the hiring of Tess Navarro as Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for Laguna Honda Hospital and Rehabilitation Center. Tess has been the CFO of the City's Health Service System since 2005. She has an excellent record of managing complex accounting and fiscal operations in a health care setting, and we are confident that her leadership and technical skills will be a good match for Laguna Honda at this important moment in its organizational development.

*I also want to extend our appreciation and thanks to Valerie Inouye for her hard work in providing the leadership as CFO for both San Francisco General and Laguna Honda for the past few years.*

## **COMMUNITY HEALTH NETWORK SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL & TRAUMA CENTER**

September 2009

**Health Commission - Director of Health Report**  
(08/31/09 MEC)

|                         | <b>09/09</b> | <b>07/09 to 06/10</b> |
|-------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| <b>New Appointments</b> | <b>25</b>    | <b>55</b>             |
| Reinstatements          |              | <b>1</b>              |
| <b>Reappointments</b>   | <b>46</b>    | <b>99</b>             |
| Delinquencies:          | <b>0</b>     | <b>0</b>              |

|                                   |           |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Reappointment Denials:            | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  |
| <b>Resigned/Retired:</b>          | <b>18</b> | <b>46</b> |
| Disciplinary Actions              | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  |
| Restriction/Limitation-Privileges | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  |
| <b>Deceased</b>                   | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  |
| <b>Changes in Privileges</b>      |           |           |
| Additions                         | <b>7</b>  | <b>12</b> |
| Voluntary Relinquishments         | <b>2</b>  | <b>14</b> |
| Proctorship Completed             | <b>7</b>  | <b>42</b> |
| Proctorship Extension             | <b>0</b>  | <b>0</b>  |

|  |             |  |
|--|-------------|--|
| <b>Current Statistics – as of 08/17/09</b> |             |  |
| Active Staff                               | <b>515</b>  |  |
| Courtesy Staff                             | <b>581</b>  |  |
| Affiliate Professionals (non-physicians)   | <b>242</b>  |  |
| <b>TOTAL MEMBERS</b>                       | <b>1338</b> |  |

|  |            |
|--|------------|
| <b>Applications In Process</b>                           | <b>20</b>  |
| <b>Applications Withdrawn Month of September 2009</b>    | <b>2</b>   |
| <b>SFGH Reappointments in Process 10/2009 to 12/2009</b> | <b>146</b> |

Dr. Katz noted that the H1N1 vaccines will be available sooner than previously thought. DPH recently received a grant for \$280,000 from an anonymous foundation to help with the H1N1 response. Dr. Katz explained that some of this grant money will fund health care workers to answer the public's case-specific questions regarding H1N1 throughout the year.

Commissioner Illig asked if senior citizens will remain towards the lower end of the priority list for the H1N1 vaccine. Dr. Katz responded that the supply of vaccines may be limited this fall, but if initial delivery of supplies is large, then seniors will likely receive the vaccine. Seniors are not as of high risk for H1N1 than other groups, such as pregnant women and children.

Commissioner Sanchez suggested that in light of the alleged 2,000 cases of H1N1 at Eastern Washington University and the media attention regarding H1N1 has attracted, it is important to make sure DPH disseminates accurate information and valid protocol to the public to stop the spread of misinformation as the flu season approaches.

4) **GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT\*\***

None.

**5) CITYWIDE HEALTH PLANNING & EFFECTIVENESS COMMITTEE REPORT**

Commissioner Melara presented the Citywide Health Planning and Effectiveness Committee Report. She gave an update on the progress of the San Francisco Health Report Card.

**6) SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL REBUILD UPDATE**

Sue Currin, Executive Administrator, SFGH; Terry Saltz, SFGH Assistant Hospital Administrator; Ron Alameida, SFGH Rebuild Project Manager, Dept. of Public Works presented an update on the SFGH Hospital rebuild. A copy of this presentation is attached and hereby incorporated into these minutes. Ms. Currin, Ms. Saltz, and Mr. Alameida emphasized the timeline, budget and bond sale, job creations and local business enterprises associated with the rebuild.

Commissioner Comments/Requests for Follow-Up:

Commissioner Tierney praised how the rebuild strives to improve care for both seniors and young people.

Commissioner Waters asked if SFGH's Emergency Department will be fully functional throughout the rebuild. Mr. Alameida answered in the affirmative.

Commissioner Illig asked Ms. Currin about the total number of inpatient psychiatry beds. Ms. Currin responded that the current plans are for 50 acute and 18 non-acute beds, totaling 68 psych beds that will remain in the current building.

Commissioner Illig asked how much the SFGH Foundation Committee is seeking to raise of the \$130 million cost of the Furnishing, Fixtures, and Equipment. Ms. Currin responded that the SFGH Foundation Committee will strives to raise half of that amount

Commissioner Illig inquired where the remaining funding for the rebuild would come from if the SFGH Foundation raises half of the total amount needed. Dr. Katz answered that the General Fund would cover the rest.

Commissioner Sanchez praised the collaboration between program planning and outreach throughout the rebuild.

Commissioner Sako asked Mr. Alameida to describe the construction bidding process. Mr. Alameida explained that there is a stream of bidding activities broken down by project that are integrated with general contractors. The primary bids have gone out, and one bid has already come in at about \$16 million. Smaller bids for other projects, such as creating handicapped parking, are in the process of being negotiated with local businesses.

Commissioner Sako asked what the original estimates were and what the bids are now. Mr. Alameida responded that the next bid package of \$35 million will come in soon and that overall, bids are coming in below the budgeted amount for the project. More bids will be available around March, 2010.

Commissioner Illig praised the list of communication activities and encouraged the administrators at SFGH to meet with smaller community groups.

Commissioner Illig drew attention to the letter from a parent of a patient, which praised the medical personnel at SFGH

7) **APPROVAL OF THE AMENDMENTS TO THE SAN FRANCISCO GENERAL HOSPITAL MEDICAL STAFF BYLAWS**

Todd May, M.D., SFGH Chief of Staff presented the amendments to the SFGH Hospital Medical Staff Bylaws. Dr. May highlighted two major changes to bylaws. Article 6 outlines the new hospital wide code of conduct in order to advance patient safety and meet a joint commission mandate. Article 10.16 has been changed to advance patients safety and performance improvement.

Action Taken:

The Commission (Illig, Melara, Sanchez, Tierney, Waters, Sako) unanimously approved the amendments to the San Francisco General Hospital Staff Bylaws.

8) **FY 2008-09 YEAR-END FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Gregg Sass, Chief Finance Officer, presented the 2008-2009 Year-End Financial Statement. Sass reported that DPH currently has a surplus of \$42,736,000 and experienced an \$8.35 million improvement during the fourth quarter. Mr. Sass noted that these results are preliminary and changes may be made through November 2009. A copy of his presentation is attached and hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Commissioner Comments/Requests for Follow-up:

Commissioner Illig asked if DPH could have avoided the mid-year cuts and still been financially stable. Mr. Sass explained that the budget cuts were inevitable. The federal stimulus money received was attributed to the 2009-10 budget and could not be applied to 2008-09 budget and prevent the mid year budget cuts.

Commissioner Illig asked how much of the promised HCCI funds were collected from Health San Francisco last year. Mr. Sass reported that last year the amount was closer to \$15 million. Mr. Sass explained that as more people enroll in the program, the cost of the service increases. Additionally, the grant awarded to the program defined the poverty level lower than what DPH anticipated. These changes hindered the ability to enroll as many people as possible under HCCI funding for Healthy San Francisco.

Commissioner Illig asked if the \$75 million awarded over three years will be lowered to \$50 million. Mr. Sass answered in the affirmative and noted that the eligibly criteria were narrowly defined by the Federal government.

8) **FY 2009-10 BUDGET STATUS UPDATE**

Gregg Sass, Chief Finance Officer, gave an update on the FY 2009-2010 Budget Status. Mr. Sass emphasized the cuts and restorations, noting that the majority of restorations were service related. Mr. Sass reported that the final budget includes \$42.5 million in reductions. A copy of his presentation is attached and hereby incorporated into these minutes.

Commissioner Comments/Requests for Follow-up:

Commissioner Sako asked about positions that were restored in the budget and if the proposed restorations will affect planned layoffs.

Commissioner Melara asked if anyone has spoken with the Mayor's Office regarding the cost benefit analysis of cutting clerical positions. Dr. Katz noted that DPH is the only department that has eliminated almost all of the secretaries. He noted that this choice was not desired that DPH may be able to hire new employees who are not clerical workers, but have the skills to perform some clerical responsibilities.

Commissioner Tierney suggested that laying off nurses would force the Board of Supervisors to reconsider their budget principles. Dr. Katz noted that it is early in the budget process and there is no target yet for midyear cuts.

Commissioner Waters expressed agreement regarding the adverse secondary effects on quality of care that could result from laying off clerical staff.

Commissioner Sako inquired if the City can mandate furloughs. Mr. Sass explained that the City cannot order a furlough because of the structure of union MOUs. The City and the unions, however, could agree to furloughs.

Commissioner Illig expressed concern about the structural costs that result from overspending. Commissioner Illig urged the Commission to pay close attention to which cuts the Board of Supervisors restores. He suggested the Commission investigate which services can be contracted out to prevent future layoffs.

**10) REVIEW OF HEALTH COMMISSION BUDGET PRINCIPLES**

The Commission agreed to postpone the review of Health Commission Budget Principles to the October 6, 2009 Health Commission meeting.

**11) DISCUSSION ON UPCOMING JOINT HEALTH AND PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 17, 2009.**

Commissioner Illig confirmed the Commissioners' attendance to the September 17, 2009 Joint Health and Planning Commission meeting. Commissioner Tierney is the only Commissioner unable to attend. He urged the Commission to think about what should be accomplished at this meeting.

Commissioner Sako asked if the subcommittee on the CPMC IMP met. Commissioner Tierney reported that the subcommittee on the CPMC IMP, whose members include Commissioners Tierney, Chow, Melara, and two community representatives, has yet to meet.

Commissioner Sako suggested future PowerPoint presentations to the Health Commission be limited to 12 slides or less. Presenters may assume that the Commission has reviewed the material prior to the meeting.

Commissioner Melara stated that the Health Commission is responsible for reviewing agenda items and background materials prior to the meetings in order to maximize productivity during the meetings. She suggested Health Commission meetings be limited to two hours.

12) **OTHER BUSINESS\*\*\***

**JOINT CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORTS**

None.

**COMMITTEE AGENDA SETTING POSSIBLE ACTION:**

None.

13) **CLOSED SESSION**

The Commission postponed the Public Employee Performance Evaluation of Director of Health, Mitchell H. Katz, M.D. to the October 6, 2009 Health Commission meeting.

14) **ADJOURNMENT**

The Commission at 6:10p.m.

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Grace Alderson  
Acting Health Commission Executive Secretary

Attachments (3)