

Minutes for January 23, 2003

Commissioners Present: Bernie Goldner, Matt Farrell and Michael Weatherford
Staff: Betsy McCarty and Argelia Soria
Presenters: Bob Kennedy (Environmental Health), Bobbie Herndon (HSA Clinics),
Nan Lewicky and Christy Keiffer (Population Services International)

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 12:05 PM.
 - Introductions were made.
2. **Approval of Minutes:**
 - A motion was made to approve October 2002, meeting minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.
3. **Public Input: None**
4. **Announcements:**
 - The Public Health Commission Annual Report 2002 was distributed and reviewed.
 - A motion was made to accept and approve the Annual Report. The motion was seconded and passed.
5. **Communications:**
 - A copy of the Latino Affairs Commission agenda was passed around.
 - A Letter dated October 31, 2002, regarding West Nile Virus was reviewed.
 - Summit on the Uninsured Planning Committee 11/15/02 e-mail was discussed.
 - Central Coast Alliance for Health 2001/02 brochure was reviewed.
6. **Review of Sewage Spills**
 - Sewage spill report was distributed and discussed by Bob Kennedy.
7. **Discussion of Bioterrorism- current status**
 - Betsy announced that Smallpox vaccinations would be starting in late February or early March. Betsy indicated that the Public Health Department is working very closely with the local hospitals. Betsy announced that the new Public Health Manager leading All Hazards Planning is Marcy Abrams. **Betsy will invite Marcy to a future meeting.**
8. **Emergency Room – Utilization Status**
 - Lack of neurosurgery capacity in local hospitals was discussed.
9. **Medi-Cruz Co-Payments and Impact on Utilization**
 - Bobbie Herndon, Chief of Clinics, gave an update. Bobbie reported that patients go through a financial and medical screening. The amount of staff time working with patients on benefits advocacy has increased. Clinic staff meets every two weeks to monitor the status of the cost containment measures.
 - Clinic staff donates money to put towards patients' co-payments.
10. **Presentation- Condom Vending Machines**

Nan and Christy from PSI, introduced themselves and described their campaign to promote the installation of condom vending machines.

- A motion was made to write a letter to the Health Services Agency Administrator that discussed the issue and the commission's support for condom vending machines. A copy of this letter will be sent to the Board of Supervisors and to other County Commissions. The motion was seconded and passed.

11. West Nile Virus Surveillance

- Bob Kennedy from Environmental Health gave an update regarding the West Nile Virus. Bob distributed a brochure titled "California Surveillance and Facts about West Nile Virus". Additional copies can be obtained at www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/dcdc/dcdindex.htm . Bob announced that he is part of the Technical Advisory Committee that is trying to put together a plan for West Nile Virus Surveillance. Virus activity will likely spring up in August and September and carry on into fall.
- Bob will be invited to give an update at the Public Health Commission's summer meeting.

Next meeting date: March 27, 2003, from 12:00 to 1:30 PM