

## WASHOE COUNTY DISTRICT BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES

### Members

Kitty Jung, Chair  
Julia Ratti, Vice Chair  
Neoma Jardon  
Dr. George Hess  
David Silverman  
Dr. John Novak  
Michael D. Brown

Thursday, July 23, 2015  
1:00 p.m.

Washoe County Administration Complex  
Health District South Conference Room  
1001 East Ninth Street  
Reno, NV

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### 1. \*Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Chair Jung called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

The following members and staff were present:

Members present: Kitty Jung, Chair  
Julia Ratti, Vice Chair (arrived at 1:13 p.m.)  
Dr. George Hess  
David Silverman  
Mike Brown  
Dr. John Novak

Members absent: Neoma Jardon

Staff present: Kevin Dick, District Health Officer, ODHO  
Leslie Admirand, Deputy District Attorney  
Anna Heenan, Administrative Health Services Officer, AHS  
Mike Wolf, Air Quality Supervisor, AQM  
Daniel Inouye, Air Quality Supervisor, AQM  
Steve Kutz, Division Director, CCHS  
Randall Todd, Division Director, EPHP  
Bob Sack, Division Director, EHS  
Christina Conti, EMS Program Manager, EPHP  
Brittany Dayton, EMS Coordinator, EPHP  
Erin Dixon, Fiscal Compliance Officer, AHS  
Dawn Spinola, Administrative Secretary/Recording Secretary, ODHO

Ms. Spinola verified a quorum was present.

### 2. \*Pledge of Allegiance

**Jim Gubbels, REMSA President, led the pledge to the flag.**

### **3. \*Public Comment**

Any person is invited to speak on any item on or off the agenda during this period. Action may not be taken on any matter raised during this public comment period until the matter is specifically listed on an agenda as an action item.

**As there was no one wishing to speak, Chair Jung closed the public comment period.**

### **4. Approval of Agenda**

July 23, 2015

**Dr. Novak moved to approve the agenda for the July 23, 2015, District Board of Health regular meeting. Dr. Hess seconded the motion which was approved six in favor and none against.**

### **5. Approval of Draft Minutes**

June 25, 2015

**Chief Brown moved to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2015 District Board of Health regular meeting as written. Dr. Novak seconded the motion which was approved six in favor and none against.**

### **6. Recognitions**

#### **A. Years of Service**

1. Melissa Bullock, 10 years hired 7/15/2005 – EPHP

Mr. Dick congratulated Ms. Bullock and presented her with a commemorative certificate.

2. Jennifer Howell, 15 years, hired 7/3/2000 – CCHS

Mr. Dick congratulated Ms. Howell and presented her with a commemorative certificate.

3. Charlene Albee, 20 years, hired 7/31/1995 – AQM

Ms. Albee was not in attendance.

### **7. Consent Items**

Matters which the District Board of Health may consider in one motion. Any exceptions to the Consent Agenda must be stated prior to approval.

#### **A. Budget Amendments/Interlocal Agreements**

1. Ratification of Interlocal Agreement between Washoe County Health District and the University of Nevada School of Medicine Integrated Clinical Services, Inc., and University of Nevada School of Medicine Multispecialty Group Practice North, Inc., to provide physician consultative services for the Sexually Transmitted Disease clinic in the total amount of \$10,710 per year, for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 unless extended by the mutual agreement of the Parties; with automatic renewal for two successive one-year periods for a total of 3 years on the same terms unless either party gives the other written notice of nonrenewal at least 60 days prior to June 30 of each year; and if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute the Contract.

Staff Representative: Patsy Buxton

2. Ratification of Interlocal Agreement between Washoe County Health District and the University of Nevada School of Medicine Integrated Clinical Services, Inc., and University of Nevada School of Medicine Multispecialty Group Practice North, Inc., to provide medical director services for the Family Planning clinic in the total amount of \$9,000 per year, for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016 unless extended by the mutual agreement of the Parties; and if approved, authorize the Chairman to execute the Contract; Authorization of travel and travel reimbursements for non-County employee(s) to be determined by the School, in the amount not to exceed \$1,500.

Staff Representative: Patsy Buxton

## **B. Donation Acceptance**

1. Accept cash donation in the amount of \$700 from Michael Maier and Dyana Ireland.

Mr. Dick acknowledged the generous donation provided as a gift to the Health District in appreciation for assistance received through the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program. He noted he intended to send a letter of gratitude on behalf of the Board and that staff would put out a press release.

Dr. Novak asked if Counsel had reviewed the contracts. Deputy District Attorney (DDA) Admirand indicated she had and they were acceptable.

Chair Jung explained any item requiring legal review went through an approval process prior to being placed on the agenda. She noted the staff reports that were heard by the Board of County Commissioners had the signatures of the reviewers on it so the Commissioners could see the item had been reviewed and approved. DDA Admirand explained current Health District approval procedure involved a routing slip that was not currently part of the packet. Chair Jung opined it should be.

**Dr. Novak moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Mr. Silverman seconded the motion which was approved six in favor and none against.**

## **8. Air Pollution Control Hearing Board Cases Appealed to the District Board of Health:**

- A. Recommendation to Deny the Appeal and Uphold Citation No. 5460, Case No. 1174 – Mr. Khalid Ali – Desert Sunset Motel and Bar

Chair Jung swore in all members of the audience and staff that intended to provide testimony.

Mr. Wolf presented the staff report. He explained Air Quality Management (AQM) staff had been alerted to construction being performed at the hotel that AQM had no record of or permits on file for. Mr. Ali initially indicated there had been no asbestos survey conducted on the materials that had been removed. Further investigation demonstrated that the survey had been conducted and shown much of the material being removed did contain asbestos.

Mr. Ali stated he did not know who had conducted the work, so citations were issued for the work that had been performed and violations of the AQM regulations.

Mr. Ali appealed the citation and the case was heard by the Air Pollution Control Hearing Board (APCHB). The Board upheld the violation and recommended reduction of the fine from \$7,600 to \$5,600. Mr. Wolf explained AQM staff had initially offered the \$5,600 fine to Mr. Ali as a negotiated settlement.

Dr. Hess asked who was responsible when that type of activity was being performed. Mr. Wolf explained the property owner was ultimately responsible, but the contractor can also be

held liable.

Mr. Ali presented a letter to the Board which Chair Jung read into the record. The full text of the letter is as follows:

I used to own three motels in Reno, NV. They were the 1) Desert Sunset Motel, 2) Everybody's Inn Motel, and 3) Ho Hum Motel. But because of the numerous attacks by government agencies, and since September 11, I am just about to lose all of these motels. It is almost impossible to stay in business. Numerous attacks have happened in my motel on different occasions and in the name of violations. My story has been covered by the Reno-Gazette Journal, News Channel 8, News Channel 4 and other news media outlets.

I am enclosing the paperwork which has been provided to me by different government agencies. All these agencies are from 1) City of Reno, 2) Washoe County, 3) State Government, and 4) Federal Agencies. In June of 2008, in the name of a sweep and while this country was going through a recession, it seemed like the whole town was attacking the motels. Which in my opinion is totally in disregard for civil rights. Those different agencies who attacked my motel in the name of violation has been called by the City of Reno. The code enforcement agent named Robert Rice was invited to OSHA so I could be fined very heavily by them in the amount of \$6,000 plus expensive requirements to get extensive testing done for asbestos-related matters, so the property could go bankrupt. And it all happened because I expressed my views on Channel 8. I can provide you the tape from Ed Pierce.

It seems to me that these government agencies target more likely Indian original motel owners. For example, the Ace Motel, Crest Inn, Castaway and Lake Mills Lodge. They closed down the Ponderosa Motel, Regency Motel and my motel, Everybody's Inn, in the name of so-called violations.

At the end of this letter I would like to back up my claims with all of the necessary paperwork. I would like to bring to your attention that me and other Indian original motel were very heavily fined with the slogan: "Fine, fine, everything is fine, nothing but fine." The magnitude of fine is so great as former Attorney General Eric Holder put that in Jefferson Missouri, blacks were disproportionately fined, as compared to white property owners. The end result is that Eric Holder quit his job and in Reno, I end up losing my business because of discrimination against me. My life is nothing but a re-run of the Mississippi Burning movie. I would appreciate it if you would look into my case. Thank you.

Mr. Ali stated the issue was that the government agencies were treating him in a heavy-handed fashion when it came to violations of the law. They had auctioned off Everybody's Inn and Ho Hum and were about to do the same with Desert Sunset.

Chair Jung asked what his defense was with respect to the violations. Mr. Ali stated he had insurance and had had a contractor come out to remove the asbestos and write a letter of clearance that he would be providing to the Board. He stated he was waiting for the contractor to finish the work. He also noted he would be selling the property.

Mr. Ali stated his property had been inspected seven times since November. He opined the law stated inspections should only occur twice annually. Chair Jung clarified the Health District was required by law to investigate health violations. DDA Admirand was not aware of which law Mr. Ali was referencing and he was unable to cite a specific statute.

Chair Jung pointed out to Mr. Ali that his appeal was to reverse the decision made by the APCBH. The District Board of Health (DBOH) was responsible for determining if there was a violation and if or how it had been mitigated. It was not up to them to determine if there was a pattern of abuse or discrimination. She strongly suggested that if that was the issue he should file a complaint with the proper authorities.

Dr. Hess stated he was unclear about when the work was started and when the inspection was done. Mr. Ali stated the work had not yet started, he knew nothing about it and the bar had been closed so he had not been there for eight months. He further stated that no one had done any work on his behalf. He suggested the damage had been caused by drug dealers that he had evicted.

Chair Jung asked Counsel who was responsible for the condition, care, maintenance, and removal of asbestos of a property. DDA Admirand responded the ultimate responsibility lies with the owner of the establishment.

Dr. Novak asked Mr. Wolf if the picture of the ceiling, partially torn out, and a ladder, was taken during staff's first inspection. Mr. Wolf explained the hole was a result of the water damage that got all of the different enforcement agencies involved. He noted it had already been repaired once. Dr. Novak repeated his question about the ladder. Specialist Suzanne Duggar verified the ladder had been there during the initial investigation. Dr. Novak noted that indicated some work had been done previously.

Mr. Ali explained other work had been done and he had obtained permits for it. Chair Jung reiterated it was his responsibility to secure and maintain the property. Mr. Ali opined that since this was a case of vandalism against his property he did not cause it. He felt his only recourse had been to contact the police and he had done that. Dr. Hess asked to see the police report and Mr. Ali stated he did not have it with him, but verified it had been filed. He pointed out the report had been a necessary component of his insurance claim. Dr. Hess asked when the report had been filed and Mr. Ali replied the incident had happened on May 30 and he had filed the report within a week.

Shirley Pascuci stated that while the events were occurring she was instructed not to go into that room. She verified the ceiling had been repaired previously and not by a licensed contractor. Chair Jung asked if the work that was done was related to drug activity or to repair it and Ms. Pascuci stated it was to repair it. Mr. Ali responded that Ms. Pascuci had gone to the hospital after entering the room she was instructed not to in response to an advertisement about possibly contracting health challenges and filing for damages.

**Dr. Novak moved to uphold the Air Pollution Control Hearing Board decision and increase the fine of Desert Sunset Motel and Bar to \$7,600. Chief Brown seconded the motion.**

**Vice Chair Ratti abstained as she had not been present for the entire hearing.**

Dr. Hess stated he voted against raising the fine. Dr. Novak reiterated Mr. Ali had been offered the reduced fine at arbitration and had declined it.

Chair Jung restated the motion, which had been seconded, was to uphold the findings and change the fine to \$7,000. She then requested a vote.

**The motion was approved three in favor, Mr. Silverman and Dr. Hess opposed.**

Mr. Silverman noted the original motion had been to impose a fine of \$7,600, not \$7,000. He added he was not in favor of going back to the original dollar amount of the fine.

DDA Admirand stated it would be necessary to re-open the item, clarify and vote again.

**Dr. Novak moved to rescind his motion and restated that he moved the Board**

**uphold the findings of the Hearing Board and reinstate the original amount of the fine to \$7,600. Chief Brown, as the seconder, agreed to remove the first motion and second the second motion.**

**Vice Chair Ratti stated the motion on the floor was to approve the fine, resetting the fine to the original amount of \$7,600, including upholding the citation 5460, Case No. 1174 in the amount of \$7,600.**

**The motion was approved three in favor, Mr. Silverman and Dr. Hess opposed and Vice Chair Ratti abstaining.**

**9. Acceptance of the Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District Spring 2015 Open Burn Pilot Project Report and Direction on Future Pilot Projects**

Staff Representative: Charlene Albee

Mr. Inouye presented the staff report on behalf of Ms. Albee. He explained DBOH regulations governing air quality prohibited open burning during the wintertime particulate matter season, which was typically November through February. The rule allows local fire control agencies to administer an open burn permit program.

Mr. Inouye noted that in January 2015, the Board approved a pilot project to modify the period when open burns are prohibited, and it began on February 14. Four conditions needed to be demonstrated for the project to be considered a success. Two were met, one could not be determined and one was not met.

Chair Jung asked if requests that were received from the serious non-attainment area and incomplete requests were denied or allowed. Mr. Inouye stated they were not denied and AQM has assumed they were approved and conducted. He reiterated the rules allow the local fire agencies to implement an open burn program. During the application process those requests should have been screened out by Truckee Meadows Fire Protection District (TMFPD). Maps had been developed which help identify which parcels are inside or outside of the hydrographic area.

Chair Jung asked if Mr. Inouye knew how TMFPD provided oversight over the open burn program. Mr. Inouye explained one of their main functions was to declare when fire season begins. They are also required to receive applications for open burns, which should be administered and screened. Chair Jung asked if the information contained in the spreadsheet attached to the staff report was maintained and provided to AQM by TMFPD on an ongoing basis. Mr. Inouye stated the information contained was generated specifically for the pilot project. AQM had received the applications and developed the table. Chair Jung asked if the spreadsheet was a comprehensive list of all open burning that had occurred during the pilot project. Mr. Inouye explained it was a list of all applications submitted to TMFPD and it was agreed that it was likely there were many more open burns had not gone through the application process.

Dr. Hess asked if the project had been a success or failure. Mr. Inouye reiterated four conditions needed to be demonstrated for the project to be considered a success. Two were met, one could not be determined and one was not met. The two that were met were related to very favorable weather. The one that could not be tested had to do with determining if burning was stopping during a yellow or red burn code. During the test period all the codes were green. Dr. Hess opined that meant that the condition related to burn code status could be discarded and Chair Jung agreed. The final condition was specific to conditions within the regulation and several were not met.



Dr. Hess opined it had been a success and noted TMFPD was requesting to reinstitute the program next year. He asked if AQM was proposing to support or oppose it. Mr. Inouye noted a portion of the request before the Board was to provide direction on future projects. Other opportunities to extend the season would be spring and fall. AQM was not in favor of the November season as the climate was unique and inversions may start to occur. Spring would be a more favorable option.

Mr. Inouye stated AQM would not be in favor of another pilot project based on the fact Condition 4 had not been met, to include no open burning within the hydrographic area and a number of the applications did not contain information about the materials burned. Regulations specify what can and cannot be burned. As there had been no cross-check of what was burned, it cannot be verified that the condition was met. Chair Jung clarified staff cannot confirm or deny and Mr. Inouye stated that was correct.

Vice Chair Ratti opined there were some good results and not so great processes. She asked if better processes could be implemented if there were to be another pilot program, and if so, would that be the responsibility of AQM or TMFPD. Mr. Inouye explained the test had met the goals. He opined that if the processes were improved, they could expect to see similar results. The responsibility fell to both agencies.

Vice Chair Ratti stated there was another public good being achieved through open burning, which was reduction of fuel accumulation, reducing the intensity of fires. Additionally it would create defensible space. That good needed to be weighed against the public good of air quality.

Dr. Hess asked Mr. Inouye to clarify what he thought should be done next year. Mr. Inouye stated AQM did not support utilizing either of the shoulder seasons, primarily because Condition 4 was not met and although the statistics gathered regarding the number of non-approved or non-regulated numbers was relatively small, they were critical.

Mr. Dick opined it was important to look at both public health and public safety and it would benefit the community to have an extended open burn season in the spring. He agreed fall could be problematic. TMFPD had indicated they were willing to work to improve administration of the program. Chair Jung pointed out it had been a pilot project, designed to uncover problems that needed to be addressed and to provide a learning opportunity. She noted the items that had been brought up were expectations that needed to be met for the next project, which would not be another pilot. Dr. Hess noted the recommendations referred to another pilot project.

Mr. Dick recommended another pilot project so that AQM staff had the opportunity to work with TMFPD to address the areas stated and hopefully have a successful program.

Vice Chair Ratti stated she did not need another evaluation and report but did need a plan on how things would be done better in the future.

**Vice Chair Ratti moved to accept the Spring 2015 Open Burn Pilot Project Report and direct staff to work with the fire agencies necessary to come back with a plan to implement a project with better process results. Chief Brown seconded the motion which was approved six in favor and none opposed.**

Vice Chair Ratti asked if it were all of the jurisdictions were engaged or just TMFPD, and Mr. Inouye stated the pilot project was specific to TMFPD.

## **10. Regional Emergency Medical Services Authority**

Presented by Jim Gubbels

A. Review and Acceptance of the REMSA Operations Reports for June, 2015

Chair Jung asked Mr. Gubbels if he had anything to add to the information presented in the staff report and he replied he did not.

**Dr. Novak moved to accept the report as presented. Mr. Silverman seconded the motion which was approved six in favor and none against.**

\*B. Update of REMSA's Community Activities during June, 2015

Mr. Gubbels noted the update was included in the Board packet, it included a thank you letter and a published article on the Nurse Healthline.

#### **11. Presentation, discussion and possible approval of the Mutual Aid Evacuation Annex (MAEA) update**

Staff Representative: Brittany Dayton

Ms. Dayton presented the staff report. She noted the MAEA is the annex to the Mass Casualty Incident Plan (MCIP) and it specifically addresses a disaster at a medical facility that would require an evacuation. She provided a Power Point presentation (attached Exhibit A) that gave an overview of the work that had gone into the update and the revisions that were made. The patient evacuation/tracking process was the primary focus of the revisions and region supported transitioning to using the DMS Evac1-2-3 system, which she outlined.

Ms. Dayton sincerely thanked the community partners that participated in the project and asked the attendees to stand and be recognized. Chair Jung thanked Ms. Dayton and the partners in the audience.

Ms. Dayton requested that if the Board chose to approve the update that they make it effective November 1 so that there is enough time to order supplies and train hospital staff.

**Vice Chair Ratti moved to approve the proposed revisions to the MAEA of the MCIP effective November 1, 2015. Chief Brown seconded the motion which was approved six in favor and none against.**

#### **12. Acknowledge receipt of the Health District Fund Financial Review for June Fiscal Year 2015**

Staff Representative: Anna Heenan

Ms. Heenan presented the staff report. She noted that staff was still in the process of completing end-of-year closing, and reviewed updates to the information that had been provided in the staff report, which included a budget surplus. She noted FY16 expenditures were expected to exceed revenues so it was important to continue to look for ways to reduce costs or increase cost recovery on services.

Dr. Hess noted what appeared to be anticipated reductions in revenue and asked if those had been accounted for when planning for the FY16 budget. Ms. Heenan explained some expenditures were still in flux, impacting the budget. Staff anticipated both the increased revenue and the expenditure savings in the preparation of the FY16 budget. She indicated no problems were anticipated but reiterated it was important to look for savings and cost recovery. One method would be to increase fees.

Chair Jung asked if a marker had been included in the budget to cover anticipated labor cost increases. Ms. Heenan explained the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) and health insurance cost increases were included, but not wages.

**Chief Brown moved to accept the report as presented. Mr. Silverman seconded the motion which was approved six in favor and none against.**



**13. Discussion, and possible direction to staff regarding updating Environmental Health Services and Air Quality Management fees to include the most current salaries, benefits, indirect costs rates, and other operating expenses, present the updated fees to the community and bring back to the Board the fees for consideration and possible adoption.**

Staff Representative: Erin Dixon

Ms. Dixon presented the staff report. She noted all fees had not yet been calculated as staff had opted to obtain Board direction prior to conducting the work. She noted numerous expenses, such as vehicle costs, were not accounted for as part of the current fee structure. She pointed out that preliminary estimates had been provided within the staff report.

Ms. Dixon explained staff had reviewed different methodologies and arrived at the proposed methodology to include the expenses. The current methodology included the certified amount of time it is required for staff to perform activities associated with a task, a portion of the technology supplies and a percentage of the indirect cost rates.

Ms. Dixon went on to note that for the updated fee methodology, staff was able to utilize detailed time accounting. The proposed methodology will utilize the certified average amount of staff time it takes to perform activities, but update it to utilize FY16 salaries and benefits. Direct expenses, such as auto, operating supplies, office supplies, technology, required staff training and credit card fees would now be included. Additionally, a proportional amount of support staff time, administrative tasks, accrued benefits such as holidays, leave time, and the full indirect cost rate will now be included. Ms. Dixon noted cost recovery for activities and supplies that are not tied to a specific permit would be excluded.

Ms. Dixon noted an example of a preliminary estimate was the fees for a restaurant permit, which would increase from \$152 to \$453. She noted the fees had not been increased in some time and had not included the other items. She pointed out the proposed four percent regional technology fee for Accela would be added to that amount. She stated staff was recommending an automatic annual index based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI).

Ms. Dixon explained the notification, hearing and approval timeline was aggressive, as the goal was to have the new fees go into effect when Accela is launched on December 21. The overall revenue increase was anticipated to be approximately \$2 million. The increases were not expected to meet full cost recovery as some expenses cannot be charged.

Mr. Silverman expressed he was fully in favor of the increases. To garner more partner support, he suggested phasing the fees in over two periods. Dr. Hess agreed. He noted that in his past, indirect costs had been covered by grants and asked what County indirect costs paid for. Ms. Dixon explained there were three items. One was for the overall Health District, one was for Health District administration, and one for was divisional administrative overhead. She offered to provide the percentages and Chair Jung requested she do so.

Chief Brown supported the idea of the annual increase matching Western CPI and asked if the review by the Board would be held each three years or each five or if that had been decided. Ms. Dixon noted it had not yet been decided and requested a recommendation.

Vice Chair Ratti stated she had a high confidence level that the process and numbers were good and that the information was accurate. She noted the last time fees were raised, the stakeholders had asked to know why, and she had promised that they would receive that information. She strongly supported the idea of the Board only reviewing the fees every three or five years instead of annually. She stated she agreed with the recommendation to phase in the increase.

Chair Jung agreed with all of Vice Chair Ratti's statements. She stated she did not feel the Health District was in the business of subsidizing businesses. She noted the cities can charge anything they wish, but the County could not. The County and Health District were required to quantify all staff time for fees. She discussed how fees were handled during the recession and how the local businesses had benefitted.

Vice Chair Ratti clarified that the City of Sparks had conducted a fee analysis during the depths of the recession and they only had control over four percent of the fees, the rest were set by State Legislature.

**Vice Chair Ratti moved to direct staff to update the Environmental Health Services and Air Quality Management fees according to direction provided during discussion.**

Vice Chair Ratti opined staff would come to a better conclusion if the Board did not provide excessively strict direction. Mr. Dick suggested the Board allow staff to proceed with the proposed methodology. He opined it would be important to be able to present the calculated fee during the workshops. He suggested the Board allowed staff the flexibility to bring an item back to the Board that would provide room for their deliberation on how it might be implemented.

**Vice Chair Ratti moved to direct staff to update the Environmental Health Services and Air Quality Management fees to include the most current salaries, benefits, indirect cost rates and other operating expenses, present the updated fees to the community, and bring back to the Board the fees for consideration and possible adoption. Additionally, the report should include a summary explaining why the District engages in the activities that result in the fees and after public input, when the plan is brought back to the Board, it comes back with options for phasing. Mr. Silverman seconded the motion which passed six in favor and none against.**

**14. Approval of authorization to travel and travel reimbursements for non-County employee Dr. John Novak in the approximate amount of \$1,505, to attend the 2015 NALBOH conference in Louisville, KY August 5-7, 2015.**

Staff Representative: Kevin Dick

Mr. Dick opined the staff report was self-explanatory and reiterated that Dr. Novak had agreed to attend the conference and represent the Health District.

**Mr. Silverman moved to approve authorization to travel and travel reimbursements for non-County employee Dr. John Novak in the approximate amount of \$1,505, to attend the 2015 NALBOH conference in Louisville, KY August 5-7, 2015. Dr. Hess seconded the motion.**

Dr. Novak noted the conference included numerous sessions covering accreditation and he intended to attend as many as possible, as he felt it was pertinent to the District's future. Chair Jung requested he attempt to find out what the benefits of accreditation are. Dr. Novak stated that was at the forefront of what he intended to learn.

**The motion was approved six in favor and none against.**

**\*15. Staff Reports and Program Updates**

**A. Air Quality Management, Charlene Albee, Director**  
Program Update, Divisional Update, Program Reports

Mr. Wolf stated he had nothing further to add but would be happy to answer questions.

Dr. Hess expressed concern about predictions that ozone levels would be increasing. He asked if there was anything the Health District could do to educate the population or update regulations so there would not be repercussions when the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces more stringent standards.

Mr. Wolf noted that the intentions of the EPA were not yet known. If Washoe County air quality readings ended up being higher than a new standard, efforts that are now voluntary will need to become mandatory.

Mr. Inouye pointed out a major source of ozone is transportation, so AQ is working with the local agencies to help implement voluntary behavior changes. One factor is the land form, so AQ staff is working with the Planning departments to create land use plans that help reduce dependence on automobiles.

Dr. Hess asked if there was anything the Board could do to help. Mr. Inouye suggested the information presented at the Board be brought to the Councils and Commission or the other groups and partners that the members are associated with.

Vice Chair Ratti noted that a number of years ago the community had had the opportunity to invest in public transportation and roads and had decided to proceed with investments in roads but not for public transportation. She suggested all the Board members should discuss the need for public transportation and attempt to locate the funding.

Dr. Novak explained his previous city of residence had worked with the state to synchronize traffic lights to minimize idling. He opined that was quite a problem in Reno and Sparks.

#### **B. Community and Clinical Health Services, Steve Kutz, Director**

Divisional Update, Program Reports

Mr. Kutz displayed the Facebook pages for the Immunization and Sexual Health programs. He then presented a YouTube video testimonial created by Jessica Ponce, Public Health Associate, describing some of the valuable lessons she had learned during her time with CCHS.

Dr. Novak congratulated Mr. Kutz on becoming president of the [Human Services Network](#).

#### **C. Environmental Health Services, Bob Sack, Director**

EHS Division Update, Program Updates - Food, IBD, Land Development, Safe Drinking Water, Vector-Borne Disease, Waste Management, and EHS Inspections / Permits / Plan Review

Mr. Sack stated he had nothing to add but was available to answer any questions.

#### **D. Epidemiology and Public Health Preparedness, Dr. Randall Todd, Director**

Program Updates for Communicable Disease, Public Health Preparedness, and Emergency Medical Services

Dr. Todd stated he would be addressing a question asked by the Board recently, which was how many times and for how long might REMSA be out of ambulances. He noted there was no direct way to answer, so they had found an indirect solution.

Dr. Todd explained they do not track when REMSA runs out of ambulances, as that would bring up the question of for how long, which is not currently tracked. He emphasized the statistics had to do with tracking performance, not compliance. Staff tracked the time

between call and ambulance assignment and time between call and clock start and compared the results against a national standard. Tables enclosed in the Board packet showed the results of the study. Dr. Todd emphasized the number of times that REMSA did not meet the standard did not imply that an ambulance was not available, there may be other contributing factors.

Ms. Conti distributed an addendum, which began to look at the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) data. Dr. Todd explained the addendum that was distributed and the correlation to the REMSA data discussed. Specifically, the PSAP information can be utilized to attempt to determine what might have delayed REMSA from getting started on the call so that staff could address the concern that Fire was sometimes waiting an excessive amount of time for REMSA to arrive.

Vice Chair Ratti asked if the number of calls going directly to REMSA instead of through the 911 system might have anything to do with the Community Health Line. Dr. Todd stated he did not have an answer for that but could look into it. Mr. Gubbles indicated he also did not have any statistics with him but believed it was less than two percent of the time that the calls were referred to the emergency medical personnel.

Vice Chair Ratti noted it was incredible to have the data that was available, even though the entire system was not yet in place. She reiterated this was not about compliance, it was about system performance. She opined what had changed was the shared investment in EMS staff and in building better relationships so the discussions could occur. She noted she was optimistic that if that level of analysis and dialog before all the tools were in place that the kind of information that will be available when they are in place will be quite impressive. She expressed her thanks to everyone involved in continuing to move it forward.

**E. Office of the District Health Officer, Kevin Dick, District Health Officer**

Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP), Truckee Meadows Healthy Communities (TMHC), Quality Improvement (QI), Fundamental Review, Other Events and Activities and Health District Media Contacts

Mr. Dick reviewed the update for the CHIP, noting good initial support for the selected priorities. He stated the Community Health Festival held on July 22 had been well-attended and numerous organizations were there providing a variety of services. The event was planned to be the first of many. Washoe County TV was there so some information about the Festival will be posted to the web.

Mr. Dick noted the QI initiative was underway and all staff will have attended training by the end of September.

The Phase One program cost analysis was in progress and it was anticipated that it would be presented to the Board in September. Mr. Dick expressed his appreciation to the Board for supporting the Fundamental Review as the recommendations had served the District well.

Mr. Dick noted he had taped an interview with Face the State on July 8. A link to that is on the District's Facebook page.

Dr. Novak asked who set up the activities at the Festival. Mr. Dick replied it was organized under a subcommittee of the TMHC coalition, on which the District participates. The District had participated in the planning process along with Renown and others. The goal is to continue to function as part of a coalition so it remains a community effort.

Vice Chair Ratti stated her support for the priorities selected and asked what was being done to leverage existing planning efforts. Mr. Dick explained that was where the workgroups fit in as they would be comprised of people who are already working in those areas so that a plan can be constructed that takes advantages of initiatives that are already occurring. Part of the selection process took existing opportunities into account. Representatives from many organizations will be brought in to form the workgroups.

Mr. Dick went on to explain that the CHIP is going to be a plan that the Health District has helped frame for the community, and the intention is that it be carried forward by commitments developed during the process through the various agencies working together.

Chair Jung expressed her appreciation for Mr. Dick's efforts on the CHIP, Healthy Communities and 89502 projects and opined it seemed to be something he enjoyed. She stated she felt he was doing a great job and had heard the same from others.

**\*16. Board Comment**

Chair Jung reminded Ms. Spinola to be sure that future staff reports contained sign offs so the public is informed that the Board members know that the items have been reviewed and approved by Counsel and others as necessary.

**17. Emergency Items**

None.

**\*18. Public Comment**

Any person is invited to speak on any item on or off the agenda during this period. Action may not be taken on any matter raised during this public comment period until the matter is specifically listed on an agenda as an action item.

**As there was no one wishing to speak, Chair Jung closed the public comment period.**

**19. Adjournment**

**At 3:00 p.m., Dr. Novak moved to adjourn. Dr. Hess seconded the motion which was approved six in favor and none against.**

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Respectfully submitted,



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Kevin Dick, District Health Officer  
Secretary to the District Board of Health



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Dawn Spinola, Administrative Secretary  
Recording Secretary

Approved by Board in session on August 27, 2015.