

ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION
MEETING OF February 09th, 2023
MINUTES



The mission of the Public Health Commission shall be to review and assess emerging health needs; initiate and improve health and disease prevention programs and policies; make recommendations regarding opportunities for building community capacity as related to public health priorities; and advocate for adequate resources and increased County action to improve community health.

Attendance Record (P = Present, A = Absent)

Dist . #	Member Name	Term Exp.	01/12 /23	02/09/ 23	03/09/2 3	04/13/2 3	05/11/ 23	06/08/2 3	07/13/2 3	08/10/2 3
1	Hurst, David	07/01/24	A	P						
2	Castillo, Nestor	12/07/24	P	P						
2	Sahi, J	11/19/23	P	P						
2	Bhaiji, Ammar	10/7/23	A	P						
3	Boller, Gerg	01/29/23	A	A						
3	Bolton M. Carolyn	02/21/24	A	A						
3	Varela, Rebekah	04/21/24	A	P						
4	Harper, Zhonnet	07/02/24	P	A						
4	Howard, Gary	11/28/23	P	P						
5	De La Pena Medina, Mitzy	03/23/23	P	A						
5	Budge, Jason	01/9/24	A	P						
5	Temple Perry, Koren	10/26/23	A	A						

At-Large	Van Cleve, Juliana	9/19/24	P	P						
At-Large	Chowdhury, Mifta	9/13/23	P	P						

Staff:

- Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Alameda County Public Health Department, Director
- Evette Brandon, Alameda County Public Health Department, QIA Director
- Jessica Amen, Alameda County Public Health Department, PHC Staff Support

Public: N/A

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CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

- Chair Castillo calls the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- N/A

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Motion made by Commissioner Howard
- Seconded by Commissioner Budge

BROWN ACT VOTE

- Motion made by Commissioner Castillo
- Seconded by Commissioner Hurst

STAFF REPORT

Jessica Amen, Support Staff

New District 3 Commissioner Varela is joining us today.

All commissioners introduced themselves and their work professions.

Quorum: To determine if in-person meetings of the commission will be held. Commissioners who intend to participate virtually must inform Support Staff beforehand.

Emergency order: According to Director Watkins-Tartt, all public health meetings can now be attended in person or online by the public, who also have the option to participate in person.

All Bill of Lists must be forwarded to all commissioners not only HEiAP Commissioners.

March PHC meeting will be held at CVUSD.

Many Commissioners preferred PHC Meeting to be close to Bart station (San Leandro), making it more accessible to the public as well.

Chair Castillo advised commissioners that are not involved with subcommittees to join.

Update for March agenda: Steering Committee brings it up.

Commissioner Budge wants to see a potential presentation on either HIV or STi (Will not be at the PHC March meeting) specifically: Community program, and epidemiology data on HIV (prep) health disparities. Also,

Commissioner Budge will like to know more about program funding, and how they use that for like community clinics, or if there are community clinics that they partner with. Alameda County HIV landscape. **This will be on the April PHC Meeting agenda.**

Commissioner Bhaiji will like to know more about Medicaid and Medicare enrollment process. **This will be on the April PHC Meeting agenda.**

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

The report is mostly on COVID because a lot of things are coming up regarding change. Director Watkins-Tartt gave a Covid report update.

Epidemic Data Key Points:

- Daily reported COVID-19 cases rate now flat after 2 – month decline
 - 95 hospitalized, 8 ICU
 - The wastewater signal is mixed.
 - Alameda County in CDC “Low” COVID-19 Community Level
 - Flu and RSV situations improved.
- Conditions are substantially better than in the prior two winters.

What can residents do about COVID-19 and other respiratory viruses?

- Stay home when sick.
- Stay up to date on vaccinations.
- Keep gatherings smaller and outside or well-ventilated.
- Wear masks for greater protection.
- Test for COVID-19.
- Have the plan to get treatment.

Change to Health Orders

Level of Government	Date of Change	Change	What Remains
Federal	March 31, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Medicaid continuous coverage requirement ends 	
	May 11, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disaster Declaration & Public Health Emergency end • Medicaid COVID uninsured program ends 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FDA Emergency Use Authorizations end date TBD (not May 11) • Free vaccine until supply runs out. • Cost of testing may rise.
State	February 28, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of Emergency Declaration Ends • Waivers end on regulations • Reduce state resources & staffing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The timeline for remaining State health orders (e.g., masking) is TBD.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Testing, vaccines, and treatment covered by insurance- eventually will need to be within the insurer network
Local/County	February 28, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aligning with State to lift local Health Emergency Orders, if conditions permit • End requirements for general isolation, isolation & quarantine in corrections testing in Long-Term Care Facilities – move to recommendations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Align with State & CDC ongoing guidance. • Shift from response to prevention. • COVID-19 work integrated into ongoing public Health program
	60 days after local health emergency ends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board of Supervisors eviction moratorium is set to expire 60 days after the local health emergency ends 	

What to expect going forward:

- Emergencies are ending but COVID-19 will remain part of our lives.
- Greatest risk is for the older adult and those with serious health conditions.
- New variants will emerge.
- Our understanding of the short and long-term impacts of infection will grow.
- Treatments and vaccination strategies should continue to evolve.
- Public health strategies may come to resemble those for influenza.

Public Health COVID Services

- Shift from a purely response-driven approach.
- Reduced Ongoing Services
 - Focus on Infection Prevention & Outbreak Guidance
 - Supporting LTCFs and other vulnerable congregate settings
 - Treatment Education and Outreach will shift to provider education.
 - Community Vaccinations, popups, in Home Vaccinations
 - Community Testing with increased Outreach and education
- Coordination with Community Partners
- Community Support/Referrals will transition into PH Nursing
- Dashboards, Data Management streamlined.
- Therapeutic Coordination

Optum Serve Testing Site Updates

- San Leandro Marina Community Center closed permanently on 1/22/23.
- Mobile testing bus shut down on 2/5/23.
- Optum serves San Pablo Park, 2800 Street, Berkeley will close permanently on 2/28/23.

Community Testing Services Continue

- 10 Testing Vendors
- 22 Stationary Sites
- Hosting 61 Events per week including mobile events
- Rapid Testing, PCR testing, and At Home Kit Distribution + COVID Care information
- Co-location of services, resources with vaccination and basic needs whenever possible
- LaClinica and La Familia currently still support access to treatment.
- Target population: uninsured/underinsured, communities most impacted by COVID/racial/health disparities.
- Testing websites provide up-to-date test site information: <https://covid-19.acgov.org/testing>

LEADERSHIP REPORT

- Health Equities in All Policies.
- Communications and Community
- Nominations Committee
- Ad-Hoc Committee
- Oral Health Committee

COMMITTEE UPDATES

- **Medi-Cal Ad Hoc Committee:** No update
- **Nominations:** No updates
- **Oral Health:** No updates
- **The Oral Health committee services.**
- **Health Equities in All Policies** – only Commissioner Harper is chair and has only one member commissioner Budge. Usually the 4th Tuesday of the month.
- **Communications and Community Outreach** – Commissioner Howard sends out some flyers to different chambers that circulate in English and Spanish regarding the Feb 15th at Cherryland Community Facility. La Clinica, La Familia, Tiburcio Vasquez Health Center, CVU and San Lorenzo Unified.

Black Joy Parade: Starts around 12:00 pm, an all-day event. Chair Castillo is to have a volunteer from each district attend.

Commissioner Budge will be there.

Commissioner Sahi will be there.

Commissioner Chowdhury might be there, but not sure yet.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS: No general announcements.

ADJOURN

If you would like to RSVP for the next meeting, please do so at phcommission@gmail.com.
Please visit the Public Health Commission blog at <http://acphc.wordpress.com/> for information on how to become a member, bylaws, meeting schedules, and more.