



**ALAMEDA COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION  
MINUTES for October 12, 2023, 6:00-8:00 pm**

**Location: Alameda County Public Health Department, 1100 San Leandro Blvd, Suite 402, San Leandro**

**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, Calendar year 2023**  
(P = Present, A = Absent, EA=Excused Absence)

| Dist # | Member Name              | Term Exp. | 1/12/23 | 2/09/23 | 3/09/23 | 4/13/23 | 5/11/23 | 6/08/23 | 7/13/23 | 8/10/23 | 9/14/23 | 10/12/23 |
|--------|--------------------------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1      | Hurst, David             | 07/01/24  | A       | P       | P       | P       | A       | P       | P       | A       | P       | P        |
| 1      | Ramchandani, Harsha      | 12/07/24  |         |         |         |         | P       | A       | P       | P       | P       | P        |
| 1      | Narayan, Rajiv           | 01/30/25  |         |         | P       | P       | P       | P       | P       | P       | P       | P (v)    |
| 2      | Castillo, Nestor         | 12/07/24  | P       | P       | P       | A       | P       | P       | P       | P       | P       | P        |
| 2      | Sahi, Jatinderpal        | 09/20/25  | P       | P       | P       | A       | P       | P       | A       | P       | P       | A        |
| 2      | Bhaiji, Ammar            | 10/7/23   | A       | P       | A       | A       | A       | A       | A       | E.A.    | A       | A        |
| 3      | Boller, Greg             | 01/30/25  | A       | A       | A       | P       | P       | A       | P       | A       | P       | P        |
| 3      | Jim Meyers               | 02/11/24  |         |         |         |         | P       | P       | P       | P       | P       | A        |
| 3      | Varela, Rebekah          | 04/21/24  | A       | P       | P       | A       | A       | A       | A       | A       | A       | A        |
| 4      | Harper, Zhonnet          | 07/02/24  | P       | A       | P       | P       | A       | P       | P       | P       | P       | P (v)    |
| 4      | Howard, Gary             | 11/28/23  | P       | P       | P       | A       | P       | P       | E.A.    | P       | A       | A        |
| 5      | De La Pena Medina, Mitzy | 03/24/25  | P       | A       | P       | P       | P       | A       | P       | P       | P       | P        |
| 5      | Budge, Jason             | 01/9/24   | A       | P       | A       | P       | P       | A       | E.A.    | P       | P       | P        |

|          |                     |          |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |          |          |
|----------|---------------------|----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----------|----------|
| 5        | Temple Perry, Koren | 10/26/23 | A | A | P | P | A | A | A | A | A        | A        |
| 5        | Miskelly, Sally     | 01/26/25 |   |   |   |   | P | P | P | P | A        | P        |
| At-large | Van Cleve, Juliana  | 09/19/24 | P | P | P | P | A | A | P | A | A        | EA       |
| At-large | Chowdhury, Mifta    | 09/13/23 | P | P | P | A | P | A | P | A | resigned | resigned |

**Attendance:**

**Presenters** – In person: Michelle Lewis, Matthew Woodruff, Lao P Vang (Alameda alliance for Health); Virtual: Director Kimi Watkins-Tartt, Eileen Ng, Jessica Blackmore

**Commissioners** - In person: Sally Miskelly, Nestor Castillo, Mitzy De la Pena Medina

Jason Budge, Greg Boller, Harsha Ramchandani, David Hurst; virtual: Rajiv Narayan, Zhonette Harper. Notified absence: Juliana Van Cleve.

**Staff:** In person: Evette Brandon, Linda Franklin; virtual: Zandra Washington

**Guest:** Gary Blodger

| Time | Agenda Item             | Description & Task  | Lead   | Actions  |
|------|-------------------------|---|--|--|
| 6:00 | Call to Order & Welcome | Introductions   | Chair Castillo                               | Called to order at 6:13pm  |
| 6:05 | Public Comment*         |   | Public                                       | None   |
|      |                         | <b>Reports and Presentations</b>                                    |  |  |
| 6:10 | Approval of Minutes     | Vote for the approval of July, August and September meeting minutes | Chair Castillo, Vice Chair De La Pena Medina | Deferred: Quorum not met.  |
| 6:10 | Staff report            | Staff updates   | Zandra Washington<br>Support staff           | Zandra is developing a checklist for event planning, will be out to commission leadership later this month.<br>New staff to support the commission coming on board by the end of the month.<br>Com. Harper inquired about TV studio access. Evette Brandon emailed P.I.O Austin Wingate.<br>Vice-Chair de la Pena Medina asked for update on Social Media, in particular Facebook. Staff will provide update on at the October Communications and Outreach meeting |

|      |                   |  |   |  |
|------|-------------------|--|---|--|
|      |                   |  |   | Com. Nayaran requested a Brown Act Training: will be coming in the new year, cross council training opportunity.   |
| 6:15 | Chairs report     | Updates on PHC business                                    | Chair Castillo & Vice-chair De La Pena Medina | Measure A discretionary funds: Chair Castillo shared the available funds by supervisor: District 1 has \$451,000. D 2 has \$394,000, D 3 has \$200,000. D 4 has \$209,000, and D 5 has \$346,000. Castillo shared that commissioners could inform community groups of funds available.   |
| 6:30 | Director's report | Presentation: Public Health infrastructure and investment. | Director Kimi Watkins-Tartt                   | <p>Com. Narayan watched the Directors report to the BoS Health Committee and recommends that others watch it. Link requested: provided <a href="#">here</a>.</p> <p>PHD and HCSA had visit with CDC Director Mandy Cohen and media event with at a senior assisted living facility in San Leandro California dept of health doing a site visit tomorrow Oct 13.</p> <p>Question about change in health orders with the end of the pandemic. Director Watkins-Tartt talked about Bay Area wide orders for health care facilities for the winter months requiring health care personnel to wear masks in hospitals, skilled-nursing facilities, surgery centers, etc for respiratory illness prevention.</p> |
| 6:55 |                   | <b>BREAK</b>   |   |  |
| 7:00 | Presentation      |  | Alameda Alliance for Health                   | Alliance CEO Woodruff described the transition as Alameda Alliance becomes the sole Medi-Cal plan, in 2024, as Anthem goes away Dec 30, 2023. Slides are attached. Expressed confidence that Alliance providers would be able to absorb Anthem patients. Com. Miskelly and Ramchandani expressed concern about capacity and waiting lists for specialty care at Highland. Coms. Expressed need for staff training on the transition and for the Health PAC members (residents w/ 'unsatisfactory immigration status' and limited English   |
| 7:30 | Presentation      | Eileen Ng and Jessica Blakemore                            | All   | <p>Presenters spoke about Legislative process, close out of the Legislative year, status of bills that HCSA and BoS supported. Slides attached.</p> <p>Chair Castillo asked for example of how PHC has been involved in policy work in the past. Example given: a Federal bill related to expanding access to clinical trials. PHC recommendation was reviewed, eventually supported by the BoS.</p>   |

|      |                       |                               |                  |  |
|------|-----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|--|
|      |                       |                               |                  | <p>Guest Blodger inquired about new funds for violence Prevention. Evette Brandon shared update on Violence Prevention RFP and funds for local work. New law providing care courts for mental health patients were discussed. recommended that we look at SF response. Chair Castillo said they would review.</p> <p>Com. Narayan asked about pharmacies in unincorporated area, will forward reference to Ng and Blakemore to review/share with Sup Carson.</p> |
| 7:55 | Committee updates     | Updates on committees         | Committee chairs | Nominations Committee: reviewed possible actions for next month's election of chair.   |
| 8:00 | General Announcements |                               | All              | None   |
| 8:00 | Adjourn               | The formal end of the meeting | All              |  |

