

**Minutes**  
**STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**March 9, 2018**  
**9:00 a.m.**

Division of Public and Behavioral Health  
4150 Technology Way, Room 303  
Carson City, Nevada 89706

Southern Nevada Health District  
Red Rock Trail Room A & B  
280 S. Decatur Blvd.  
Las Vegas, Nevada 89107

Division of Aging and Disability Services  
Early Intervention Services  
1020 Ruby Vista Drive, Suite 102  
Elko, Nevada 89801

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeffrey Murawsky, M.D. (Las Vegas)  
Jon Pennell, DVM (Las Vegas)  
Charles Smith (Las Vegas)  
Judith Bittner (Carson City)  
Dipti Shah, M.D. (phone)  
Monica Ponce, DDS (phone)

**DIVISION OF PUBLIC & BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (DPBH) STAFF PRESENT:**

Julie Kotchevar, Administrator, Vickie Ives, Section Manager, Christine Pool, Health Program Specialist, Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator, Sandi Larson, State of Nevada Epidemiologist, Leon Ravin, Acting Chief Medical Officer

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Linda Anderson, AG, Nicki Aaker, CCHHS, Lesley Pittman, Reno Diagnostic Centers, Joanna Jacob, Ferrari Public Affairs, Brian Evans, NSMA, Lea Cartwright, NAO, Cari Herington, NNC, Blayne Osborn, NRHP, John Ellerton, NSMA, Connor Cain, CCCN, Catherine O'Mara (phone), Kevin Dick, WCHD (phone)

Chair Pennell opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Chair Pennell indicated the meeting agenda was posted in accordance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum of the State Board of Health was present.

Chair Pennell introduced Ms. Kotchevar, the new Administrator for the Division of Public and Behavioral Health.

**Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes by Dr. Murawsky, seconded by Dr. Ponce and carried to approve the minutes of December 8, 2017.

**Consent Agenda:**

Appointment of Linda Gabor, MSN, RN to the Advisory Board on Maternal and Child Health according to NRS 422.133.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**CHAIR PENNELL ENTERTAINED A MOTION ON ITEM 3, CONSENT AGENDA. A MOTION BY DR. MURAWSKY TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WAS MADE AND SECONDED BY DR. PONCE; THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Approval of Tests for Bloodborne Pathogens for Occupation Diseases as Described in NRS 617.481.** Sandi Larson, MPH, State of Nevada Epidemiologist

Ms. Larson recommended the State Board of Health approve the use of CDC guidelines and tests for HIV, Hepatitis C and Hepatitis B.

Dr. Murawsky expressed concern regarding the implementation time of when CDC makes a change.

Ms. Anderson stated if there were any concerns regarding the CDC guidelines not wanting to be utilized, it would be brought back to the Board. CDC guidelines take time and if there are any issues it would have to be brought back to the Board.

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

**CHAIR PENNELL ENTERTAINED A MOTION ON ITEM 4, APPROVAL OF TESTS FOR BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS FOR OCCUPATION DISEASES. A MOTION BY DR. MURAWSKY TO APPROVE WAS MADE AND SECONDED BY DR. PONCE; THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Consideration of Approval or Denial of Variance #691, NAC 432.250 1A- Trinity Lutheran Childcare Center.** This item was withdrawn from the agenda.

**Consideration and Adoption of Proposed Amendments to NAC Chapter 457, LCB File No. R057-16RP2, Reporting Information on Cancer.** Christine Pool, Health Program Specialist, Julia Peek, Deputy Administrator

Ms. Pool provided an overview of the amendment. The main purpose of the amendment is to improve compliance with cancer reporting requirements in Nevada and to ensure uniform

application of standardized data definitions and codes. The Nevada Central Cancer Registry measures progress in preventing and treating cancer. The proposed amendments will realign Nevada's regulations with updated national guidelines and recommendations, improve compliance with cancer reporting requirements to avoid underreporting, ensure complete, timely and quality production of cancer incident data and improve data use for cancer control and prevention. During the Board of Health meeting in September 2016, the proposed regulations did not pass, and it was suggested to make additional regulation changes and another workshop be held. Workgroup meetings were held with representatives of medical facilities and providers of healthcare. As a result, additional changes to the proposed regulations were made and another public workshop was held in January 2018. Comments were all taken into consideration during the regulation development.

**Public Comment:**

Dr. Ellerton- Appreciates the efforts that have gone on, to work out the issues with the regulations. However, looking at it from a practitioner's point of view, it creates an unfunded mandate. For small practices, it creates somewhat of a financial burden because they will have to pay the State to extract cases. Large practices will have to hire a tumor registrar. Dr. Ellerton hopes there will be some consideration of waivers for small practices and time consideration for the regulations to be effective for large practices.

Ms. Peek replied they worked hard with stakeholders to develop different types of reporting forms, identify what amount of information is needed and to not duplicate reporting. Ms. Peek informed she is happy to follow up with the individual practice.

Ms. Anderson informed there is time for the regulations to go into effect. The Division is committed to continue to work with anyone who runs into issues. If they are unable to resolve them, a variance could be brought to the Board. Ms. Anderson is hopeful the information will be improved for the Cancer Registry and ensure to not create a due hardship for any practitioner.

Dr. Iser, Southern Nevada Health District- Stated he is in support of the recommendation.

Dr. Murawsky thanked staff for the work done to improve on the duplication issues and the small practice implementation. The short form is short and addresses the concerns they had initially.

Ms. Peek clarified, even a large practice, if they are not licensed as the hospital, will not need to abstract. In the process of abstracting is where you get a tumor registrar which is an additional complexity of a job duty. Most of the small practices will use the short form.

Cari Herington, Nevada Cancer Coalition- The proposed amendments represent a two-year collaborative effort with the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Nevada Cancer Coalition, hospitals, providers, and researchers. As currently written, these regulations do not meet the CDC standards of national program of cancer registry. With these amendments, outdated language is being simplified. For reporters and providers, it clarifies who is required to

report and how each person needs to report. The adoption of these regulations strengthens the ability to accurately address cancer. The two years of work and all the partners involved, are ready to move forward and hope the Board supports the amendments.

Catherine O'Mara, Nevada State Medical Association- Ms. O'Mara stated, at the last proceeding they had significant concerns with the previous draft regulations. They have worked very hard with staff to improve this regulation and to get it to a place where physicians are supportive of it. Ms. O'Mara complemented Ms. Peek and Ms. Pool for engaging with the stakeholders, particularly The Nevada Medical Association, and for allowing their concerns to be addressed. They did have some concerns regarding unfunded mandates. They are in support of the regulation as it is drafted.

**CHAIR PENNELL ENTERTAINED A MOTION ON ITEM 6, NAC CHAPTER 457, LCB FILE NO. R057-16RP2. A MOTION BY DR. MURAWSKY TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT WAS MADE AND SECONDED BY MS. BITTNER; THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Reports (Informational):**

Nicki Aaker, MSH, MPH, RN, Director Carson City Health and Human Services- Ms. Aaker provided updates on tobacco control and prevention, clinical services, community health improvement plan, and epidemiology. Tobacco Control and Prevention Program staff are working with Carson Tahoe Health on getting direct referrals in the electronic record system to refer patients to Nevada Quit Line. Through Clinical Services, the Family Planning Program is very important, and they are a safety net provider in the community. CCHHS is working on their second community health improvement plan and have selected three priorities. There have been 1,938 flu cases within their jurisdiction, through March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Kevin Dick, District Health Officer for Washoe County Health District- Mr. Dick reported Washoe County is below the regional base line for influenza like illness. There have not been any more cases of Aseptic Meningitis since week six of this year. The budget for fiscal year 2019 has been approved by the District Board of Health. The county health rankings will be released on March 14<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Joseph Iser, Chief Health Officer for Southern Nevada Health District- Dr. Iser informed there will be two meetings for the county health rankings, one in the North and one in the South. STD's continue to increase throughout the State. The budget is far better than a year ago. The flu season is dying down. They have applied for accreditation and are currently waiting for the site visit.

**Recommendation and Approval for Additional Board of Health Meeting date:**

The date of April 27, 2018 has been withdrawn. Chair Pennell informed he will not be able to attend May 4, 2018 meeting. The Vice Chair has offered to chair the meeting. All remaining members can attend. The next meeting date will be May 4, 2018.

**Recommendations for future agenda items:**

- Follow up on plan and timeline when regulations relating to death record data could be adopted
- Oversight of Community Based Living Arrangements in the State

**Public Comment:** There was no public comment.

The meeting adjourned at 9:53 a.m.