

Yolo County Health Council

February 11, 2021

Minutes

EVAN PRIESTLEY, CHAIR
JENEBA LAHAI, VICE-CHAIR

YOLO COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

GONZALEZ BUILDING, COMMUNITY ROOM

25 NORTH COTTONWOOD STREET,

WOODLAND, CA 95695

The Yolo County Health Council met on the 11th Day of February 2021, at 9:00 a.m. via video or teleconferencing.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Anthony Volkar, District 1; Ximena Diez-Jackson, District 2; Carri Ziegler, District 3; Valerie Olson, District 5; John Tan, At-Large Member; Michelle Famula, At-Large Member; Pat Moore-Pickett, At-Large Member; Dawn Myers, Commission on Aging & Adult Services; Celeste Armstrong, EMCC; Lori Duisenberg, First 5 Yolo; Kathleen Middings, MCAH Advisory Board; Jeneba Lahai, Yolo County Children’s Alliance; Nicki King, Local Mental Health Board; Evan Priestley, CommuniCare Health Centers; Jessica White, Elica Health Centers; Mark Ho, Kaiser Permanente; Chester Austin, Northern Valley Indian Health; Dustin Lyda, Partnership Healthplan of California; Craig Blomberg, Sutter Health Margaret Walter, UC Davis; Tandy Burton, Woodland Health Care

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Stacey McCall, Winters Health Care

STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT: Tatyana Bak, Elica Health Centers; Sara Bowsky, Public; Jill Cook, County Administrator’s Office; Brielle Mansell, Public; Mary Ann Limbos, Deputy Health Officer; Larissa May, UC Davis; Kathryn Power, Public; Supervisor Jim Provenza, District 4; Suzanne O’Keefe, Public; Sherri Olswang, Woodland Health Care; Supervisor Don Saylor, District 2; Cyndi Sechler, Secretary, HHS; Sara Simmons, Asst. Deputy to Supervisor Saylor; Aimee Sisson, Health Officer; Anne Ternus, Public; Brian Vaughn, Public Health Director; Tia Will, Public

9:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER

The February 11, 2021 Health Council meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Evan Priestley, Health Council Chair.

1. **WELCOME** – *Evan Priestley, Health Council Chair*
2. **ROLL CALL** – *Cyndi Sechler, Health Council Secretary*
Roll call for voting members was taken and quorum was confirmed.
3. **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND THE APPROVAL OF THE [JANUARY 14, 2021 MINUTES](#)** – *Evan Priestley, Health Council Chair*
Motion: Chester Austin **Second:** Valerie Olson **Discussion:** None **Vote:** Unanimous
Abstain: Anthony Volkar and Ximena Diez-Jackson as they were not Council members at the January 14, 2021 meeting; Dustin Lyda and Tandy Burton as they did not attend the January 14, 2021 meeting.

4. **NEW MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS** – *Evan Priestley, Health Council Chair*
Evan Priestley welcomed Anthony Volkar, representing District 1, and Ximena Diez-Jackson, representing District 2, to the Health Council and asked them to briefly share a little about themselves.

5. **STATE AND COUNTY UPDATE** – *Jill Cook, County Administrator’s Office*
 - **Cannabis Land Use Ordinance:** The public hearing dates have been moved to March 9th and April 6th.
 - **County Administrator’s Office:** Mindi Nunes, Assistant County Administrator retired in December; but she is still helping the County as an Extra Help employee. On February 1st Daniel Kim started as the new Assistant County Administrator, and he comes to Yolo County as the previous Director of the state General Services Department, and a previous executive at California Department of Public Health. Pat Blacklock has accepted the President and CEO position of the Rural County Representatives of California, and he will be leaving the County in late March to start his new position in April.
 - **Budget:** The County has started planning for the fiscal year 2021-22 with the Board’s budget workshops scheduled for March 8th and March 16th.

6. **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS UPDATE** – *Supervisor Don Saylor, District 2 and Chair Jim Provenza, District 4*
Chair Provenza:
 - **Poverty and Effects on Health:** On Tuesday, the Board approved funding for the Universal Basic Income pilot project. The project will allow a small group of families with children under the age of two, who are at the poverty level, and give them cash payments to bring them above the poverty level, and if it will improve their situation wither it be health or other aspects of their lives.

- **COVID Drive-thru Clinics:** Most of the clinics are by appointment except in Knights Landing and Esparto where we had some walk-ins due to people not having access to a computer. We have had a big and small approach where we are setting up clinics in these areas for the harder to reach population; and then having a sign-up over the internet and with 2-1-1 for those without computer access in the larger areas. We have received positive feedback about the clinics.
- **District 4 Representative:** We are advertising for the Fourth District vacancy on the Health Council. If you know of someone who would be interested, please have them apply.

Supervisor Saylor:

- **Intergovernmental Transfer (IGT) of Funds:** In October 2020 Eagle Drug store closed their locations in Winters and Esparto leaving the residents West of 505 without a local pharmacy. Thanks to Jill Cook we were able to identify \$215,000 through the intergovernmental transfer of funds to support the build out of an onsite pharmacy at Winters Healthcare that will benefit Winters and the Capay Valley residents.

7. COMMUNITY HEALTH BRANCH UPDATE – *Brian Vaughn, Public Health Director*

We were notified that we will be receiving \$10.4 million over the next 30 months from the federal government for COVID response efforts. We are drafting a plan for spending the money; but the key for us to get out of treating COVID as an emergency response effort, and pulling resources from different programs, we do see it more than a two-year grant to shift us back to integrating COVID response efforts in a larger public health framework and allow us to get back to the important work that we have had to put aside in our response efforts.

8. COUNTY COVID UPDATE – *Dr. Aimee Sisson, Health Officer*

- **COVID Numbers:** The numbers are looking much better. We have seen improvements in our case rate as well as our testing positivity rates, and we are also seeing hospitalizations down significantly from previous months; but move to into the red tier we need to have a case rate in red for at least two weeks.
- **B.1.1.7:** On Monday, a joint press release from Healthy Davis Together, UC Davis and the County, announced the B.1.1.7 variant was detected in Yolo County. We are the first county in the Sacramento region to detect it because the Genome Center lab. We are concerned by the B.1.1.7 because it is potentially 50% more contagious than the strains that are currently circulating, and it may be up to 30% more deadly. Also cause for concern is the South African variant that was detected in the bay area on February 10th, and South African variant is potentially resistant to the vaccine.
- **Testing:** The numbers are down, and not just for Yolo County but across California. Healthy Davis Together has been very generous and is doing free advertising for our County ran testing sites in addition to their own testing sites. We have free testing sites open 6 days a week, 5 days in Woodland, 4 days in West Sacramento, and every Friday in Winters.
- **Vaccines:** The largest issue for the County is that we do not have enough vaccine. Our supply has increased slightly, and we have moved closer to averaging almost 2,000 vaccines a week. In our move into Phase 1B-Tier 1, the County continues to prioritize adults 65 and older over the eligible essential worker groups in Phase 1B-Tier 1 because of the compelling mortality data. Kaiser, Sutter, Dignity and UC Davis are also receiving doses.

The County is balancing vaccinating the 65 and older population in addition to making sure we target underserved communities who do not have insurance or do not have access to a regular provider to get their vaccine.

State mandates all health departments, and all vaccine providers will be required to post their available appointments on “My Turn”. This is a public facing website where people can sign up to get notifications, and when we have reached the tier that they are in, they will be notified and then they can search within a geographical area for an available appointment.

The State is switching the entire vaccine distribution framework to something managed by a third-party administrator, which is Blue Shield and Kaiser. We are not sure how that will impact us at the local level; but it will create changes.

9. COVID RESPONSE AD-HOC SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE – Subcommittee Members

Valerie Olson reported the Ad-hoc Subcommittee is happy with the changes to the Dashboard except for the Long-Term Care (LTC) dashboard. Jennie Tan will be making some changes to the LTC dashboard; but the Ad-hoc Subcommittee requests that Jennie, or one of her designees, give the Ad-hoc Subcommittee an update from time to time on the status of the dashboard.

On January 25th Dr. Michael Wilkes Chaired his last Ad-hoc Subcommittee. The subcommittee recognized the previous work the students did working on the communication piece for the Ad-hoc Subcommittee. The Ad-hoc Subcommittee also made three recommendations:

1. Consider coordinating with other health related groups (Mental Health or Yolo Healthy Aging Alliance)
2. Communities of practice, this group has had some work done by the Ad-hoc committee; but there are still some pieces to develop and consultant issues.
3. It is recommended that we have two Health Council meetings per month. One meeting that requires a quorum with report outs and decision making; and the second meeting be more of a work meeting with possible break out rooms and discussions of several topics or issues.

Carrie Ziegler discussed communication and a spreadsheet that she sent out to Council attendees asking what social media platforms they use, and what networking groups they are part of that can be used to get the County's information out to the public.

Evan Priestley asked the Ad-hoc Subcommittee if they voted on a new Chair, and after some discussion, Dr. Larissa May volunteered to chair the Ad-hoc Subcommittee.

10. HEALTH COUNCIL PRIORITY AREAS – RECOMMENDATION DEVELOPMENT

Handouts sent out before the meeting: [Health Council's 3 Priority Areas](#); [Health Council - Panelist Recommendations](#); [Yolo Strategic Plan](#); [Maternal Child and Adolescent Health Advisory Board's Annual Report](#); [YC Child Abuse Prevention Council Board of Supervisors Presentation](#)

- A. Access to Basic Needs Such as Housing, Jobs, Food and Safety (Poverty)
- B. Access to Primary Care and Dental Care
- C. Access to Behavioral Health Services in Yolo County

Since time is limited, Evan Priestley asked Council members to consider looking at the list of Panelist Recommendations and think about which of these recommendations Health Council could be most effective in moving the needle one way or another, and then what resources would be required to move the work forward. The role of the Health Council is of an advisory body that we can help guide the work and identify the priority recommendations.

Evan also asked the Council to review the existing documents, either policy or strategy documents that came out of other existing workgroups in Yolo County, and see how Health Council can align with that body of work.

11. REPRESENTATIVE REPORT OUT & ANNOUNCEMENTS

No report outs from Council members.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Rebecca Hester, Public, sent in an email: Paraphrasing: Ms. Hester asked why the County's new change in requiring masks for Kindergarten – Second grade at her child's school. The private school has been open for in-person instruction since August 2020, and since that time no facial coverings were required for those grades. Ms. Hester asked what the data is behind this change. As a parent of a six-year-old kindergartener who is currently learning to read, this is frustrating.

Dr. Sisson responded: This is not a local decision this is driven by the California Department of Public Health school's guidance as well as the masking order that comes from the State Public Health Officer. It is a requirement that anyone over the age of two essentially to wear a mask outside the home and including in a school setting.

- Yolo County Resident, Public: Echoes Ms. Hester’s comments regarding this situation, my child also attends this private school and is in Kindergarten. Dr. Sisson, I understand that it is out of your control; but is there is some data that is listed that we see as to why this is decision is being enforced?
Dr. Sisson responded: The younger children can still become infected with COVID, and they can still transmit even though their risks are lower so that is why they are required to wear masks. There is evidence that masks protect the person wearing the mask as well as others from inhaled droplets and aerosols. Children over two are not just required to wear masks in school; but they are required to wear masks any time they are in an indoor environment and interacting with non-household members.
- Suzanne O’Keefe, Public: As a parent with an elementary, junior high and high school students in public schools, students are frustrated going to school online after a full year. They have a District Plan to get kids back in school; but it requires vaccines for the teachers, and I just ask you to take that into consideration when prioritizing.
- Sara Bowsky, The Palladium Group: I work internationally in COVID, and I also support pediatric and adolescent COVID work in Washington D.C. I am happy to provide data and information to people who are interested in better understanding why we recommend above the age of two are masking, and if there are techniques and things people are struggling with, feel free to reach out.

ADJOURNMENT

13. NEXT MEETING – March 11, 2021 at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Cyndi Sechler, Secretary
Yolo County Health Council