

# Yolo County Health Council

May 13, 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 13<sup>th</sup> Day of May 2021, at 9:00 a.m. via video or teleconferencing.

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Anthony Volkar, District 1; Ximena Diez-Jackson, District 2; 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; Nicki King, Local Mental Health Board; Jessica White, Elica Health Centers; Evan Priestley, CommuniCare Health Centers; Mark Ho, Kaiser Permanente; Margaret Trout, UC Davis; Chester Austin, Northern Valley Indian Health; Dustin Lyda, Partnership Healthplan of California; Craig Blomberg, Sutter Health; Stacey McCall, Winters Health Care; Sherri Olswang, Woodland Health Care

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Carri Ziegler, District 3; Kathleen Middings, MCAH Advisory Board; Jeneba Lahai, Yolo County Children’s Alliance

**STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT:** Sara Bowsky, Public; Jill Cook, County Administrator’s Office; Roxana Garcia-Ochoa, Public; Brielle Mansell, Public; Larissa May, UC Davis; Kathryn Power, Public; Supervisor Jim Provenza, District 4; Supervisor Don Saylor, District 2; Cyndi Sechler, Secretary, HHSA; Sara Simmons, Assistant Deputy to Supervisor Saylor; Aimee Sisson, Health Officer; Anne Ternus, Public; Kanat Tibet, HHSA; Rebecca Tryon, HHSA; Brian Vaughn, Public Health Director; Tia Will, Public

**9:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER**

The May 13, 2021, Health Council meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m. by Evan Priestley, Health Council Chair.

**1. WELCOME – Evan Priestley, Chair**

Evan took a moment to acknowledge John Troidl, who passed away recently, and would like to host this meeting in his honor. Supervisor Saylor and Chair Provenza shared some words about John who was a previous Health Council member and a public health advocate.

**2. ROLL CALL – Cyndi Sechler, Secretary**

Roll call for voting members was taken and quorum was confirmed.

**3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND THE APPROVAL OF THE [MARCH 11, 2021 MINUTES](#) AND [APRIL 8, 2021 MINUTES](#) – Evan Priestley, Chair**

**Motion:** Chester Austin      **Second:** Anthony Volkar      **Discussion:** None      **Vote:** Unanimous

**4. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS SLIDE DECK – Evan Priestley, Chair**

Handouts: [Workgroup slides 4/8/21](#)    [BOS Playbook Deck 4/16/21](#)    [BOS Playbook Deck 5/12/21](#)

At the April meeting, Council members and guests were divided into groups to roughly summarize information received previously from panelists for a Board of Supervisors presentation. Evan shared her appreciation to the subcommittee, Valerie Olson, Michelle Famula, and Ximena Diez-Jackson, for their assistance in critically looking at the content from the Workgroup slides and consolidating them into the BOS Playbook Deck 4/16/2021. The BOS Playbook Deck 5/12/2021 has evolved from the previous version that is more formatted and the core content for the notes of the verbal presentation has been included from the original workgroup slides.

Council members and guests were divided into breakout rooms, assigned a priority area, and asked to look at the four content areas listed below for the BOS Playbook 5/12/2021.

- 1) Think through the idea of Asset Based Community Development and identify existing community assets in Yolo County.
- 2) Streamline language used to create consistency across slides with length of bullets and/or presence of support evidence.
- 3) Ideas on how to strengthen the last slide and take away message?
- 4) Overall feedback on the approach of the presentation (ad how to accomplish in 10 minutes/priorities/cuts)

Recommended changes to the slide deck were shared from the breakout groups. Evan welcomed Council members to join the interim process for the in between meetings to keep this scope of work moving.

**5. UPDATE FROM COVID AD-HOC COMMITTEE – Subcommittee Members**

Evan Priestley shared the email she received from Dr. May listing the four recommendations:

- 1) Flexible and nimble models of care (in-home health visits for elderly and disabled, expanding food programs to provide food security, participating at a local level with Telehealth and phone back-up {access and literacy training} and expanding clinic hours for those unable to take time off work) emerged naturally during COVID. These should be evaluated in order to leverage principles and approaches and apply them to health inequities while maintaining the scientific base and being cognizant of continued cultural understanding.
- 2) The county has a duty towards fiscal responsibility-including whether finances match needs, and consideration of the allocation to different sectors and to support human resources as needed.
- 3) A proactive approach rather than a reactive approach is imperative to prepare for the next event, as future infectious diseases epidemics are likely. These approaches should consider sustainable models of care to be incorporated into the county strategic plan.
- 4) There were several successes, and we learned how valuable public-private partnerships can be for community support during a pandemic (Healthy Davis Together initiative expanding beyond city to countywide to address inequities and provide additional resources).

After some discussion on the recommendations and whether they would be recommendations for the Board of Supervisors or Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), it was suggested the Health Council find a way to connect the recommendations to the current strategic plan, and to work collaboratively with Brian Vaughn, who works with HHSA and is also the outcome lead for the County’s upstream advancements; which has an outcome in the strategic plan under thriving residents.

Chair Provenza stated that at some point in the future there will be an after-action report of the pandemic, and he could see the Health Council involved in the process.

Supervisor Saylor mentioned for those that are interested in ways to look at upstream investments in a comprehensive manner, Sonoma County’s comprehensive approach to upstream is a good model to be aware of and to emulate in some way and can apply here.

**6. VOTE ON ESTABLISHING COVID COMMITTEE – Evan Priestley, Chair**

Evan stated with the length of time that the COVID Ad-hoc Subcommittee has existed, we want to be mindful of the rules of creating a regular subcommittee versus an ad-hoc subcommittee.

Jill Cook stated with the function and purpose being temporary and not a permanent need, the ad-hoc subcommittee can continue as is unless it is deemed to be permanent.

**7. VOTE ON RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE AD-HOC COVID SUBCOMMITTEE – Evan Priestley, Chair**

Chester Austin made a motion to incorporate these four points, whether we call them recommendations or observations from the COVID-19 Ad-hoc Subcommittee, to incorporate them into the annual report with the suggestion that they be considered for the after-action report or hot wash.

**Motion:** Chester Austin                      **Second:** Valerie Olson                      **Discussion:** None                      **Vote:** Unanimous  
**Abstain:** Craig Blomberg

**8. STATE AND COUNTY UPDATE – Jill Cook, County Administrator’s Office**

- **State Update:** The May Revise has been released. The State will have a historic \$75.6 billion budget surplus, plus an additional \$26.6 billion in Federal funds for a total of \$100 billion in discretionary spending for FY2021-2022.
- **American Recovery Plan Update:** We recently received treasury guidance and they took the sixty days it had, and it appears the allowable usage for the funds is more limited than we anticipated.
- **Project Room Key:** The funding from the State ends on June 30<sup>th</sup>, and the Board will be receiving a presentation on May 18<sup>th</sup> on some options to continue that program or something similar that address the homeless issue.

**9. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS UPDATE – Supervisor Don Saylor, District 2 and Chair Jim Provenza, District 4**

Chair Provenza reported:

- **American Recovery Plan:** There is over \$40 million available; but that is one time over a three-year period, and the trick is being able to spend it during that timeframe. The changes from the Treasury are probably favorable to most of the ideas from Health Council because the emphasis is on helping people that has been affected by COVID; but it could limit how we structure the spending.

We are going through our budget process right now and our ongoing regular budget itself is very tight. While we will have a lot of spending to help victims of the pandemic, hopefully in health and low-income people, over the next three years we still have a tight budget so we will not be able to do everything we want to do, and we are trying to balance those things as we go forward.

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

- **COVID Funding:** We did receive a significant amount of funding that will provide COVID services for the next two years. We have several positions we are hiring to backfill staff that have been redirected for the past fourteen months that will hopefully be happening within the next month. The extra staff will allow our other community public health programs back up and running which includes Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health program, our Lead program, and some other healthy communities work that was getting up and running and including some of the work that was discussed today.

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

- **Case Rates:** We are seeing an increase in case rates; we are now at 3.7 per 100,000 residents which is an increase from 2.7 the week before last, and that leaves us solid in the orange tier. We have seen some improvements in the testing positivity rate in the health equity quartile decreasing from 2.5% last week to 1.9%, and that could be a result of our efforts to increase vaccinations in our most disadvantaged communities.

The reason we are seeing an increase in our case rates for Yolo County is probably because we are also seeing an increase in proportion of cases that are caused by more infectious variants based on data from UC Davis Genome Center. Over the last two weeks, 58% of the cases were caused by the B117, or UK variant, which we know is about 50% more infectious than the usual strains of Coronavirus.

- **Vaccinations:** We are now at 50% of Yolo County residents who have received at least one dose of vaccine, and we have 36% of residents who have completed their vaccine series and are considered fully vaccinated. These numbers use the entire population as a dominator so they may appear somewhat lower than the numbers you hear quoted in newspapers. When the state shares data they use the population dominator of 16 and older; but as we move to include younger populations of eligible for vaccination that dominator is going to shift.

There is a shift in the balance between supply and demand when it comes to vaccination. In December until the end of April we always had a situation where the demand exceeded the supply, and now we have more supply than demand. The County has shifted its efforts to try to make things as easy as possible for those who may have some barriers that make it difficult to receive the vaccine. The County is offering vaccinations on a drop-in basis without appointments, staff is offering them at locations like schools, work, grocery stores, Food Bank distribution sites, churches, and this week we have a team riding the Yolo Bus this week offering vaccines for the longer routes.

The FDA has extended the emergency use authorization for the Pfizer vaccine to include those 12-15 years old. Now that we have the approval to vaccinate younger population, Yolo County and other providers will begin vaccinating them today. We have seen tremendous demand in our middle school and high school students for the vaccine that we have added additional clinic this week on Sunday as well as school-based clinics at every district in the county that is being run by Yolo County or by a partner.

**12. REPRESENTATIVE REPORT OUT & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Craig Blomberg, Sutter Health: Sutter Health in Sacramento County is part of a federal health initiative known as Sutter SeniorCare PACE (Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly). The PACE program provides all-inclusive wrap around services for Medi-Care/Medi-Cal membership patients and offers housing, activities, home health care, and transportation for medical appointments.

Craig asked if there was an opportunity to bring this type of program to Yolo County using some of the American Recovery Plan money.

Chair Provenza responded: Yolo County had a team look at the program a couple of years ago, and we were quite impressed, but it did not happen at that time. If there is funding for it now it is worth taking a look at because there are some significant gaps in our system.

**13. PUBLIC COMMENT**

- No public comment.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**14. NEXT MEETING – June 10, 2021, at 9:00 a.m.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:



Cyndi Sechler, Secretary  
Yolo County Health Council