

Maternal Child Adolescent Health Advisory Board Minutes

December 1, 2022

Members	
Attendees	Absent
Jeff Miller	Rachel Napoli*
Renée Alger	Hannah Watson
Carla Denner	Gina Cuclis*
Annie Nicol	Elizabeth Vermilyea*
Catherine Barrisford	Rocio Monter**
Kathy Kane	Jill St. Peter**
Stephanie Montez	Melissa Apuya*
Mayra Gallegos	

*Excused absence

**Pending Approval by Sonoma County Board of Supervisors

Staff Present Janette Allee, Administrative Aide, Brittany Lobo, Interim MCAH Director

Guest Absent Melissa Struzzo, MPH, CADC, Substance Use Disorder Services Section Manager, Sonoma County Department of Health Services was unable to attend the meeting today.

Call to Order Dr. Jeff Miller called the meeting to order at 12:33 pm and introductions were made.

Meeting Minutes Kathy Kane motioned to approve the November minutes. Annie Nicol seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.

Presentation Dr. Miller informed the group that the presenter scheduled to present on cannabis canceled for today and the information will not be presented as expected, but he is still interested in the topic and hopes to remain in contact to receive an update in the future.

Officer Elections The following members were both elected for a two-year term by unanimous vote Dr. Renée Alger as Chair and Dr. Elizabeth Vermilyea as Vice Chair.

Mission, Vision, Goals The completed final draft of the proposed changes to the Vision, Mission, and Goals has now been reviewed by the members. Dr. Miller motions to vote to accept Vision, Mission, and Goals. Kathy Kane seconded the motion and the motion passed. Dr. Miller noted that there is a process and procedure to follow, and Brittany Lobo assured him that MCAH staff will look into the procedure and ensure it is followed.

State Legislation Melissa Apuya was absent. Dr. Miller reported that she has applied to continue working for the incoming Assemblymember that will be replacing Marc Levine adding that legislation is not currently in session.

Correspondence Dr. Miller mentioned being disappointed that he still hasn't heard back from Dr. Mase regarding the air quality and wildfire smoke letter that the MCAH AB sent to her and the school survey. Brittany agreed to work with MCAH staff on this and report back at the next MCAH AB meeting.

Staff Report Brittany reported that Colette has officially retired, her last day was November 7th. Brittany has assumed the duties as Interim MCAH Director while searching for an MCAH Coordinator and recruiting for a Health Program Manager that will oversee the Home Visiting Programs with the goal that this position would also serve as the MCAH Director to tie the MCAH Program to the Home Visiting Programs more closely together within our organizational structure to provide a clearer pathway for collaboration on the scope of work and all the initiatives that we are working on related to the same population. She added that she is in the process of interviewing for the Health Program Manager position and the MCAH Coordinator position has not yet been posted but she expects it to post soon and will be accepting applications for that position hopefully within the next coming weeks. This will be listed as a Senior Public Health Nurse position. Dr. Miller offered Brittany the support of the MCAH AB should she need it. Brittany stated that she anticipated that she will have someone in the Program Manager position by January and the Coordinator role by February at the latest.

Brittany went on to add that she is coordinating closely with the Health Services Epidemiology Team to prepare for the next steps on the MCAH Needs Assessment, which is required every five years. The department will also be engaged in a Community Health Needs Assessment. This is a requirement of the new Future of Public Health funding that we received from the state. As the process gets closer to launch Brittany will come to the MCAH AB for input and assistance with the dissemination

of surveys to healthcare partners and community members, especially for the Community Health Assessment. The intent is to overlap the two exercises as much as possible to avoid duplication and redundancy.

Brittany went further stating that the Epidemiology Team has been working on a Community Health Dashboard that will show lots of different health metrics, the team learned a lot during COVID about creating and maintaining health data dashboards, and will now be shifting into displaying Community Health Indicators including a lot of the MCAH indicators that were traditionally included in the MCAH Dashboard. Currently, they are working on adding more indicators, getting all the data points that we need to run our program, and making this a public-facing dashboard where anyone can go and look up birth rates and other important health data. Brittany said she is unsure of the timeline but thinks we can expect to see this introduced within the next year.

Discussion Brittany brought up the potential legislation for cannabis consumption on-site at dispensaries. Currently, this is not allowed. It is under the Health Officer’s purview to regulate the sale of cannabis. There are some cities looking to regulate onsite consumption using the term Cannabis Lounges or Cannabis Tasting Rooms. Other jurisdictions in California have already begun allowing this such as San Francisco, and West Hollywood. At this time there is no action that can be taken, but it may interest this board to write a letter regarding a possible update to the cannabis ordinance in the Spring it’s possible we will be updating the ordinance to allow for individual jurisdictions to make their own determination whether they want to allow onsite consumption or not.

Annie Nicol asked Dr. Miller if he had a comment about infants with RSV. Dr. Miller said that RSV has been around forever, it’s not a new thing like COVID and is probably more prominent now because everyone was so careful wearing masks, etc, and it prevented other viral transmissions. RSV is spread via contact, unlike COVID, beyond that, there isn’t much to say. Annie mentioned hearing that a hospital had four infant deaths recently and that seemed very unusual. Dr. Miller said he hasn’t read that it was more virulent. In his 35 years of pediatrics, he remembered two deaths caused by RSV.

Dr. Miller brought up the onsite consumption of cannabis and said that this may not be something this board would be involved with because presumably there wouldn’t be onsite consumption for pregnant women or adolescents which is the focus of this group. Dr. Alger mentioned the previous efforts the MCAHAB spent with dispensaries asking would the onsite lounges not serve that population. Discussion continued about age limits for both recreational use and medical. Dr. Alger then suggested creating an ad hoc group to draft a letter to the Health Officer. Carla Denner and Dr. Miller agreed to work together to compose a letter.

Dr. Alger asked Janette if she still works on the Child Death Review Team (CDRT) and she responded that she does. She asked Janette to contact Jen Mercado our epidemiologist to ask about RSV baby mortality data for Sonoma County and request an annual report summary and report back.

Brittany will send Janette new teleconference rules to distribute to members today.

Announcements None

Public Comment No members of the public were present

Meeting Adjourned- The meeting adjourned at 1:16 pm.

Passed Motions			
Minutes from November were approved.			
Handouts			
Action Items			
Dr. Renée Alger was elected Chair and Dr. Elizabeth Vermilyea was elected Vice Chair			
2022-2023 Meeting Dates			
January 5	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
February 2	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
March 2	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
April 6	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
May 4	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
June 1	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms

August 3	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
September 7	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
October 5	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
November 2	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
December 7	Thursday	12:30-2:00	625 5 th Street, City View Rooms
MCAH AB WebSite			
https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/health-and-human-services/health-services/divisions/public-health/maternal-child-and-adolescent-health/maternal-child-and-adolescent-health-advisory-board			