

The County of Santa Cruz Integrated Community Health Center Commission

Minute Taker: Mary Olivares

Minutes of the meeting held February 5, 2025

TELECOMMUNICATION MEETING: Microsoft Teams Meeting - or call-in number +1 916-318-9542 – PIN# 500021499#

Attendance	
Len Finocchio	Executive Board – Co-Chair
Rahn Garcia	Member
Dinah Phillips	Member
Marco Martinez-Galarce	Member
Maximus Grisso	Member
Michelle Morton	Member
Amy Peeler	County of Santa Cruz, Chief of Clinics
Raquel Ruiz	County of Santa Cruz, Senior Health Services Manager
Julian Wren	County of Santa Cruz, Admin Services Manager
Mary Olivares	County of Santa Cruz, Admin Aide
Miku Sodhi	County of Santa Cruz, Health Services Asst. Agency Director
Meeting Commenced at 4:01 pm and concluded at 5:01 pm	
Excused/Absent:	
Excused: Christina Berberich Absent: Tammi Rose	
1. Welcome/Introductions	
2. Oral Communications:	
3. January 15, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Action Required	
Review of January 15, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Recommended for approval. Dinah motioned to accept minutes as presented. Rahn second, Len abstained, and the rest of the members present were all in favor.	
4. Grant Awarded: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration- State Opioid Response IV - Action Required	
Raquel presented a grant that was awarded from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration- State Opioid Response IV. Raquel reported they received this grant funding for multiple years, and it helps support their Medicated Assisted Treatment Program (MAT). The amount they will be receiving is \$749,996.00 for each clinic, a total amount of 2 million dollars over a 33-month period. Rahn moved to accept as presented. Len second, and the rest of the members present all in favor.	
5. Overview Implementations – Len	
Len presented on the emerging proposals to reduce Medicaid spending, as the Trump administration takes aim. Len reported that the total of Medi-Cal funding in budget is \$193.4 billion, an increase of \$13 billion from FY2024-25. In California, the federal government pays 65.5% (\$119 billion) of Medi-Cal’s budget of \$193 billion and the state General Fund pays the remaining 34.5% (\$74 billion). Enrollment in Medi-Cal was 14.9 million as of September 2024. California spends an average of \$12,950 per enrollee per year. The new Trump Administration will seek large spending reductions to offset the anticipated renewal of 2017 tax breaks. Proposals laid out by the House Budget Committee will likely result in large cuts to Medicaid funding, as well as changes to eligibility. Some potential reactions in California are to increase state general fund share of Medi-Cal funding, scale back infrastructure expansions, restrict eligibility for undocumented persons, provider rate reductions, GF backfill for Prop 56 may be vulnerable, and benefit reductions. Len will come back to future meetings with more updates.	
6. Quality Management Update	
Raquel reported that the Watsonville Clinic presented their quality improvement project, WHC Drug Assistance Program. Raquel reported this program provides medication at no cost to patients without insurance. The patients that benefit from this program are low income, underinsured, or have no insurance. Raquel explained the steps of qualifying for the drug assistance program and if a patient is approved, they are approved for a 12-month period. Raquel also presented the patient satisfaction survey she reviewed quality improvement projects as an outcome of the patient feedback with the commission. The quality improvement projects are as follows:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to care: continue to revise and standardize schedule templates to increase patient access to care • Collaborate with Personnel to move forward with launching a call center to include an improved call tree 	
Mary will send out copies for commission to review.	

Lastly, Raquel reported on Peer Review & Risk Management Committee. Raquel reported they are working on chart audit assignment workflow draft, revision of consent to treatment and Privacy Practices Forms, policy and protocol revision needed for ordering controlled substances for chronic pain management to include a pain management agreement and they are finalizing the Peer Review Policy-next steps: action item for the March Commission Meeting, Mary will send out copy to commission.

7. Financial Update

Julian presented on estimated actuals. Julian reported estimated actuals are essentially their best educated guess about how much money they will bring in and spend by the end of the fiscal year. Estimated actuals take into account: actual revenues they have received so far, real-world expenses they have incurred, and anticipated income and spending for the remaining months of the fiscal year. Julian reported this projection is crucial for the health centers because it helps them: make informed financial decisions, identify potential budget shortfalls or surpluses, plan for the upcoming fiscal year, and provide a transparent view of their financial health to their board, funders, and stakeholders. Lastly, Julian reported on key assumptions this accounts for real-world factors like no-shows and Paid Time Off that directly impact revenue and operational capacity.

8. CEO Update

Amy reported that there are 190 sick with covid, 131 RSV, and 800 with Influenza A. She stated there are a lot of sick people out there. She also reported they are continuing to work on the budget for this coming fiscal year.

Next meeting: March 5, 2025, 4:00pm - 5:00pm

Meeting Location: In- Person- 150 Westridge Drive, Suite 101, Watsonville, Ca 95076 and 1080 Emeline Ave., Bldg. Clinic. Cruz, CA 95060. Commission will connect through Microsoft Teams Meeting or call in (audio only) [+1 831-454-2222,191727602#](tel:+18314542222191727602) United States, Salinas Phone Conference ID: **191 727 602#**

Minutes approved _____ / / _____
(Signature of Board Chair or Co-Chair) (Date)