



LOS ANGELES COUNTY
COMMISSION ON HIV



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While not required of meeting participants, signing-in constitutes public notice of attendance. Presence at meetings is recorded solely based on sign-in sheets, and not signing-in constitutes absence for Commission members. Only members of the Commission on HIV are accorded voting privileges, thus Commissioners who have not signed in cannot vote. Sign-in sheets are available upon request.

**PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

July 2, 2018



The Public Policy Committee acts in accordance with the role of the Commission on HIV, as dictated by Los Angeles County Code 3.29.090. Consistent with Commission Bylaws Article VI, Section 2, no Ryan White resources are used to support Public Policy Committee activities.

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC	COMM STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Aaron Fox, MPM, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Terry Goddard, MA, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Craig Pulsipher	Jane Nachazel
Eric Paul Leue	Kyle Baker	Peter Soto	Julie Tolentino, MPH
Andrew Lopez (<i>Alt.</i>)	Jerry D. Gates, PhD		
Lee Kochems, MA	Greg Wilson		
Eduardo Martinez (<i>Alt.</i>)			DHSP STAFF
Katja Nelson			None
Ricky Rosales			
Martin Sattah, MD			

CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE PACKET

- 1) **Agenda:** Public Policy Committee Agenda, 7/2/2018
- 2) **Minutes:** Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes, 6/4/2018
- 3) **Article:** New CDC Director Targets Opioids, Suicide and Pandemics, 6/25/2018
- 4) **Table:** LACHAS Policy Recommendations Workplan, 7/2/2018
- 5) **Policy Update:** Southern California Association of NonProfit Housing, Summary of Housing and Homelessness Funding, 2018-2019 State Budget, 2018
- 6) **Table:** Los Angeles County Commission on HIV, 2018-2019 Legislative Docket, *Revised 5/31/2018*
- 7) **Letter:** Office of AIDS implementation of Enacted Budget, 6/29/2018
- 8) **Priorities:** 2018 Policy Priorities, 1/8/2018
- 9) **Fact Sheet:** Why Patient Advocacy Groups Oppose the Deeply-Flawed Dialysis Proposition, 2018
- 10) **Article:** Dialysis Patients Sign Up For November Ballot Fight, 4/6/2018
- 11) **Article:** CMS Proposes Value-Based Payment for Skilled Nursing Facilities, 2018
- 12) **Table:** State Standards Charts for Assisted Treatment, Civil Commitment Criteria and Initiation Procedures by State, *June 2011*
- 13) **Update:** Sacramento Update - County Sponsored Legislation, 6/8/2018
- 14) **Update:** Sacramento Update, 6/22/2018
- 15) **Issue Brief:** Short-Term Limited Duration Plans and HIV, 6/21/2018
- 16) **Fact Sheet:** Social Security Changes HIV Disability Rules and Institutes Periodic Reviews of HIV Claims, *July 2017*

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Fox called the meeting to order at 1:14 pm.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION #1: Approve the Agenda Order, as presented (*Passed by Consensus*).

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION #2: Approve the 6/4/2018 Public Policy Committee Meeting Minutes, as presented (*Passed by Consensus*).

II. PUBLIC COMMENT

3. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS COMMISSION ON ITEMS OF INTEREST WITHIN COMMISSION JURISDICTION: There were no comments.

III. COMMITTEE COMMENT

4. NON-AGENDIZED OR FOLLOW-UP: There were no comments.

IV. REPORTS

5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STAFF REPORT:

- Ms. Tolentino thanked attendees for the LACHAS Call To Action meeting in El Monte on behalf of Cheryl Barrit, MPIA, Executive Director. Turn-out was very good as were evaluations and feedback that Ms. Barrit has shared with DHSP.
- Upcoming meetings are: 7/12/2018, regular Commission meeting, St. Anne's Conference Center; 7/19/2018, a LACHAS Call To Action meeting in the Antelope Valley; and 8/9/2018, a LACHAS Call to Action meeting in Lynwood.
- Brief Commission business meetings can be added at Call To Action meeting sites if there is a need.

6. CO-CHAIR REPORT:

- Mr. Fox reported it appears the Ryan White Program (RWP) will again be flat-funded consistent with President Trump's budget and the Senate's Labor/Health and Human Services (HHS) bill. The only increase in the latter was \$5 million to Infectious Disease specifically focused on opioid addiction prevention.
- The House had inserted a ban in an appropriations bill on funding for safe consumption sites, but the language was not in the final bill. It was, however, concerning both that Republicans were aware of the sites and that Democrats were not.
- Robert Redfield, the new Director, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), is receiving mixed reactions. Some feedback is positive because he is addressing PrEP, the HIV epidemic and related epidemics, but others are uncomfortable with the HIV epidemic being on this administration's radar in any manner.
- The CDC and HHS were expected to present on ending the epidemic and updating the National HIV/AIDS Strategy (NHAS) at the United States Conference on AIDS. Reactions to that are also mixed with some glad the subject is being taken up and others concerned at what might be proposed. National organizations are engaging in work to influence that conversation.

V. DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. LOS ANGELES COUNTY HIV/AIDS STRATEGY (LACHAS) POLICY WORKGROUP:

- Ms. Tolentino noted Public Policy is taking the lead with this Workgroup designed to brainstorm approaches to address LACHAS policy recommendations and initiate implementation to achieve LACHAS goals.
- The first meeting will be 7/9/2018 at 10:00 am in the Commission offices. Mr. Baker compiled an initial table of recommendations and approaches to them in the packet which will likely be the meeting's starting point.
- A regular meeting schedule will be adopted at the initial meeting.

8. COUNTY POLICY ISSUES:

- a. **Housing Policy Advocacy:** The Housing Task Force will meet at the end of July. Meanwhile, Mr. Goddard forwarded the Summary of Housing and Homelessness Funding from the 2018-2019 State Budget in the packet for review.

9. STATE LEGISLATION AND BUDGET:

- a. **Legislative Docket:**

- Mr. Fox noted the Legislature was in recess so there was no notable legislation activity. Most bills on the Docket appear to be moving forward. It was very unlikely any large healthcare expansion bills such as Health For All would be voted out of the Legislature though language continues to be revised. Even if passed out of the Legislature, Governor Brown has stated he would not sign bills that require ongoing investments.
- An Office of AIDS (OA) letter in the packet addresses the Enacted Budget signed by Governor Brown on 6/27/2018.
- Advocates had asked for \$10 million in ongoing funding each for HIV prevention and for STDs. Instead, the budget provides \$5 million in one-time funding for HIV prevention and \$2 million in one-time funding for STDs.
- Some budget changes pertain to technical matters requested by the California Department of Public Health, e.g., to support transition of AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) functions to OA.
- There are also funds to expand the PrEP Assistance Program (PrEP-AP) to minors 12 or older, and enhance services to pay for PEP and related medical costs, PEP and PrEP starter packs, and up to 28 days of PEP for sexual assault victims.
- Other funds expand support for medical out-of-pocket costs and continue \$3 million in support for Syringe Exchange Programs (SEPs). There had been plans to sunset SEP funding, but that has been retracted.
- Mr. Pulsipher added the Enacted Budget also eliminated the liver fibrosis restriction for Medi-Cal treatment of Hepatitis C. Everyone can now be treated unless the prognosis is for a less than 12 month life expectancy. In addition, over \$100 million was allocated for each of three years to treat all state prison inmates with Hepatitis C.
- Prior Chief, OA, Karen Mark, MD, PhD, has become Medical Director, Department of Health Care Services. An interim OA Chief has not yet been named. A position announcement will go out soon for the gubernatorial appointment. The position requires Legislature approval. Input on qualifications is welcome and advocates are developing a draft letter.
- Mr. Soto noted the City of Los Angeles and County of Los Angeles was planning a ballot measure in 2019 to address misuse of disability placards. A question/answer and community input event was being planned for mid-August.

b. Dialysis Ballot Measure:

- Ms. Tolentino noted oppose and support documents in the packet. A representative contacted the Commission requesting an oppose position. Basically the proposition would require community dialysis clinics to issue annual rebates to private health insurance companies if any fee for treatment exceeds 115% of what the initiative defines as "patient care service costs." Supporters feel it would improve care and control costs. Opponents feel it would cut care.
- Supporters note there are only two main private dialysis providers and they charge 400% more to private insurers than Medi-Cal costs. They feel providers would rather use funds for patient care than rebate them. Opponents, however, believe the cap does not include all necessary costs so clinics will lose staff or close resulting in reduced patient care.
- Only 1-2% of patients suffering from end stage renal disease are PLWH.
- ➡ Staff will request pro and con proposition and bond presentations on: dialysis, rent control, and Veteran's housing.
- ➡ Staff will provide a full list of propositions for Public Policy Committee review at the next meeting.

10. HEALTHCARE ACCESS:

- Mr. Fox noted a Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Request For Information (RFI) was open. Some RWP-specific items were included in the RFI including six-month recertification and the 75/25 waiver.
 - Many were commenting on the burdensome nature of six-month recertification and requesting annual recertification consistent with Medi-Cal. Regarding the 75/25 waiver, Los Angeles County has had no problems obtaining one. though it has not been needed, but other jurisdictions apparently have had issues. Comments were due by 7/6/2018.
 - Ms. Tolentino noted State Standards Charts for Assisted Treatment in the packet was for AB 1971 discussion follow-up.
- a. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) Payment Reform:** Ms. Tolentino noted Bradley Land raised this topic at the Commission meeting. Reform would change the skilled nursing payment model from volume-based to value-based. It includes a proposal to eliminate enhanced Medicare payments for PLWH which could impact patient care. An RFI was open.

VI. NEXT STEPS

11. TASK/ASSIGNMENTS RECAP:

- ➡ Mr. Fox will develop the topic of STDs with Ms. Barrit.

12. AGENDA DEVELOPMENT FOR NEXT MEETING: There were no additional items.

VII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 13. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC AND COMMITTEE TO MAKE ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mr. Kochems was informed by staff today that Robert Butler had died. His extensive Commission service included time as Co-Chair of this Committee. He was an advocate for PLWH services in Long Beach, a good friend and neighbor.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

- 14. ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned in memory of Robert Butler at 2:00 pm.