

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

HEALTH COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, October 16, 2017 (County Board of Supervisors Chambers)

Members Present: Mary Jean Sage (Chair), Jinah Byram, David Clous, Jean Raymond, Tamar Sekayan, Candace Winstead

Members Absent: Kris Kington-Barker, Robert Campbell, Claire Grantham, Susan Warren

Staff Present: Dr. Penny Borenstein, Jean White

Speakers: Beth Raub (Co of SLO District Attorney’s Office); Debbie Deem (FBI Victim Assistance Program)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action	Who/When
1. Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 6:00 PM by Chair Sage.	<i>Call to Order</i>	<i>Chair Sage</i>
2. Approval of Minutes	Minutes of September 11, 2017 approved as drafted.	<i>September 2017 minutes approved</i>	<i>All</i>
3. Public Comment	Chair Sage opened the floor to public comment with no response.		
4. Presentation: Domestic Violence Month / Victim Assistance Programs	<p>Beth Raub, Victim Witness Assistant Director, County of SLO District Attorney’s Office, announced that October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month and that the Women’s Shelter Program will be hosting a screening of the documentary ‘<i>Private Violence</i>’ at the Palm Theatre on 10/29 at 4:15 pm. Ms. Raub provided a Power Point overview of the Victim Witness Assistance Center, talking about their mission to reduce the trauma, frustration and inconvenience experienced by victims affected by crime. The Victim Witness Assistance Center provides basic services and referrals to other governmental & community programs. They work crimes against persons from aggravated assault, domestic violence, DUI resulting in injury or death, elder abuse, homicide, kidnapping, robbery and property crime. Victims of any of these types of crimes may be eligible to apply for compensation for out-of-pocket expenses through the State Victim Compensation Board (VCB). These dollars do not come out of taxpayer dollars, but are supported through the system. Ms. Raub detailed some of the standard & related services they provide and talked about Marsy’s Law passed in 2008 that amended the CA Constitution to provide additional rights to victims. Victim compensation benefits may include medical/dental, mental health counseling, lost wage, & funeral expenses. Losses that are not covered include personal property losses (including cash), pain & suffering.</p> <p>Lori Gomez, Elder Advocate, Victim Witness Program, continued the Power Point presentation, to bring awareness to the community about ‘scams.’” She advised of types of scams to be aware of: gift cards scams (where the scammer takes numbers off the cards and waits for them to be activated); IRS scams (where a person calls pretending to be from the IRS asking persons to wire funds or send pre-paid cash card); online dating scams (where pictures are stolen from innocent third parties); Microsoft computer tech support (where a caller offers to fix your computer and then accesses personal information); telephone scams (someone calling to tell you that your grandchild, nephew, etc. has been arrested and needs bail money). Ms. Gomez advised never to provide social security numbers, banking information, or credit card information to anyone who calls and to always do your research. Ask, call, verify. Document and report to law enforcement. Check websites:</p>	<i>Copies of Power Point presentations are filed with the official record of the meeting.</i>	

scamawareness.org, FTC.gov. Contact the Victim Witness Program Office at (805) 781-5821 for more resources or to request a presentation.

Chair Sage asked about types of educational outreach they do for scams. *(Ms. Gomez advised that they attend outreach events, have resource material, speak at senior centers, work with community partners, hospitals, health providers, & religious organizations. Ms. Gomez is also a member of ASPC & Commission on Aging. On November 9th, they will be speaking at Beth David.)*

Debbie Deem, Victim Specialist, FBI Victim Assistance Program, presented a Power Point overview, explaining their role as victim advocates for mass casualty crimes that are investigated by the FBI. Federal law mandates that they identify the victims, develop contact information, provide certain types of information and assistance at the earliest opportunity & continue throughout the investigation, and ensure that victim property/personal effects are returned. The FBI Office for Victim Assistance has four units: Victim Program Management Unit, Terrorism and Special Jurisdiction Unit, Forensic Child Interview Unit, and Victim Assistance Rapid Deployment Team. The role of the victim specialists is to provide on-scene/after scene direct assistance, crisis intervention, assess and triage victim needs, provide referrals to counseling, employment, housing, immigration, medical, legal and other non-government and government services, accompany FBI agents on interviews to provide support to victims or deliver death notifications, coordinate forensic interview and sexual assault exams, serve as liaison between the victim and FBI throughout the course of the investigation. Ms. Deem talked about emergency funds that are available to help with transportation, uncompensated medical/mental health care, clothing, food, housing, return of personal property, burial/funeral expenses, occupational/vocational rehab, moving expenses. The CA Crime Victim Compensation Program can help pay bills & expenses that result from certain violent crimes (payer of last resort) for medical & dental, mental health, income loss. Ms. Deem noted one of their biggest challenges is victim identification and getting the victim list when there are multiple categories of victims to identify. She also talked about Family Assistance Centers & Community Resiliency Centers and their role in helping victims. Ms. Deem played a short video showing types of responses in serving victims.

Commissioner Sekayan asked about safety planning for victims. *(Ms. Raub advised that the Women's Shelter and RISE have safe houses for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. She explained how safety plans are always victim driven. For the criminal justice system, they have secure waiting rooms for victims. For children in domestic violence situations, they have a Child Abuse Interview Team (CAIT) Program, a forensic interview where they have a room with cameras and videos so the child can tell their story once. The Women's Shelter has a safety plan on their website. The crisis line for the Women's Shelter is 805-781-6400 or call 211.)*

Commissioner Byram asked if the services available through the Victim Compensation Board (VCB) are for a limited time or life-long. *(Ms. Raub explained that victims must apply within a year of the crime that was committed, but they can come back years later and use that resource.)*

Commissioner Byram asked if they provide their own counselors. *(Mr. Raub explained that they have a list of therapists who accept the VCB; however if someone wants a therapist who is not on the*

	<p><i>list, the claim's unit will work with them to get them approved. Pediatric services are very limited in SLO, but services in Santa Barbara would be covered under the VCB and mileage would be paid.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Clous referred to the list of crimes against people shown in the presentation and asked which were at the top of the list as reoccurring. <i>(Ms. Raub answered that scams are one and can be difficult because there is nobody to charge in the case. Scam victims are not eligible for VCB because it is not considered a violent crime. They also see a lot of DUIs (involuntary manslaughter) and property crime.)</i></p> <p>Commissioner Clous asked who coordinates the services provided for mass casualty situations. <i>(Ms. Deem explained that they coordinate all of the services, and talked about the many different services provided depending on each family's needs.)</i></p> <p>Chair Sage asked if the Intimate Partner Coalition meets regularly. <i>(Ms. Raub advised that the Coalition meets every other month; with their next meeting is in November. The meeting is chaired by the DA's office and includes representatives from RISE, Women's Shelter, non-profits, community agencies, county and state. Commissioner Sekayan attends when she can.)</i></p> <p>Lori Gomez advised everyone to be cautious about scams and receiving calls to donate to various efforts. She encouraged everyone to use agencies such as the local Red Cross and other emergency disaster programs that persons are familiar with. She also advised that they have partnered with Debbie Deem and now have a Tri-Counties roundtable to help address and fight the battle of scams.</p> <p>Lori Gomez announced that on October 21st, Grover Beach will be holding a support group for anyone in the local community affected by the recent shooting in Las Vegas.</p> <p>Commissioner Sekayan referred to a model program in San Diego County for elder abuse that focused primarily on the financial piece of scams/caregivers. This was a volunteer program where college students were assigned an elder and responsible for checking in with the elder weekly.</p> <p>Debbie Deem referenced a model program in LA County that she would like to bring to the Tri-Counties for a weekly phone support group for scam victims 60 and over. Also, Ventura County is doing outreach with the local police to merchants about gift card scams; and have a police volunteer program where they go out to see seniors in their homes. She provided her email if interested in being on the Tri-Counties working group.</p>		
<p>5. Health Agency/Public Health Report</p>	<p>Dr. Penny Borenstein, Health Officer/Public Health Director, reported on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLO County has received mutual aid requests from Sonoma & Napa Counties for a variety of services, including Environmental Health for damage assessment services and County Health Officer backup, as they have been working around the clock. • Implementation of Electronic Health Records (EHR) at the County Jail and California Children's Services went well, but there is still a lot of work to be done. • Public Health held a roundtable for laboratorians and infectious disease specialists from hospitals and the private sector. This was a brainstorming session with good discussion about the changing face of laboratory services and how we can move with the times while still maintaining some of the important old-fashioned laboratory mechanisms. • Affordable Care Act Executive Order /removal of cost sharing & subsidies: SLO County has approx. 12,000 enrollees in affordable care with 90% of those in the subsidy category (400% 		

	<p>federal poverty level). It is estimated that 6,000-7,000 would lose their cost sharing under this executive order, making health care more challenging for them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County budget FY 2018/19: Expecting a fairly stable year; but there will not be a lot of opportunity to add. SLO County is not experiencing what some of the neighboring counties are seeing with a need to tighten around pension liability. • Airport Terminal: The new terminal at the SLO Airport will be opening on 11/1 and the entire airport facility (curb-to-curb) will now be smoke-free. • Public Health is holding a free flu shot clinic on Wednesday, 10/18 for County employees, first responders and their families through a First Responder Point of Distribution Exercise. 		
6. Health Commissioner Updates	<p>Chair Sage attends the Healthy Communities Committee meetings monthly and reported that a couple of members recently attended a statewide planning meeting where they talked about bringing health elements into all community planning, which seems to be very successful.</p> <p>Chair Sage brought forward an announcement from Commissioner Warren (who is absent tonight) that on Saturday, Nov 18th, at 7:00 pm there will be a candlelight vigil on the steps of the Atascadero City Hall for those who have been lost to addiction.</p> <p>Chair Sage also updated that she and Commissioner Campbell have talked about attending one of the Board of Supervisors meetings to speak during public comment related to the letter the Commission wrote to Board members about the air quality issue on the Nipomo Mesa/Oceano. She wanted to ensure that everyone was supportive of this and if not, to let her know.</p> <p>Commissioner Byram advised that Senate Bill 554 was approved by the Governor. This is good news in that this bill will allow for nurse practitioners and physician assistants to prescribe Suboxone. SB239 was also signed by Governor Brown, making it no longer a felony to knowingly expose your partner to HIV. This will help improve public health by creating an environment in which more people are willing to get tested for HIV and obtain the medical treatment they need to protect their own health and the health of others.</p> <p>Commissioner Raymond attended the Adult Services Policy Council meeting this month where it was reported that the Senior Nutrition Program changed their name to “Meals that Connect, ” to more accurately describe the program which does more than provide meals, by connecting seniors. It was also reported that CenCal Health has put out a Request for Proposals for broadened transportation, to centralize and coordinate transportation through one organization. Commissioner Raymond suggested inviting both of these organizations to present to the commission at a future meeting.</p>		
7. Committee Reports	<p>Chair Sage reported that there is still one vacancy on the Health Commission in the Direct Provider category. Applications are available on the Health Commission’s website at www.slopublichealth.org/health commission or call 781-5520.</p>		
8. Prospective Future Items	<p><u>November 13, 2017</u> Bullying / Suicide Prevention</p> <p><u>December 11, 2017</u> Planning meeting</p>		
9. Adjournment	Meeting adjourned at 7:45 P.M.	<i>Adjournment</i>	<i>All</i>