



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.

JOINT PUBLIC POLICY (JPP) COMMITTEE EMERGENCY MEETING MINUTES

June 17, 2009

Approved
8/19/2009

MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT	PUBLIC	HIV EPI AND OAPP STAFF
Whitney Engeran-Cordova, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Manuel Negrete	Miki Jackson	None
Lee Kochems, <i>Co-Chair</i>	Ron Osario	Karen Mall	
Kyle Baker	Chris Villa	Ruel Nolloedo	COMM STAFF/ CONSULTANTS
Carrie Broadus		Dean Page	
Jeffrey Goodman			Julie Cross
Ted Liso			Carolyn Echols-Watson
Kathy Watt			Jane Nachazel
Kimberlee Woods			Craig Vincent-Jones

CONTENTS OF COMMITTEE PACKET

- 1) **Agenda:** Joint Public Policy (JPP) Committee Agenda, 6/17/2009
- 2) **Minutes:** Joint Public Policy (JPP) Committee Meeting Minutes, 5/20/2009
- 3) **Minutes:** Joint Public Policy (JPP) Committee Emergency Meeting Minutes, 5/28/2009
- 4) **Brief:** Los Angeles County, Commission on HIV, State Budget Cuts Brief #3, State Cuts Will Harm People with HIV/AIDS, 6/9/2009
- 5) **Brief:** Los Angeles County, Commission on HIV, State Budget Cuts Brief #4, Understanding Federal, State and Local Budgeting/Allocations Processes, 6/16/2009
- 6) **Memorandum:** Conference Committee Actions on OA-Related Budget Items 6/15/2009, Michelle Roland, 6/16/2009
- 7) **Memorandum:** 2009 Joint Public Policy Issues Docket, Prevention Planning Committee Co-Chairs, 4/30/2009
- 8) **Agenda:** Senate Budget Committee, 6/14/2009
- 9) **Board Agenda:** Fact Sheet, Approval of 34 Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome Health Education/Risk Reduction Service Agreements and One Sole Source Agreement, 6/30/2009
- 10) **Memorandum:** Members of the Ryan White Working Group Oppose Senate Amendment 84 to Reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act without Addressing Community Concerns, 6/17/2009
- 11) **Legislation:** S 1201: Helping Fill the Medicare Rx Gap Act of 2009, 6/8/2009
- 12) **Matrix:** Public Policy Issues Docket – 2009, 6/16/2009

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mr. Engeran-Cordova called the meeting to order at 2:10 pm.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
MOTION #1: Approve the Agenda Order, as presented (*Passed by Consensus*).
3. **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:**
MOTION #2: Approve the 5/20/2009 Joint Public Policy (JPP) Committee Meeting Minutes and the 5/28/2009 Joint Public Policy (JPP) Committee Emergency Meeting Minutes, as presented (*Passed by Consensus*).
4. **PUBLIC COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED:** There were no comments.
5. **COMMITTEE COMMENT, NON-AGENDIZED:** There were no comments.

6. **CO-CHAIRS' REPORT:** There was no report.

7. **STATE BUDGET:**

- Mr. Engeran-Cordova felt the County and State were well represented at the 6/10/2009 Sacramento rally. Ms. Jackson offered to email rally pictures.
- Michelle Roland, Office of AIDS (OA), emailed highlights of the Budget Conference Committee proposals:

Programs	Reduction
ADAP	\$35 million, backfilled with \$25 million from ADAP Rebate Reserve
Education and Prevention	\$2.22 million (7% total funds)
Counseling and Testing	No reduction
Surveillance and Epidemiology Studies	\$1 million, with direction to spare core surveillance (10% total funds)
Early Intervention	No reduction
Therapeutic Monitoring Program	\$714,000 (9% total funds)
Housing	\$101,000 (2% total funds)
Home and Community Based Care	\$538,000 (5% total funds)
State Operations	\$3.427 million, with approximately 36 OA positions eliminated (16% total funds)

- The recommendation does not include AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) formulary reductions or imposition of premiums.
- Ms. Cross noted the Conference Committee's proposed cuts have been reduced from \$160 million to \$80.1 million. The proposal now goes to the Legislature for a vote. If passed, it then goes to the Governor who can "blue pencil" or eliminate portion of the proposed budget before approval.
- The Conference Committee did not cut sufficient funds to balance the budget, so it is very likely that if the budget proposal makes it to the governor's desk in its current form the Governor will "blue pencil" items.
- Ms. Cross reported the Controller had sought to borrow funds, but the Governor refused to sign off on the request.
- Mr. Engeran-Cordova said the federal government was blunt on 6/15/2009 in rejecting aid to California. Mr. Page said he has made numerous calls to the President's Office and has consistently been told, "California needs to take care of California."
- Mr. Vincent-Jones felt the Governor is challenging the federal government to intervene. Best advocate voices are consumers, those who care for them and providers, not policy professionals.
- Ms. Cross reported ADAP could survive about a week of a state shut-down with rebate and emergency access funds.
- Dr. Woods said some agencies have started laying off staff because they fear they will not be reimbursed due to state budget cuts, a state shut-down or due to decisions recently made on contracts, so services are already being affected.
- Ms. Broadus asked about the Office of AIDS Program & Policy (OAPP) budget. Mr. Baker replied OAPP is delaying decisions to reduce internal or contract expenditures until the budget is clearer so as not to create unnecessary service disruption and expense. There has been a hiring freeze for two years except for the Medical Director position. While there will be staff reductions if there are severe budget cuts, OAPP has to work through Civil Service and union requirements. OAPP looks to planning bodies to help set priorities.
- Organizations with contracts provide services "contingent on the availability of funds." Mr. Engeran-Cordova noted of the \$8 million in HE/RR County contracts, about \$6.6 million was in state funds.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones noted the County has managed its funds better than most so, barring State issues, is doing better—but will still be affected.
- Mr. Vincent-Jones noted Priorities and Planning Committee will address contingency plans to identify and maintain essential services on 6/23/2009. The Standards of Care Committee addresses the continuum of care as will the Commission/Prevention Planning Committee collaboration. Ms. Watt noted many agencies like hers are developing plans pertinent to their services.
- He credited all agencies and community partners for defending surveillance, which is integral to maintaining the system.
- ➡ Dr. Woods offered to tape personal stories that can be uploaded to YouTube or made into DVDs.
- ➡ Reprint Policy Briefs in publications like *Frontiers* and *Lesbian News* to capitalize on their strong reception. Al Ballesteros has already requested Commission information for *Adelante*. Briefs can also be run as ads with providers sharing the cost. Over-runs for additional copies are inexpensive. Ms. Jackson and Ms. Watt will follow up.
- ➡ Ms. Watt offered help with Spanish translations of briefs.

8. **HIV/STD CONTROL IN THE ADULT FILM INDUSTRY:**

- Mr. Engeran-Cordova noted the County is continuing to investigate a new HIV+ case of a known adult performer. There is some question as to where she was exposed, though, but it would not affect the Commission's concern with industry safety.

- The case has drawn renewed attention to the legislation that Los Angeles County, AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF) and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation is trying to sponsor. It includes education/prevention, testing and condom requirements, and strengthens CalOSHA enforcement options.
- The legislation identifies performers as employees, not subcontractors, subject to Cal-OSHA and payroll taxes.
- AHF sponsored the first of several planned demonstrations in front of the Hustler store that drew some 75 people.
- Efforts have identified a sponsor and are seeking a legislator to introduce the bill by the 7/8/2009, which is the close of the current legislative cycle. Mr. Engeran-Cordova felt the bill would pass once introduced, but it was difficult finding an author.
- Ms. Jackson noted records show adult performers have high rates of other Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs) which facilitate HIV transmission.
- Ms. Watt suggested framing the bill as a prevention issue to minimize distraction from the budget, which is cuts prevention.

9. HEALTH CARE REFORM:

- Ms. Cross said some key elements important to People with HIV (PWH) were losing traction, especially universal eligibility for Medicaid up to a certain Federal Poverty Level (FPL) and Early Treatment for HIV Act (ETHA) which, it was hoped, would fill the FPL Medicaid gap. The bill was close to going for mark-up.
- ➔ Include Health Care Reform as a Congressional visit talking point linking it to the state budget by emphasizing it cannot be implemented if the health system collapses from lack of funds. Consumers should emphasize the effect on them.

10. RYAN WHITE EXTENSION:

- Mr. Baker said he and Ms. Cross were in Washington, D.C. for the AIDS Action meetings and field visits including Energy and Commerce Committee staff. Ryan White was referred there as others were busy with health care reform. The Committee began with a community consensus document signed by over 250 organizations and hopes to have a bill in a few weeks.
- Senator Enzi has proposed an amendment to an existing Senate bill on health care reform that endorsed extension, but with differences including a five-year, rather than three-year, extension and without addressing community consensus issues.
- The five-year extension should not be an issue. TGA eligibility is not included which does not directly affect LA County, but could affect LA County regionally. There is no transition allowance for code-based states.
- AHF has worked with Senator Coburn and others, but not advocated for current proposals. It feels HIV testing and linkage into care should be incorporated in the Ryan White system as guidance for a point value on the supplemental application. Mr. Engeran-Cordova will be in Washington, D.C. next week and will advocate for consensus on that in any extension bill.
- Ms. Broadus expressed concern that the system was understaffed. She said up to 100 people have been away at testing events, so a point scale could have unintended consequences. Mr. Engeran-Cordova noted AHF's national van tour has been well received and a 50-state effort is planned. AHF believes incentives will draw funding to testing/linkage.
- Mr. Baker reported some Congressional discussion on the need for Ryan White in view of health care reform. Some have looked at it has a potential area of savings for overall health care without appreciating existing needs, so advocacy is needed.
- ➔ Mr. Engeran-Cordova will email the AHF proposal to the Committee when available.

11. LEGISLATIVE REVIEW AND STATUS: The current Public Policy Issues Docket – 2009 was in the packet.

12. FEDERAL ISSUES: There was no additional discussion.

13. PUBLIC BENEFITS: There was no additional discussion.

14. HIV SURVEILLANCE: There were no comments.

15. PREVENTION: There were no comments.

16. CORRECTIONS: There were no comments.

17. WORK PLAN: There were no comments.

18. ANNOUNCEMENTS: There were no announcements.

19. ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.