



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Health
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: July 21, 2015
Placement: Set Hearing on July 21,
2015 for D item on
August 25, 2015
Estimated Tme: 20 minutes on August
25, 2015
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Takashi Wada, MD, MPH, Director and Health Officer
Director(s) Public Health Department 681- 5102
Contact Info: Dan Reid, Assistant Deputy Director, 681-5173
SUBJECT: Ordinance for the Santa Barbara County Health Center Board and Co-Applicant Agreement between the Health Center Board and the Board of Supervisors.

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors consider the following recommendations:

Set a public hearing on the Departmental Agenda of August 25, 2015 to consider recommendations regarding required updates to the County Health Centers' governance structure, as follows:

- a) Consider the introduction (first reading) of a new Ordinance to replace Ordinance 09-4735 for the Santa Barbara County Health Center Board; and
- b) Approve the Santa Barbara County Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Co-Applicant Agreement between the Board of Supervisors and the Santa Barbara County Health Center Board.
- c) Set a hearing on the Administrative Agenda of September 1, 2015 to consider recommendations, as follows:
 - i. Consider the adoption (second reading) of a new Ordinance to replace Ordinance 09-4735 for the Santa Barbara County Health Center Board;
 - ii. Read the title of the Ordinance and waive the reading of the Ordinance in full; and

- iii. Determine that the above actions are organizational and administrative activities of government that are not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378 (b) (5) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

This item is on the Agenda to adopt a new Ordinance to replace Ordinance 09-4735 for the Santa Barbara County Health Center Board, and to approve a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) Co-Applicant Agreement between the Board of Supervisors and the Health Center Board to define the roles and responsibilities of each Party.

Background:

In 2009, Ordinance 09-4735 was adopted to create the Santa Barbara County Community Health Center Board and to establish the roles and responsibilities of the Board of Supervisors and the Health Center Board for the oversight of the Public Health Department's Federally Qualified Health Centers as overseen by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources Services Administration (HRSA). This relationship was referred to as the Co-Applicant Agreement.

Recently, the Public Health Department participated in an Operational Site Visit (OSV) conducted by a team of HRSA reviewers to ensure regulatory compliance. As a result of this OSV the Public Health Department (PHD) was found to be deficient in 4 of 19 FQHC requirements. This is a much better outcome than most other FQHC OSVs where the typical average number of deficiencies is in the range of 5-7. (For Public Entities such as Santa Barbara County Public Health Department, the number of deficiencies tends to run even higher). These items before your Board will address 1 of the 4 deficiencies. A plan to address the other 3 deficiencies: 1) sliding fee scale policy, 2) establishment of a more robust *privileging and credentialing* program, and; 3) improved subrecipient agreement compliance language, has already been developed and is underway.

Ordinance and Co-Applicant Board

In 2009, the Public Health Department established the Health Center Board to allow the expansion of its FQHC status from only homeless patients under its Healthcare for the Homeless grantee designation to its entire patient population. By doing so, PHD became both a Healthcare for the Homeless and a Community Health Center grantee. In 2014 HRSA issued additional clarifications concerning the shared and separate responsibilities for a Health Center Board associated with a Public Entity such as Santa Barbara County. In essence, the Board of Supervisors and the Health Center Board together make up the oversight Board for the PHD FQHC acting in a similar capacity to the Board of a 501(c)3 corporation. PHD determined that the current Ordinance (09-4735) must be replaced with a separate Co-Applicant Agreement that clearly delineates the roles and responsibilities of the Public Entity (County of Santa Barbara) and the Health Center Board. If the Ordinance and Co-Applicant Agreement are authorized by your Board, PHD will submit these to HRSA to address the citation of non-compliance. This issue has impacted many other Public Entities in California that have similar arrangements for their Health Center Boards and they are also undergoing updates and revisions.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Adopting this Ordinance change and the Co-Applicant Agreement will not affect the PHD adopted budget.

Special Instructions:

Clerk of the Board shall fulfill noticing requirements and publish a legal notice at least 10 days prior to the hearing on August 25, 2015.

Please send an electronic copy of the Minute Order to the PHD Contracts Unit at PHDRES.ContractsUnit@sbcphd.org.

Attachments:

None, attachments will be included in the full Board Letter which will be filed for the August 25, 2015 hearing.

Authored by:

Dan Reid, Assistant Deputy Director, 681-5173