



DEPARTMENT OF  
**HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

Promoting and protecting health, well-being, self-sufficiency, and safety of all in Marin County.



**MARIN HIV/AIDS CARE COUNCIL  
DRAFT MINUTES  
January 16, 2019**

**Marin County Health & Wellness Campus**

3240 Kerner Blvd., Room 107

San Rafael, CA 94901

3:00 – 5:00 pm

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**I. Call to Order**

CM Moske called meeting informally to order at 3:46 pm.

One of the members asked about Elaine Flores and Wade Flores. CM Moske said that both are doing better and both are home from the hospital. But Wade is a very sick man and has lost a lot of weight; he has a long haul ahead of him.

**II. Roll Call**

Council Members Present at Roll Call: Bobby Moske, Ken Traverca, Jennifer Malone, Esmeralda Garcia, Linda Dobra

Council Members Arriving Late: James Frazier

Council Members Absent: Elaine Flores (excused), Wade Flores (excused), Julie Dowling (excused), Alex Nozovskikh

Staff Present: Kevin Lee, Cicity Emerson,

Public Present: None

**III. Review and approval of Agenda – VOTE**

CM Kevin Lee requested that members review the draft agenda. No amendments were requested.

CM Jennifer Malone moved to approve the draft agenda as submitted. The motion was seconded by CM James Frazier. The motion was approved unanimously by the Council.

**IV. Review and approval of Minutes of the November 14, 2018 meeting – VOTE**

CM Moske requested that members review the draft minutes of the November 14, 2018 meeting.

CM Jennifer Malone moved to approve the draft minutes of the November 14, 2018, meeting. The motion was seconded by CM James Frazier. The motion was approved unanimously by the Council.

**V. General Announcements**

Kevin Lee said that something is scheduled for March.

CM Dobra announced that the National Condom Week will be on February 14, 2019. More to follow. Condoms will be distributed and maybe a tool kit from the STD Control Branch. She doesn't think there will be funds for advertising.

CM Moske reported that he is on California Association of Retired Americans (CARA), California Association of Pharmacists, RxSafe Marin and others. One of the things he has found is that many of them have community programs which are duplications. For example, RxSafe Marin is concerned with the opioid crisis, safe disposal of medicines, outreach, etc. This is also a focus of the CARA. One of the things these organizations are starting to do is "piggyback" and partner up. Spahr Center could offer training to HIV/AIDS patients who are seniors on everything they wanted to know about medicines, opiates, and others, how to take them, how to dispose of them. CARA urges members to have a will, name an executor, durable power of attorney, etc. These programs are available to the Spahr Center. CM Moske's focus is to get these various organizations to collaborate and not duplicate efforts.

CM Dobra stated that many pharmacies do not sell syringes because the laws governing syringes have changed so many times that pharmacists are not sure what current laws are and so do not sell syringes. A training should be provided to them about current law.

CM Moske stated that he has been working with Melissa Struzzo, etc. at HHS. A letter was sent out by the State to pharmacists about distributing Narcan (naloxone), stating that pharmacists would not be prosecuted for giving it out. Dr. Matt Willis, the Public Health Officer for Marin County, has issued a standing order, affecting all 37 pharmacies in Marin. Medi-Cal will pay for it. The problem now is that they haven't been trained. RxSafe Marin is working on that.

CM Malone announced that she is on a panel to take place on February 1, 2019 on Seniors and Economic Security. It is open to the public.

CM Malone shared changes with Mental Health, namely that the psychiatrist has resigned from the position, and The Spahr Center will discuss with the County whether to continue funding this position.

**VI. Public Comment**

None, as there were no members of the public present.

**VII. Co-Chair Report**

CM Moske reported that, after speaking with Wade Flores, he is not sure Wade will be able to participate in the Care Council for now. He may come back stronger than ever at a later time, but not now. He's having trouble navigating; he's using a walker.

**VIII. Prevention Program Report**

CM Dobra reported that with the new calendar year there are new contracts. Kevin Lee has been working diligently on a work plan, based on a meeting with our community partners at Spahr Center. We can meet all our goals that are in alignment with the "Getting to Zero Initiative" at al. Goals include increasing access to PrEP and testing, treating substance abuse, partner services, linkage to care. There has also been working to combine HIV/AIDS programs with the STD program. There is now an effort to expand testing and provide needle exchange here at the Campus, with showers and an STD clinic.

CM Dobra was not able to attend the last Care Council meeting because she was attending an STD conference in Orlando, FL, put on by the national STD Directors. It was good that it was held in the South as there was a lot of information about working with communities of color, microaggressions, etc.

There was a regional STD collaborative with a number of counties, including Sonoma, Solano, Berkeley, et al. Sonoma was very proactive in providing services, testing, etc. to victims of wildfires. ... There was general discussion about the number of syphilis cases. Updates will be provided at future meetings.

**IX. Division of Public Health Report**

Cicily Emerson reported that work is being done on grants for the next year, Ryan White Parts A and B. Supplemental funds have been obtained which are being used at Spahr Center for needle exchange. Also, funds were provided to Marin Community Clinics (MCC) to help them get their PrEP program started. They are having evening clinics.

CM Moske said he did a "secret shopper" and found that he could obtain Narcan at Walgreens, CVS and other pharmacies but not at MCC. Apparently, there is reluctance because they are federally funded. Cicily said that she would take this up with Dr. Matt Willis, the Public Health Officer. On the other hand, Kaiser seems to have a policy to offer Narcan with every opioid prescription, including cough syrup.

There is also the HHS Strategic Plan which is now finished. Cicily is not sure what the roll-out will look like, but it is an equity-driven, data-driven plan. She will forward a copy of the plan to the members of the Care Council.

Kevin Lee reported on the Forum which took place on November 29, 2018. He provided a hand-out of the PowerPoint slides.

Kevin Lee reported the results of the questionnaire and the prioritization. There were about 14 clients at the Forum and additional people who weren't consumers of Ryan White services. These clients ranked benefits counseling as highest priority; out-patient ambulatory health services, oral health care and medical case management all tied for second place; food cards, mental health and psychosocial support services tied for number three; housing and food pantry tied for number 8; emergency financial assistance, health insurance premium and cost-sharing assistance, and transportation ranked lower. He explained the chart showing results of Forum and Council service use rankings. Then, he reported rankings for satisfaction with the Forum itself.

Kevin Lee explained the Client Satisfaction Survey. There were suggestions for additional questions. These surveys go out at the end of the Ryan White fiscal year i.e. end of March, beginning of April. Therefore, the suggested additional questions will not be on this year's survey. There was general discussion.

**X. FY 18/19 Ryan White Budget Update**

Cicily Emerson reported that she will give a more concrete update at the March 2019 meeting.

CM Moske told the story of a client who had been provided with CalFresh. The client decided to save it until he was in college, but CalFresh cut him off. Clients must spend CalFresh or it will be withdrawn. The point of that policy is that if a client is so desperate that they need to be on CalFresh, they should not have any money left over at the end of the month. Clearly, the rules need to be explained to clients better.

The update itself is in the hand-out provided by Kevin Lee. Ryan White 18/19 fiscal year is from March 1, 2018 to February 28, 2019. Marin County was provided with \$461,427. The Council allocated as shown in the slide. He explained the rest of the slide. There was general discussion plus Q&A.

Kevin Lee suggested asking Melissa Struzzo come to a Care Council Meeting and explain what is offered by the County.

**XI. Policies and Procedures - VOTE**

Kevin Lee reported that the by-laws were discussed at the last meeting and changes were proposed. He reviewed the suggested changes.

**Change 1** – Update the following language: *Work collaboratively with other agencies or entities that provide or fund HIV related services (e.g. clinics, hospitals, healthcare providers, social service agencies, and Marin County Housing Authority (HOPWA) in an effort to best fulfill its purpose(s).*

**Change 2** - Add language in Member Handbook: *As part of orientation new members will sign a document that indicates that they have reviewed the commitments and rules of the Council, including attendance, proxy voting, and respectful engagement and they agree to follow the policies set forth by the Council.*

CM Travirca moved that the Council vote on both changes together. The motion was seconded by CM Frazier. The motion was approved unanimously by the Council.

CM Travirca moved to approve both changes as submitted. The motion was seconded by CM Frazier. The motion was approved unanimously by the Council.

**XII. Co-Chair Nominations - VOTE**

Kevin Lee listed off the Council members who were nominated and who agreed. CM James Frazier, CM Wade Flores and CM Bobby Moske were nominated and agreed to serve. This is a year-long commitment. Bobby and James both made brief statements as to why they wanted to be co-chair. Kevin Lee then passed out ballots, asking them to vote on two people of the three to be co-chairs.

The Council voted in favor of CM James Frazier and CM Wade Flores as co-chairs.

**XIII. FY 19/20 Meeting Calendar - VOTE**

Kevin Lee reviewed the Care Council meeting dates and topics for 2019. CM Garcia moved to accept the current calendar for 2019. CM Travirca seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**XIV. Membership - VOTE**

CM Malone moved that Ken Travirca be retained as Council member for another two years. CM Frazier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**XV. New Business - None**

**XVI. Adjourn**

CM Moske moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:47 pm.

**Next Meeting:**            **Wednesday, March 13, 2019**  
**Health & Wellness Campus**  
**3240 Kerner Blvd., Room 110**  
**San Rafael, CA**  
**3:00 – 5:00 pm**