



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**

**September 14, 2022**

**Marin County Health & Wellness Campus**

Meeting conducted via Zoom and in person

3:00 – 5:30 pm

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**I. Call to Order**

CM Wade Flores called the meeting to order at 3:08 pm.

**II. Roll Call**

Council Members Present at Roll Call: Bobby Moske, Elaine Flores, Wade Flores, Linda Dobra, Alexey Nizovskikh, Julie Dowling, Jimi Amos, Julie Case, Lydia Arellano, Miko Lagrimas

Council Members Excused: Leslie Gallen, James Frazier

Staff Present: Nga Le (HHS), Cicily Emerson (HHS), Loretta Rogers (HHS), Lisa Dickey (HHS)

Public Present: Racquel Beltran (MCC), Fel Agrelius (Spahr)

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

CM Wade Flores asked members to review and approve the draft agenda. The motion was made by CM Elaine Flores, seconded by CM Bobby Moske, and passed unanimously.

**IV. Review and Approval of Minutes – VOTE**

a. July 13, 2022, meeting minutes – CM Wade Flores asked members to review the July 13, 2022, meeting minutes. The motion was made by CM Julie Dowling, seconded by CM Elaine Flores, and passed unanimously.

**V. General Announcements:** CM Wade Flores asked for any announcements.

- a. CM Bobby Moske announced that there have been changes at the Spahr Center and everyone will be notified.
- b. Cicily Emerson announced that Esmeralda Garcia has resigned from the council. We will hold co-chair nominations at the next meeting.
- c. Cicily Emerson announced that the Spahr Center's Kings, Queens, and Vaccines MPX vaccination event will be on Sunday in Fairfax.

- d. CM Lydia Arellano announced that she recently joined the Buckelew board.
- e. CM Bobby Moske announced that the two peer advocate programs for mental health at the county has ended.

**VI. Public Comment:** None.

**VII. Co-Chair Report:** CM Wade Flores reminded everyone of the rules of respectful engagement. He thanked Esmeralda for her service as co-chair and member of the Council. He announced that he has filed a grievance against the MCC Dental program.

**VIII. Prevention Program Report:** CM Linda Dobra reported the following:

- 1. Monkeypox vaccine is being made available to the general community.
- 2. This Sunday, there will be a Kings, Queens, and Vaccine event in Fairfax where monkeypox vaccinations will be available. She asked if there would be a way to promote involvement of the Care Council with the community at such events. It could be a way to increase Care Council membership.
- 3. The San Rafael Support Service Area / homeless encampment under the freeway has officially closed.
- 4. Ritter continues to do their mobile medical. Alejandra Garcia continues to go out with them.
- 5. Work continues with the Jail program around protocols to assure that there is access to medication and treatment in a more responsive way. There is another meeting tomorrow about this issue.
- 6. HIV and HCV testing in the Jail continues.
- 7. Bobby Moske reported that he had received his first dose of monkeypox and was told to wait 28 days before getting his second dose. Can he get it early? Linda Dobra stated that he should not get it early and should work with his care provider or clinic such as MCC for his second dose. Depending on supplies and first doses given, the County will probably be planning a second dose clinic in the future.
- 8. CM Wade Flores asked about reactions to monkeypox vaccine injections. CM Linda Dobra stated that most people will have a reaction to the monkeypox vaccine around the injection area when given intra-dermal. The reaction could be mild or severe, lasting a few days to a couple of weeks. Subcutaneous injections seem to cause milder reactions.

**IX. Division of Public Health Report:** Cicily Emerson shared her screen and reported the following:

- a. COVID-19 transmission rate in Marin per CDC metrics is now medium.
- b. She quickly reviewed the COVID variants, stating that the Omicron BA.5 variant is more contagious and less virulent
- c. She stated that the bivalent booster by both Pfizer and Moderna is now available. It contains vaccine against the original COVID-19 strain from Wuhan and vaccine against the Omicron BA.5 variant.

The booster can be obtained at the Northgate Center clinic. The CDC and the ACIP recommend that eligible persons get both the bivalent booster and the annual flu shot. These can be given at the same visit. The population which is at highest priority are those individuals over age 60 and those with risk for severe illness. People 12 years of age and older are recommended to receive one booster. People aged 12 to 17 years should only receive the Pfizer booster.

- d. Regarding monkeypox, there are currently 21 confirmed cases in Marin County and 748 cases in San Francisco. There are 4,140 confirmed cases in California. Pride celebrations amplified transmission. High risk behaviors are driving transmission. 50% of cases are from one-time sexual partners.
- e. She reported that there have been increased extreme temperature events since 2010 and record-setting wildfire in the western United State. She reviewed recommendations for residents in response to these extreme temperature events as well as the preparations that the County is making to assist residents, such as cooling centers.
- f. CM Linda Dobra recommended that residents who rely on medical devices should contact PG&E for a comprehensive plan during planned power shut-offs.
- g. CM Alexey Nizovskikh reported that MyTurn has not been updated. There are no options to choose the booster. Cicily Emerson replied that the booster is available at the 3240 Kerner clinic and via appointment at Northgate.

**X. Oral Health Update:** Racquel Beltran provided the following update:

- a. MCC is transitioning into a new electronic medical records system. Dental and medical records will be combined. This will improve continuity of care and enable staff to communicate more easily with each other regarding patient care. In the next week, the staff will be out for two days of training on the new system. The new system will “go live” on October 25, 2022. Appointments are not open yet. This does not mean that MCC will not be able to see patients; it just means that appointments are being tracked differently right now. In the first week after the transition, MCC will be operating at 50%; in the next two weeks they will operate at 75% and then at 100% thereafter.
- b. There have not been many transportation requests. However, this service is available and is funded.
- c. She has been working with UCSF regarding some billing inquiries. This is regarding an MCC patient who was referred to UCSF for care. MCC is following up.
- d. MCC has hired a new provider, Dr. Kim. He is working with MCC three days a week, focusing on emergency care. He works out of 3260 Kerner and the 4<sup>th</sup> Street location. He treats both adults and children. She also stated they are short of staff and a lot of providers are having to do hygiene appointments on their own. In general, MCC is ramping up preventative care.

- e. Jodie Campbell is no longer the MCC case manager and has left the Care Council.
- f. CM Alexey Nizovskikh reported that he has noticed a great improvement in MCC dental care and thanks Racquel for same.

**XI. Presentation – Service Category Summary Sheets:** Nga Le gave a PowerPoint presentation, explaining the service categories, the services provided, and the funds spent for FY 2021-22. A copy of the Service Category Summary Sheets was given to all Council members via email before the meeting.

- a. The services are divided into two categories: Core Services, such as primary care and oral health; and Support Services, such as case management and emergency financial assistance.
- b. For each service, Nga described the service, the number of unduplicated clients were served during the fiscal year, the units of service provided, and the amount of funds spent.

**XII. Year End Review:** Nga Le gave a PowerPoint presentation of the Year-end Review. A copy of the presentation was sent to all Council members.

- a. She defined Prioritization, establishing the priorities of needs for people living with HIV/AIDS in Marin, and Allocation, determining the funding needs of each program.
- b. She reviewed the calendar, showing when data from the satisfaction surveys was presented and when the epidemiology data was presented. These two data sets will help inform prioritization and allocation decisions by the Council.
- c. She then reviewed the prioritization and allocation processes. She pointed out that as a general rule, 75% of funds are to be spent on core services and 25% on support services, but this rule has been waived.

**XIII. Conflict of Interest Review:** Nga Le gave a PowerPoint presentation on conflict of interest, defining exactly what is meant by a conflict. Each member of the Council is asked to sign a Conflict-of-Interest Disclosure form during the break to submit it to Nga Le.

**XIV. BREAK:** There was a ten-minute break.

**XV. Fiscal Year 2023-24 Annual Prioritization – VOTE:** Each Council member prioritized the services. The decisions were averaged. There was general discussion, and the final determinations were submitted to a vote. CM Lydia Arellano made the motion to approve the prioritizations and CM Bobby Moske seconded the motion. Prioritizations for FY 2023-24 were approved.

**XVI. Fiscal Year 2023-24 Annual Allocation – VOTE:** The Council was provided a spreadsheet detailing the previous year’s allocations and the County’s recommendation for the FY 2023-24 allocation. CM Wade Flores requested an increase to the food vouchers. CM Julie Case made a proposal for a 7% reduction across all the service categories in order to move that amount to food vouchers. There was discussion and disagreement with the proposal. CM Julie Case amended the proposal to a 5% decrease. There was disagreement with the proposal. There was a request for HHS staff to review the allocation recommendations and come up with another proposal. The Council will reconvene next month to complete the allocations.

**XVII. Membership:**

a. Membership Renewal: Moved to next meeting.

**XVIII. New Business**

**XIX. Adjourn:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 pm. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 3:00 pm.

**Next Meeting:                    Wednesday, October 12, 2022, 3:00 to 5:00 pm**  
**Location: 3240 Kerner, Room 109 and via Zoom**