



County of Santa Cruz 0137

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

701 OCEAN STREET, SUITE 500, SANTA CRUZ, CA 95060-4069

(831) 454-2200 FAX: (831) 454-3262 TDD: (831) 454-2123

JANET K. BEAUTZ
FIRST DISTRICT

ELLEN PIRIE
SECOND DISTRICT

MARDI WORMHOUDT
THIRD DISTRICT

TONY CAMPOS
FOURTH DISTRICT

JEFF ALMQUIST
FIFTH DISTRICT

AGENDA: 2/6/01

January 26, 2001

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

RE: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION

Dear Members of the Board:

Attached is the Annual Report of the Public Health Commission for calendar year 2000. I recommend that the Board accept and file this report and direct the Chairman to thank the members of the Commission for their efforts on the County's behalf.

Sincerely,

TONY CAMPOS, Chairman
Board of Supervisors

TC:ted

cc: Public Health Commission

01165A6



County of Santa Cruz⁰¹³⁸

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1080 EMELINE AVENUE SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0962
(831) 454-4000 FAX: (831) 454-4488 TDD: (831) 454-4123

ADMINISTRATION

January 23, 2001

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Dear Board Members:

Enclosed is the Public Health Commission Report for the year 2000. The Health Services Agency appreciates the contributions of the Commissioners and looks forward to working with them on important public health issues in the coming year.

Sincerely,

Rama Khalsa, Ph.D.
Agency Administrator

RK/mj

cc: 1ST District PH Commissioner, Jean Poulos, Ph.D.
4th District PH Commissioner, Barry Schneider
5th District PH Commissioner, Bernie Goldner
Betsy McCarty, R.N., M.S., Chief of Public Health

YEAR END REPORT 2000

ROLE OF THE BOARD

The Public Health Commission advises the Board of Supervisors on preventive health programs and other responsibilities of the HSA relating to public health and clinical services. The Commission is also charged to educate the public about health issues and to advocate for the health needs of the public.

MEETING DATES, TIMES, AND LOCATIONS

The Public Health Commission meets monthly on the 4th Thursday of the month from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. Meetings take place at the 1060 Emeline Avenue Building Complex. The Commission usually adjourns in November or December and at least one month during the summer.

BOARD STRUCTURE FOR 2000

1 st District Representative	Jean Poulos, Chairperson
2 nd District Representative	Vacant
3 rd District Representative	Vacant
4 th District Representative	Barry Schneider
5 th District Representative	Bernie Goldner

BOARD STAFF

Betsy McCarty, RN, MS
Chief of Public Health, Health Services Agency

Administrative Aide (Will be vacant in I-2001)

ATTENDANCE

Please see attached roster

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

January - December 2000

During the year 2000 the County Public Health Commission members continued to work on a number of important public health concerns. This was done, despite the persistent two vacancies on the Commission and the difficulty in maintaining a quorum. The Commission focused on the following areas of concern:

- Smoking and Health
- Sewage Spills
- Hepatitis C
- Influenza Pandemic Planning
- Outbreak of Skin Infections at a Local Nail Salon

The Commission continued to demonstrate their concerns about smoking and health monitoring the progress of the program funded by the \$100,000 grant awarded to the County in the “Joe Camel” litigation settlement. The Commission recommended and the Board of Supervisors subsequently approved a Youth Art Project for elementary students as the most favorable proposal. The Commission was pleased to see photographs of the murals that were made by the selected schools, and were featured on County buses.

The Commission continued to speak out in favor of the California law that banned smoking in bars, taverns, and gaming clubs. The Commission supported efforts to enforce the law and opposed legislative efforts to change the law. The Commission is supportive of new efforts to enforce the existing smoking restrictions and will follow the progress of the enforcement program proposed for the tobacco settlement funds in 2001.

The Commission continued to follow the changing status of Watsonville Community Hospital. The new CEO of Watsonville Hospital, who was appointed as a Public Health commission member in 2000, hosted a meeting of the Commission at the hospital in May of 2000. The Commissioners toured the facility and heard a presentation about the work of the hospital and their future goals.

In 2000 the Commissioners were asked by a member of the local Hazardous Materials Advisory Board to monitor the occurrence and response to local sewage spills. The Commission agreed to undertake this task. They were briefed by a representative of the County Environmental Health Unit on the nature of these incidents and the terminology used in describing the incident and the response. The Commission receives reports on sewage spills as a regular Agenda item at their monthly meetings.

The Commission heard a detailed presentation about the emerging problems of persons infected with Hepatitis C. They received copies of the letter sent to the Board of Supervisors in the spring of 2000, regarding this serious health problem. The Commission supported the additional funds approved in the Health Services Budget for 2000/01 for Hepatitis screening and education. The Commission

plans to visit the Drop-In Centers in Santa Cruz and Watsonville in 2001, where the programs will take place.

The Commission saw films and had a lengthy presentation about the problems caused by influenza and the potential for a worldwide influenza outbreak. They followed the influenza vaccine shortage in the fall of 2000 and supported the County's plan for distribution of the limited amount of vaccine available in the fall and early winter months.

The Commission closely followed the outbreak of skin infections caused by *Mycobacterium fortuitum* that was linked to a local nail salon. The Commissioners were eager to learn more about the monitoring of these establishments by the State and the potential for risks to the public health. They will continue to follow this matter in 2001.

Goals and Objectives January - December 2000

1. Monitor health care delivery issues in Santa Cruz County including managed care, hospital services, and emergency services.
 - a. Invite SCCHO representative to give a report
 - b. Onsite visits as appropriate
 - c. Emergency Room back-up at hospitals by specialists.
2. Monitor and advocate for immunizations for all residents.
3. Continue to monitor and respond to a variety of Public Health issues such as MCAH, environmental health (air and water quality issues and restaurant issues), Jail medical care, HIV, tobacco education, violence and harassment, domestic and workplace violence prevention, and cancer incidence.
4. Monitor public implications of State and National Welfare Reform.
5. Advocate for prenatal care for all residents.
6. Continue to monitor and support anti-tobacco efforts and work of Children and Families First Commission.
7. Review community assessment data including updated United Way survey results.
8. Continue to respond to the Board of Supervisors request and emerging issues.

Many of the goals and objectives will continue into the year 2001-02. The Commission will examine goals and objectives in their January meeting and modify as approved.

ATTENDANCE RECORD- 2000

	Jean Poulos	Bernie Goldner	Barry Schneider
JANUARY	P	P	P
FEBRUARY		MEETING CANCELED	
MARCH	P	A	P
APRIL	P	P	P
MAY	P	P	P
JUNE		MEETING CANCELLED	
JULY	P	P	A
AUGUST	P	A	A
SEPTEMBER	P	P	P
OCTOBER	P	P	A
NOVEMBER		MEETING CANCELLED	
DECEMBER	P	P	P

P- **PRESENT**A- **ABSENT**