

Fallbrook Regional HEALTH DISTRICT

AGENDA

GOVERNMENT/PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, December 27, 2019 at 10:00 A.M.

Community Room, 138 S. Brandon Rd., Fallbrook CA 92028

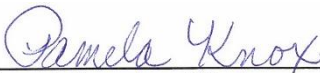
Committee Members: Kate Schwartz-Frates and Barbara Mroz

Executive Director: Rachel Mason

Staff Members: Pam Knox and Mireya Banuelos

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Public Comments
3. Discussion Items
 - a. **Legislative Update – Kate Schwartz-Frates**
 - i. Review of Report given at December Regular Board Meeting)
 - ii. Legal Counsel’s End-of-Year Legislative Report
 - b. **FRHD Events/Community Engagement Efforts – Mireya Banuelos**
 - i. **Community Health Contracts**
 - Dec 30 (3:30pm-4:30pm) Mental Health Systems, Youth Advocacy Coalition Drugged Driving Prevention Rally
 - ii. **Community Events at 1636 E. Mission Rd**
 - Mondays (5:30pm-6:30pm) Yoga for Cancer Recovery
 - Mondays (6:30pm-8pm) Food Addicts in Recovery Anonymous
 - c. **Community Events/Meetings – Mireya Banuelos**
 - i. **Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce**
 - Jan 6 (8:30am) First Monday Coffee, 111 S. Main Ave.
 - Jan 9 (8am-9am) SunUpper, hosted by Marc Sigmon Insurance Agent & Pressed & Blessed Clothing Company, 106 W. Hawthorne, Ste. A
 - Jan 10 (4pm) Ribbon Cutting, Celebrating 30 years in Business for Law Office of Deborah L. Zoller, 566 Alvarado St.
 - Jan 15 (4pm-7pm) Chamber Member Business Expo, 2001 Old Highway 395
 - Jan 24 (noon) Lunch Mob, 103 S. Main Ave.
 - Jan 29 (4:30-7:30pm) Wine Down Wednesday, 190 Red Mountain Ln.
 - d. **2020 Facebook Average Organic Daily Reach in December as of 12/20 – Mireya Banuelos**
4. Adjournment

I certify that on December 20, 2019, I posted a copy of the foregoing agenda near the regular meeting place of the Board of Directors of Fallbrook Regional Health District, said time being at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting. The American with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in or denied the benefits of District business. If you need assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District office 24 hours prior to the meeting at 760-731-9187.


Board Secretary/Clerk

LAW OFFICES
JEFFREY G. SCOTT

16935 WEST BERNARDO DRIVE, SUITE 170
SAN DIEGO, CA 92127

JEFFREY G. SCOTT

(858) 675-9896
FAX (858) 675-9897

Of Counsel
JAMES R. DODSON

Date: December 5, 2019

To: Board of Directors
Rachel Mason, Executive Director
Fallbrook Regional Health District

From: Jeffrey G. Scott, General Counsel

Re: **2019 Legislative Bills of Interest – Fallbrook Regional Health District**

We are now past the first legislative year of Governor Newsom's term which saw him take an ambitious approach to several big policy areas including housing affordability, expanding health coverage, reducing drug pricing, and addressing homelessness. Of the 1,042 bills that made it to his desk, he signed 870 and vetoed 172. His veto rate at 16.5% was slightly higher than Governor Brown.

The first year for Governor Newsom did not come without some bumps in the road. As the Legislature moved towards the end of session in mid-September, with numerous bills ready to be sent to the Governor, the Governor began to "signal" he was not ready for some bills and provided some last-minute amendments on other bills. Additionally, it is my understanding that a few state departments, which would normally provide input to the Legislators on their bills, had been silent. This led to frustration from Legislators on the uncertainty as to the fate of their bills.

The frustration was particularly evident with SB 276 (Pan). This bill was targeting the increase in medical exemptions for children to be vaccinated that were being generated by a small number of physicians. The "anti-vax" community had been extremely vocal and, in some situations, aggressive with Legislators, which was making them very uncomfortable. The Governor did weigh in on SB 276 providing some amendments roughly half-way through the session, which he then said would result in him supporting the bill. At the very end of session, he unexpectedly came back and asked for more amendments before he would sign the bill. It is my understanding that the hallway rumors on the last night of the session was how the Legislature was growing more and

more frustrated with the Governor, which may have contributed to the Legislature passing SB 1 (Atkins) when the Governor had been communicating that he did not want the bill. SB 1 is the bill that would codify in state law certain federal regulations that President Trump has indicated he wants to change. SB 1 was vetoed.

Looking back on the year, there are several bills and budget actions that impact healthcare.

Budget Actions:

The budget bill signed in June accomplished several key health initiatives including:

- Create a state individual mandate with a penalty for not having health insurance
- With the penalties collected, use those funds to increase and expand subsidies for people purchasing health insurance
 - The state subsidy plan will provide \$428 million in 2020, \$479 million in 2021, and \$547 million in 2022.
 - The state subsidy plan is available to those with income at or below 138% of the federal poverty level (FPL) and between 200% and 600% of FPL.
 - It is estimated in 2020 that 922,000 Californians will be eligible for subsidies.
- Expand Medi-Cal coverage of undocumented immigrants increasing from up to age 18 to up to age 26.
- **\$20 million to create a grant program for hospitals to apply for up to \$50,000 to fund a drug and alcohol counselor to work in the emergency department.** This program is designed after a pilot program at UC Davis' emergency department where having a drug and alcohol counselor saw good results by connecting many patients, with an underlying addiction, with services to treat their addiction problem. This was shown to reduce costs significantly as many of these patients were frequent users of the emergency department.

Actions Created by Executive Order:

Create a single purchaser system for drugs for Medi-Cal program. The Governor also wants to allow for other local governments and employers to join the system to further strengthen their bargaining with pharmaceutical companies. Los Angeles, Santa Clara, Alameda, and San Francisco counties have announced their intention of partnering with the state on this effort.

Governor Newsom is still talking about moving towards a "single payer" health system. It is not clear what exactly he means by "single-payer." A task force was created through legislation last year to look at what the state needs to do when considering moving to a single-payer system, but its Commissioners have not been announced.

SB 697 (Caballero) – Signed by the Governor - Although this is not a “scope” bill, it does reduce some of the administrative burdens for physicians when supervising physician assistants. The California Medical Association (CMA) advocated that by reducing administrative burdens physicians will use more PAs which will increase access to care.

AB 1611 (Chiu) – Stalled in Senate Health – Two-Year Bill - This bill would prohibit “balance billing” by hospitals for emergency services. Balance billing is the situation where a patient who has insurance ends up at a hospital to receive emergency services and the hospital does not have a contract with the patient’s health insurance company. When the hospital bills the patient’s insurance company and does not receive what they charge they send the patient a bill for the “balance” of the bill. This bill would provide in this situation, the patient would only owe their deductible and/or co-pay. The bill also outlines what the hospital would be paid in those situations. This was a hotly contested bill and was made into a two-year bill in the Senate Health Committee. There is also legislation at the federal level looking at the same issue which may have an impact.

SB 227 (Leyva) – Signed by the Governor - Several labor groups sponsored this bill, which was opposed by a number of hospital groups and requires the Department of Public Health (CDPH) to periodically inspect hospitals for compliance with nurse-patient ratios. The bill also establishes specific administrative penalties for violations.

SB 758 (Portantino) – Stalled in Assembly Health Committee -This bill requires hospitals that have a building that is not in compliance with the January 1, 2030, seismic safety standard to report to the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development what services are provided in each building of that hospital. This is a two-year bill and is believed to be the bill to allow for negotiations around making some changes to the 2030 seismic standards.

AB 890 (Wood) – Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee - This bill would allow nurse practitioners (NPs) to practice independently. This bill has been attempted for several years and has never made it to the Governor. The bill was opposed by the California Medical Association (CMA) and did not pass out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. The NPs continue to advocate this would help alleviate the access to care problems many Californians face with trying to see a physician.

AB 329 (Rodriguez) – Stalled in Assembly Public Safety – This bill would make an assault committed on the property of a public or private hospital punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, by a fine not exceeding \$2,000, or by both that fine and imprisonment. By expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

AB 5 (Gonzalez) – Signed by the Governor – This bill creates several exemptions from the recent Dynamex court decision which dramatically reduced the ability to classify individuals as independent contractors. The Dynamex decision even called into question whether physicians could continue to be classified independent contractors. Through this bill, physicians and other professionals were able to obtain an exemption.

What is Ahead for 2020?

2020 may be a very busy year for healthcare legislation. There has been discussion that the Governor is very interested in pushing for cost containment measures and the Governor has also indicated he would like to explore ways to provide more services in a coordinated manner.

To: Board of Directors

Re: Community Engagement

Nov/Dec 2019 Events/Meetings attended and/or coordinated by District Staff

From: Governmental/Public Engagement Committee

FRHD Events/Community Engagement Efforts

- Nov 7 Woman of Wellness "Emotional First Aid Skills" POSTPONED to JAN 9th
- Nov 20 Community Collaborative for Health & Wellness
Facilitated by Janine Loescher, Program Coordinator, Fallbrook Smiles Project and Rachel Mason, Executive Director, FRDH
Discussion: Community Challenges, unmet needs, what FRHD can offer, what organizations present can offer...

Presentation: Planning Stages of "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren" Support Group
- Nov/Dec Community Health Contract Payment Site Visits: as of today, 14 out of 17 visits have been completed.
- Nov 23 Lions Gift of Sight Event
About 175 individuals were provided a vision screening by an optometrist and they eyeglasses were gifted based on prescription availability. Report on exact number of residents served will be reported soon.

Community Events/Meetings Attended

- Nov 9 Fallbrook Food Pantry Race to End Hunger Walk & 5k
Attended event in collaboration with CSUSM Nursing Students and the U.S. Census Bureau.
- Nov 20 Sundowner at Mission Resource Conservation District
- Nov 21 Trupiano's 15th Anniversary Ribbon Cutting
- Dec 7 Fallbrook Christmas Parade
Chairman Howard Salmon rode in a Co-funded NCFPD ambulance, driven by a NCFPD Representative.
Parade Announcement:
Fallbrook Regional Health District Board Chairman Howard Salmon is riding in one of the North County Fire Protection District's co-funded ambulances. Did you know this year the District is providing more than \$1 Million to help fund 17 non-profit organizations delivering health related services to our community? The District is wishing all a Healthy & Merry Storybook Christmas!
- Dec 13 Fallbrook Chamber of Commerce Member Duties: Volunteering at Wine & a Bite

Facebook Average Organic Daily Reach in November: 325 people

***Next Governmental/Public Engagement Committee will be on Friday, Dec 27th, 10am,
138 S. Brandon Rd., Community Room***