

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
COMMISSION ON ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS  
(CAOD)**

**Meeting Summary – May 8, 2019**

**COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:** Deena Duncan, Roger Gertmenian, Jack Kearney, Lou La Monte, Jihan Mockridge, Juan Navarro, Mordechai Polityko, Bennett Root, Sharon Shelton, John Song, Wendie Warwick, Howard Winkler and G. Lola Worthington

**EXCUSED ABSENCES:** Commissioners Jozef Essavi, Sharona R. Nazarian, Sharon Papa, Monica Sanchez, and Kynna Wright

**UNEXCUSED ABSENCES:** Commissioners Luis Gutierrez and Jose Mendoza

**GUEST REGISTER:** Lydia Becerra, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control; Sylvie Gertmenian; Michelle Gibson, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control; Ed Nettles, Intervention Institute; Becca Phan, Tarzana Treatment Center; Ken Pierce, Center for Counseling; Francisco Reyes, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control; Anell Tercero, Tarzana Treatment Center; Denise Tom, California Community Foundation; Christina Vane-Perez, Substance Abuse Prevention and Control

**MATERIALS DISTRIBUTED:** Meeting Agenda; April Meeting Minutes; Development of County advocacy positions on legislation and budget items of interest memo; 2019-20 State Legislative Agenda (p. 36 – 42); Slide Presentation – First District

Topic	Discussion/Finding	Recommendations, Action, Follow-up
Call to Order	First Vice Chair Root, County of Los Angeles, to the Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs (CAOD) convened the meeting at 1:07 p.m.; a quorum was present.	
Introduction of Commissioners and Guests	First Vice Chair Root asked for self-introductions from all Commissioners and guests.	

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion/Finding</b>	<b>Recommendations, Action, Follow-up</b>
Motion to Excuse Absences	First Vice Chair Root asked for a motion to excuse the absences of Commissioners Jozef Essavi, Sharona R. Nazarian, Sharon Papa, Monica Sanchez, and Kynna Wright	First Vice Chair Root entertained a motion which was moved to approve by Com. Winkler, seconded by Com. La Monte and approved. Motion was unanimously carried.
Approval of Minutes	The minutes of the March 13, 2019 Meeting.	<p>Corrections to the April meeting minutes – Com. Kearney requested to add Com. Kearney objected to what he deemed inaccurate and unscientific data regarding April’s presentation on Flavored Tobacco Products and the E-Cigarette Epidemic Among Youth.</p> <p>Com. Juan Navarro would like the minutes to reflect he was present at the April meeting.</p> <p>First Vice Chair Root entertained a motion to approve minutes with stated corrections which was moved to approve by Com. La Monte, seconded by Com. Warwick and approved. Motion was unanimously carried.</p>

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<p>Presentation – Development of County Advocacy Positions</p> <p>Presenter: Joshua Bobrowsky, JD, MPH Director of Policy and Legislative Affairs Office of Communications and Public Affairs County of Los Angeles Department of Public Health</p>	<p>A County Commission or Department can advocate for the Board of Supervisors (BOS) to take a position on legislation but cannot take a position independent of the Board.</p> <p>There are two primary ways a position is moved – via a motion on a board agenda or a recommendation to change a policy on the County approved State Legislative Agenda. Once there’s a position from the board, a Commission is unable to articulate a different position.</p> <p>Each department has a CEO legislative affairs analyst assigned to work with them. If the CAOD wants to support/oppose legislation, the first step would be to contact the legislative affairs analyst via the CAOD liaison to find out if the County already has a position on this. If the County already has a position on an issue, there may not be a need to go any further. If the CAOD wants to continue with the process, a legislative analysis is required. The analysis is submitted to the CEO’s office for review and the CEO legislative office provides a formal review. Once this is returned to the CAOD, it can be reviewed and voted on by the full Commission.</p> <p>Question and Answer Period: Statement from Com. Root – You’re describing a document we don’t have the staff to produce. Per Mr. Bobrowsky – DPH can assist in this process, depending on resources available. The CAOD may want to prioritize requests for analysis as we are unable to assist in all requests.</p> <p>Question from Com. Worthington – We submitted a recommendation for SB58 in March to our health deputies and still haven’t heard back on it. Is there a timeline to anticipate a response? Per Mr. Bobrowsky – The response would be the review saying there is or isn’t existing policy. Once a recommendation is</p>	

	<p>forwarded to the BOS, you may not receive a response from the BOS.</p> <p>Question from Com. Root – How do we get the BOS to act on something in an emergency situation?  Per Mr. Bobrowsky – Given the CAOD’s capacity, you can submit a letter to the Board using your contacts in each district.  Statement from Com. Root – Would like to request a diagram of this process.  Per Mr. Bobrowsky – This has been more challenging than we expected as it is a CEO process. We are working with the CEO’s office to get something for you.</p>	
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion/Finding</b>	<b>Recommendations, Action, Follow-up</b>
<p>Presentation - LAC+USC Restorative Village</p> <p>Presenter:  Dr. Erik Berg  Health Deputy, First District  County of Los Angeles</p>	<p>Supervisor Solis’ vision for Los Angeles County is promoting whole person care. Has worked to expand the continuum of care and health priorities including community-based treatment options and health innovation and integration. A recent project is the CORE Center, based at LAC-USC Medical Center. It is a DPH SAPC funded project intended to be a hub of resources for patients.</p> <p>The Dr. David L. Murphy Sobering Center was established as an alternative to emergency medical services or jail and aims to provide a safe environment and decrease inappropriate emergency department visits. Referral services are available on site.</p> <p>The Restorative Care Village is Supervisor Solis’ legacy project. Construction has begun, slated to open Winter 2020. The Restorative Care Village will have recuperative beds and mental health beds, ideally SUD services will be provided also. This is an area the CAOD can provide expertise in.</p>	

	<p>Question and Answer Period:  Question from Com. Song – What is your budget and where did the funding come from?  Per Dr. Berg – I don't have the budget information.</p> <p>Question from Com. Root – Is the vision that this is a model for others to come?  Per Dr. Berg – Yes, that is what we are hoping for.  Question from Com. Root – Is there a possibility that SAPC could be a funding source for this?  Per Dr. Berg – This hasn't been finalized yet.</p> <p>Question from Com. Song – Is this going to be County run or community run?  Per Dr. Berg – This hasn't been finalized yet.</p> <p>Statement from Com. Root – This is a unique opportunity for the CAOD, an opportunity for us to interact directly without going through the CEO. We can think about this in committee meetings and as individual commissioners.</p>	
<b>Topic</b>	<b>Discussion/Finding</b>	<b>Recommendations, Action, Follow-up</b>
Discussion and Action - Request for Review and Approval of Application for DUI License	Presentation was given last month on this issue however a quorum was not present to vote.	First Vice Chair Root entertained a motion which was moved to approve by Com. La Monte, seconded by Com. Polityko and approved. Motion was unanimously carried.
Discussion - AB 1713	<p>This bill was discussed by the Policy and Planning Committee last month, the committee voted to bring to the full CAOD.</p> <p>Per Com. Warwick, AB 1713 is currently in the appropriations suspense file.</p>	Commission liaison to find out if the County has a position on this bill. This agenda item is tabled until the June 12, 2019 meeting.

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Chair's Report	<p>Per First Vice Chair Root, the IAB filed its final report.</p> <p>Next month is our meeting with the Health Deputies, please write down two questions you would like to ask them.</p> <p>The Sunset Evaluations are due, please be sure to complete and submit by the due date.</p>	Commission liaison will email the CAOD a reminder regarding the Sunset Evaluations.
Committee Reports	<p>Per Com. La Monte, the Policy and Planning Committee will follow up on the status of our recommendation for SB 58.</p> <p>Com. Warwick would like the Committee to discuss the DUI referral system. Los Angeles County doesn't have a countywide referral system.</p> <p>AB 362, Safe Injection Sites for the City of San Francisco, was discussed and will be discussed further in Executive Committee.</p> <p>Com. Kearney would like to have a presentation on the David Murphy Sobering Center. The CAOD was promised a presentation on this in the past and it never happened.</p> <p>Com. La Monte stated he would like to see the CAOD have a joint meeting with the Mental Health Commission at some point.</p>	Suggestion from First Vice Chair Root to develop a process for a DUI referral system and submit it as a recommendation to the criminal courts/presiding judge.
Comments from Commissioners on Items of Interest	<p>Per Com. Warwick, the AI-Impics will be on Saturday, September 28, 2019 at Harbor College.</p> <p>Com. Polityko commented that as a result of marijuana legalization, California has produced more marijuana than they can sell. The state of California requires marijuana vendors to report their sales, only nine out of 600 are doing this. There are approximately 1500 illegally operated dispensaries in Los Angeles County.</p>	

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Public Comments	<p>Per Ken Pierce of the Center for Counseling, regarding the DUI referral system, the agency doesn't always receive information from the courts and this can create problems when a client comes for treatment. Title IX says the County is to set up a referral system.</p> <p>Per Denise Tom of the California Community Foundation, would like to suggest a question for the Health Deputies at the June meeting – What is the plan to improve the SUD system for youth, which is currently geared toward adults?</p>	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.	

**Next meeting: Wednesday, June 12, 2019, at 1:00 p.m.  
Substance Abuse Prevention and Control, A-9 East Ground Floor G-2 Conference Room, in Alhambra.  
Committees will meet at 12 noon at the same location.**