

ACTION SUMMARY
Expanded Budget and Capital Committee #7
October 12, 2010
Legislature Chambers
4 p.m.

Approved 12-13-10

Present: W. Burbank, C. Chock, J. Dennis, K. Herrera, M. Lane, F. Proto, P. Pryor, M. Robertson, B. Robison, P. Stein, D. Kiefer (arrived at 5:05 p.m.), D. McKenna (arrived at 5:25 p.m.), N. Shinagawa (arrived at 5:41 p.m.)

Excused: P. Mackesey and L. McBean-Clairborne

Call to Order

Mr. Dennis called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. (10 members present)

Mr. Dennis announced the October 12th Expanded Budget and Capital Committee meeting is cancelled. [Later in the meeting, a decision was made to hold the meeting at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the Department of Social Services budget.]

Ms. Kiefer arrived at 5:05 p.m. (11 members present)

Board of Elections

Ms. Cree and Mr. Dewitt, Election Commissioners, presented the Department's 2011 budget submission.

Mr. McKenna arrived at 5:25 p.m. (12 members present)

Assigned Counsel

Mr. McDermott, Supervising Attorney, and Ms. Hughes, Program Coordinator, provided an overview of the Department's 2011 budget submission.

Mr. Shinagawa arrived at 5:41 p.m. (13 members present)

Ms. Robertson requested the cost of Fringe being charged to the Department for the part-time position of Supervising Attorney.

County Historian

Ms. Kammen, Historian, presented the 2011 budget submission.

Health Department

Ms. Crosby, Public Health Administrator, provided an overview of the Department's 2011 budget submission. Ms. Connors, Patient Services Director, provided a detailed overview of the Certified Home Health Agency program (OTR#39).

Mr. Shinagawa requested a breakdown of what the patient survey information looked like in the Home Health Care program.

Mr. Shinagawa requested strongly that the study include not only the quality of service, but the payment structure, which is key.

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Ms. Kiefer requested more information on interlocking of positions as referenced in the prepared comments by Ms. Connors.

Recess

Mr. Dennis declared recess at 7:40 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 7:50 p.m.

Health Department (continued)

The following Directors explained and provided an overview of the Over-Target Requests submitted for their Divisions:

Sylvia Allinger, Director of Children with Special Needs

Sigrid Connors, Patient Services Director

Liz Cameron, Environmental Health Director (*Ms. Pryor requested a copy of Ms. Cameron's statement.*)

Dr. Klepak, Medical Director, provided closing remarks. He has been the part-time Medical Director at the Health Department for 20 years and is a practicing family medicine physician in the Dryden area. He sees the Health Department from many different perspectives. He understands what the Legislature is going through as he too has seen over the last ten years in the department gradual erosion in the position of being proactive and of being creative. The budget cuts, limitation of staff, and the reduction in depth of resources make it difficult and now it is at the point of eliminating programs. He spoke of his family practice and how it looks at the Health Department. The Department is responsive and what it is and should be doing is containing disease, giving people health messages, and cutting down Medicaid costs by improving health outcomes. Contact investigation in this County is very efficient and he said there have been no problems for practitioners. Dr. Klepak briefly spoke about some of the programs and said he continues to be concerned.

Next Meeting

Following discussion, the Legislature agreed to not cancel the meeting on October 14th and to meet at 5:30 p.m. to hear the presentation for the Department of Social Services budget.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.