

**Sacramento County Department of Health Services  
Health Center Co-Applicant Board (CAB)**

**Special Budget Review Meeting**

**Meeting Notes**

February 3, 2023 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM

**Meeting Location**

4600 Broadway, Conference Room 2800 or Join by ZoomGov at

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1604769194?pwd=dktgMDFDTm01YW5pUGtlQ1hFcjd1QT09>

Meeting ID: 160 476 9194

Passcode: 978284

**Meeting Attendees:**

CAB Members: Elise Bluemel, Laurine Bohamera, Suhmer Fryer, Vince Gallo, Paula Lomazzi, Namitullah Sultani, Jan Winbigler

SCHC Leadership: Andrew Mendonsa, John Dizon, Sharon Hutchins, Noel Vargas

SCHC Staff: Robyn Alongi, Joy Galindo, Zack Staab

Topic
Roll Call – <i>Jan Winbigler, Chair</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Ms. Winbigler performed roll call, then asked Ms. Galindo and Mr. Dizon to address the next agenda item.</i></li></ul>
Highlights of Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Proposed Budget <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Joy Galindo and John Dizon presented the proposed budget.</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <i>Mr. Dizon and Ms. Galindo wanted to make clear that this proposal is not completely done and it is only a base budget request. The County process is to first propose a base budget that shows the costs to continue the services provided in the current fiscal year exactly as is for the upcoming year. As a base budget, what SCHC will submit shortly does not include the previously-discussed Health Center growth requests at this time. Once the County receives more information forecasting the financial picture for 2023-2024, then they will take a more in depth look at growth requests. This typically occurs in April or May.</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Ms. Winbigler asked for clarification on what exactly is to be presented and reviewed during this meeting. Dr. Hutchins clarified that CAB needs to vote on two things today – submission of the base budget (now) and submission (at a later time) of the growth requests.</i></li></ul></li><li>○ <i>Mr. Dizon pointed out the following items in the proposed budget:</i><ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ <i>Even though the Health Center lost two employees, the budget for regular employees went up by almost half a million as a result of unavoidable increases in the cost to keep staff.</i></li><li>▪ <i>Numbers in the budget document are in green, blue and black. Green and blue both indicate staff costs, the difference is that blue indicates allocated costs from the County. The items in black are essentially the only costs the Health Center can control.</i></li><li>▪ <i>Some items, like Quest services for the Refugee Program, remain low in the budget proposal year after year despite increased costs to the Health Center because theoretically, in that program, all the patients are eligible for Medi-Cal. Increasing base budget numbers is typically not allowed, as such increases are typically considered growth requests and require a separate process with additional scrutiny.</i></li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>

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- *One of the biggest increases in the proposed budget was the cost for the building, which went up by \$117k. This was not unexpected since the Clinic took over suite 2600 from DHA.*
- *Object 30 represents the Health Center's OCHIN contract. This increased by over \$700k in the proposed budget after being able to explain to the county that OCHIN costs increase as the number of patient visits increase. This increase was authorized by the Board previously.*
- *Collection services in the budget refers to the amount the Health Center paid to Sacramento County Department of Revenue Recovery (DRR) for the collection of funds from former California Medically Indigent Services Program (CMISP) patients, a program that effectively ended in 2014. The admin team put in a lot of hard work to be able to prove that it costs the Department more to attempt to recover these debts than could be recovered and DRR's recovery amounts are dwindling as well. This is an item that can thusly be taken off the books for the 2023-24 Requested Budget without negative impact. The Board of Supervisors must still approve the relief of accountability at a future meeting.*
- *The Realignment item in the budget is a number that is set by state. Mr. Dizon pointed out that this dedicated money from the state essentially plugs the holes in funding. The amount is projected to increase this year.*
- *The clinic base budget is increasing by almost \$2 million, an increase that Mr. Dizon considered almost unavoidable.*
- *The HRSA ARPA grant is ending, but most of the items it was funding (mostly staffing) will continue to be funded by the County ARPA grant.*
- *Mr. Dizon noticed and pointed out to Ms. Galindo that the \$49K in Object 90 needed to be zeroed out in the proposed budget. This was the amount the Health Center was receiving from DRR that can be taken off the books.*
- *Overall, the Health Center is on pace for almost \$20 million in revenue next year. This year \$3.8 million was requested in county general fund; next year the request will go up to almost \$5.5 million in general fund. This increase is assumed to be allowable because it is driven purely by unavoidable cost increases like staff COLAs, and the budget instructions did not include a directive to absorb these increases.*

**Questions and Answers – Group**

- *Ms. Winbigler thanked Mr. Dizon and Ms. Galindo for presenting the budget, and asked CAB members if they would be interested in only hearing about larger items in the budget.*
  - *Ms. Suhmer and Ms. Bohamera thought this was a great idea. Ms. Lomazzi, however, said the presentation was thorough and she didn't think anything discussed should be left out in the future.*
  - *No motions were put forward.*

**\*Vote on Proposed Base Budget – Jan Winbigler, Chair**

- *Ms. Bluemel made a motion to approve submission of the proposed base budget, pending the changes discussed to remove the amount from Object 90. Ms. Bohamera seconded the motion to approve submission of the proposed base budget, pending the changes discussed to remove the amount from Object 90.*
  - *Yes votes: Elise Bluemel, Laurine Bohamera, Suhmer Fryer, Vince Gallo, Paula Lomazzi, Namitullah Sultani, Jan Winbigler*
  - *No votes: None*
  - *The proposed base budget was approved for submission.*

