

Meeting agenda



City and County of San Francisco
Daniel Lurie, Mayor

San Francisco Department of Public Health
San Francisco Health Commission
Daniel Tsai, Director of Health

President

Laurie Green, MD

Commissioners

- Edward A. Chow, MD
- Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.
- Suzanne Giraudo, ED.D
- Tessie Guillermo, Vice President
- Judy Guggenhime
- Karim Salgado

DPH Director of Health

Daniel Tsai

Health Commission Secretary

Mark Morewitz, MSW

Minutes for Health Commission

Date and Time

July 20, 2026 4pm

Meeting agenda

1. Call to Order

Present: President Laurie Green, MD, President
Vice President Tessie Guillermo
Commissioner Edward A. Chow M.D
Commissioner Suzanne Giraudo, ED.D
Commissioner Judy Guggenhime
Commissioner Karim Salgado

Excused: Commissioner Susan Belinda Christian, J.D.

President Green called the meeting to order at 4:02pm.

2. Approval of the Minutes of the Health Commission Meeting of July 6, 2026

Public Comment:

There was no public comment on this item.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no commissioner comments.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the July 6, 2026 meeting minutes.

3. General Public Comment

Amelia Harmon provided verbal comment and submitted the following written summary:

“Good afternoon Commissioners. I'm Amelia, returning regarding Peer Counselor removal from SCRT, in my individual capacity. Peers are employed through this Department's contracted system of care; removal only becomes permanent when DPH amends the contract and disperses teammates. Then every oversight body — the Fire Commission August 12, the Board post-recess, Supervisor Mahmood's inquiry — doesn't find a decision to review, but a demolition to rebuild. My ask is self-governance: calendar an informational report from DPH before August 15, invite Fire Community Paramedicine, and keep positions funded and the contract unamended pending review. I've submitted a constructive proposal: consolidated peer employment, tiered crisis specialization, and a 24-month independent evaluation completing in time for the FY 2029-30 budget. The Mayor's Breaking the Cycle initiative depends on what Peers deliver. Keep your review ahead of the paperwork. Thank you.”

4. DPH Non-Hospital Employee Recognition*

The Health Commissioners recognized the following DPH teams and thanked them for their impactful work:

- Southeast Health Center Environmental Health Clinic Development Team
- Jail Health Services Cal AIM Justice-Involved Team
- Environmental Health Branch
- BHS Comprehensive Crisis Team
- Ward 86 Command Center & Emergency Staffing Implementation Team

Meeting agenda

Public Comment:

Jessica Pessecow congratulated staff and encouraged them to continue their work. She expressed appreciation for the dedication of the personnel recognized during the meeting.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no additional commissioner comments.

5. Directors Report

Naveena Bobba, MD, MPH, DPH Deputy Director of Health, presented the item.

Public Comment:

Jessica Pessecow raised concerns regarding social responsibility rankings and potential gaps in social work coverage at the ZSFG emergency department. She explained that inadequate discharge planning and limited transportation support could hinder continuity of care and exacerbate disparities. She encouraged increased staffing and funding for social work positions to improve patient outcomes.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Guggenheim asked for clarification regarding FDA testing of lettuce implicated in national cyclospora reports. She noted conflicting media accounts and requested confirmation about whether recent findings represented false positives. She also asked whether updated guidance had been issued by federal authorities. Deputy Director Bobba responded that media reports regarding lettuce contamination had not been formally confirmed by the CDC. She added that California's case numbers were lower than prior years and that local distribution patterns may explain the absence of San Francisco cases.

Commissioner Chow commented on recent groundbreaking efforts at the Chinatown Public Health Center, emphasizing the importance of seismic safety and the clinic's vital role in serving the Chinese and broader Asian communities. He also expressed concern about public testimony regarding withdrawal of RAMS peer counselors from the Street Crisis Response Team (SCRT) and asked for an update at a future meeting on how the change may affect DPH street teams, crisis response, and downstream impacts on 911 systems. Deputy Director Bobba stated that the Fire Department, which operates the SCRT team and makes all decisions regarding administration of its services, would have data related to the RAMS peers.

6. DPH Human Resources Update

Luenna Kim, Director; Richa Dhanju MSW, Ph.D., Managing Deputy Director; Erika Thorson, Director of Hiring and Selection; and Kim Walden, Director of Employment Resources, presented the item.

Public Comment:

Dr. Roger Wu, representing the Union of American Physicians and Dentists, thanked the Commission for attention to physician vacancy concerns raised in past meetings. He acknowledged DPH Human Resource progress in reducing vacancy rates dramatically since the pandemic and commended HR leadership for responsiveness and collaboration.

Jessica Pessecow encouraged improvement in hiring timelines for nurse applicants, noting significant delays in eligibility-list movement and challenges imposed by application barriers such as software access requirements. She urged enhancements to applicant resources to reduce barriers and improve equity.

Meeting agenda

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Guillermo asked about interactions between UCSF clinical staff and DPH employees in co-located facilities. She expressed interest in whether the employee engagement survey accounts for cross-organizational dynamics and whether collaboration issues affect staff satisfaction. She requested future reporting on potential friction or opportunities for improvement. Ms. Kim responded that UCSF–DPH workplace issues are tracked through respect-in-the-workplace interventions and collaborative review structures. She confirmed a deeper analysis would be presented at the next HR presentation to the Commission.

Commissioner Chow commended HR for reducing hiring timeframes and vacancy rates and asked for clarification regarding departmental Objectives and Key Results, (OKRs). He requested a future report detailing survey trends over multiple years, with emphasis on stagnation or improvements in staff satisfaction. He also asked for analysis of expected progress areas, and how workforce stability aligns with the department’s high retention rate despite modest shifts in employee satisfaction scores. Ms. Kim explained OKRs as measurable outcomes aligned with departmental and agency missions and committed to providing longitudinal engagement-survey comparisons and detailed manager-training descriptions.

Vice President Giraudo requested that future HR reports include detailed data from listening sessions to illustrate how staff feedback was collected, prioritized, and operationalized. She emphasized the importance of transparency in tracking which employee-identified issues were addressed and which constraints limited implementation. She asked specifically for more information regarding the HR Resource Center inquiry topics and staff response patterns. Ms. Kim agreed to include listening-session data and to outline what employee requests were achievable under current budget constraints.

7. Joint Conference Committee Update

Commissioner Tessie Guillermo, LHH JCC Chair, stated that at the July 13, 2026 LHH JCC meeting, the committee discussed the Executive Team Report, which noted that Laguna Honda Hospital had begun its annual recertification survey. The committee discussed operational performance, emphasizing the need to understand census trends, referral appropriateness, and discharge patterns.

During review of hiring and vacancy data, commissioners raised concerns about the hospital’s roughly 10% attrition rate and whether this represents a normal operational pattern. The committee requested an update from the Leaves Management Team and nursing leadership regarding staff availability, as well as clarification on the timeline and challenges delaying the nursing bid process. The committee asked for a comprehensive August update describing key issues affecting bid implementation, union review of seniority lists, and any administrative or budget-related barriers.

During the Regulatory Affairs Report, commissioners expressed concern about recurring Fire-Life-safety deficiencies linked to anonymous complaints. They asked for clearer information on repair timelines, contracting delays, and the operational factors contributing to repeat deficiencies.

During policy review, commissioners approved the full policy package but requested several revisions and follow-up clarifications. These included: (1) adding more explicit detail to the “stat medication” policy describing communication expectations, timeframes, and clinical urgency categories; (2) adding clarification within the care plan policy about when effectiveness reviews occur; (3) separating in-house Code Green (missing resident on campus) from elopement off-campus to improve policy clarity; and (4) correcting minor grammatical issues and ensuring key concepts. Commissioners emphasized the need

Meeting agenda

for greater granularity in emergency-related policies so that clinicians have clear guidance in time-sensitive situations. The committee recommended that the full Commission approve the Laguna Honda policies on the Consent Calendar today. In closed session the committee approved the Credentials Report and PIPS minutes.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment on this item.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no additional commissioner comments.

8. Consent Calendar

Public Comment:

There was no public comment on this item.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no commissioner comments.

Action Taken: The Health Commission unanimously approved the following items:

July 2026 LHH Policies

<u>Item</u>	<u>Scope</u>	<u>Policy No.</u>	<u>Policy Title</u>
1	Facility-wide	28-06	Behavioral Response Team (BRT)/ Therapeutic Care Team (TCT)
2	Facility-Wide	24-12	Laguna Premier Club: A Neurobehavioral Day Program
3	Clinical Nutrition	Diet Manual	Diet Manual LHH 2026
4	Clinical Nutrition	1.12	Registration of Dietitians
5	Clinical Nutrition	1.15	Diet Manual Approved by Medical Staff
6	Clinical Nutrition	1.16	Nutrition Screening and Documentation Process
7	Clinical Nutrition	1.19	Acute Medical/ Rehab Admissions/Transfers
8	Clinical Nutrition	1.20	Nutrition Screening and Assessment Documentation for Acute Hospital Admissions
9	Clinical Nutrition	1.22	Enteral Formulary Availability
10	Clinical Nutrition	1.23	Discharge Diet Education
11	Clinical Nutrition	1.25	NPO or Clear Liquid Diet Orders
12	FNS	1.92	Standardized Recipes
13	FNS	1.94	Safety Standard

Meeting agenda

14	FNS	1.95	Use of Eggs
15	Medical Staff		LHH Credentialing Policy and Procedures Manual
16	Medical	G 1.0	Vital Signs

9. Community and Public Health Committee Update

Commissioner Judy Guggenhime, committee member who chaired the meeting, stated that the committee heard two wonderful presentations. Dr. Joanna Evenland and Dr. Elizabeth Abbs presented on the San Francisco Health Network's incredible overdose prevention efforts utilizing primary care and Whole Person Integrated care clinics, sobering centers, and street teams to offer individual medical and behavioral interventions to offer stabilization from substance use. The addition of street teams to the DPH will greatly assist this team's efforts.

The committee also discussed the DPH San Francisco Climate Health Program, which works with other City Departments to help plan for and mitigate intense climate episodes. The presentations focused mostly on heat episodes. The team is doing innovative work to help protect all San Franciscans through their planning efforts.

10. Other Business

Public Comment:

There was no public comment on this item.

Commissioner Comments:

There were no additional commissioner comments.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:38pm.