
SACRAMENTO ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

Mark White, Chair
Richard Hunn, Vice Chair
Thomas Malson
Laura Nickerson
Eric Rivero-Montes
Shelby Witherby

A JOINT COMMISSION APPOINTED BY:
County of Sacramento
City of Sacramento
City of Isleton
City of Folsom
City of Galt
City of Elk Grove

MINUTES

**Monday, October 18, 2021, 6 pm
Via Zoom**

Join ZoomGov Meeting

<https://saccounty-net.zoomgov.com/j/1608752767?pwd=cW9LaXFXL0ZkaE95ZFFReURtTlh3QT09>

Meeting ID: 160 875 2767

Passcode: 548412

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ITEM

- 1 Call to Order – Chair White
Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm.
- 2 Roll Call – Staff Secretary
Mark White, Richard Hunn, Tom Malson, Laura Nickerson, Eric Rivero Montes
- 3 Introduction of Commissioners
- 4 Public Comment
No public comments.
- 5 Health of the County- Dr. Kasirye, Sacramento County Health Officer

Sacramento County is in the vaccination phase of the pandemic and is on the cusp of having child vaccinations approved and available.

Excess mortality in 2020 was due to COVID-19 per the CA State of Public Health Report. The

death rate in California increased by 30% in the 4th quarter of 2020 compared to 2019. There are wide disparities in patterns and trends of COVID 19 deaths. Deaths were highest at 34% among Latinos and lowest at 7.5 % among Whites. The Pacific Islanders group was hit hard due to their strong family and community bonds. Entire families contracted COVID-19 at one time resulting in many familial deaths.

There are 2 methods to calculating percentage of deaths: age-adjusted and excess mortality.

There were increases in other causes of death in 2019-2020. A 46.9% increase in drug overdose deaths, 32.6% increase in deaths from homicide and increase of 17.7% in diabetes related deaths.

COVID deaths affected the older population the most drastically early in the pandemic. Currently the death rate is highest in adults 30-55 because the vaccination rate is lower than in the elderly. The vaccination rate for Blacks and Latinos continues to be far lower than the rate for Whites. Life expectancy dropped for all ethnicities.

Many individuals delayed medical care during COVID-19 which could have contributed to deaths from several disease conditions apart from COVID.

Additional considerations/discussion

1. Role of COVID 19 on increase (or decrease) of other medical conditions due to changes in access to care, support systems, changes in eating and drinking.
2. Why are the disparities in excess mortality so strong? Occupation, ability to social distance, access to care?
3. How can disparities be minimized in a new pandemic?
4. Suicide rate in 5-14 year olds increased significantly.
5. Increase in Black deaths from 5-24 is highly concerning.

The same death disparities seen in the pandemic 1918 for underserved communities and sociodemographic factors were present in the COVID-19 pandemic. There is a differential burden in neighborhoods with higher population density, high unemployment and lower literacy. It's essential to work with local neighborhood institutions to provide accurate scientific information to these communities.

6 Impacts of Lead Ammunition-Non Lead Alternatives- Mathew Parker, Institute for Wildlife Studies

Although lead ammunition has been illegal since 2013 it is still widely used. Using lead to dispatch an animal can have negative effects on scavenging wildlife. Lead bullets fragment in the dispatched animal and are a pathway to lead exposure when scavengers eat gut piles or retrieved game, which contain the lead. Smaller fragments have a higher surface area and increase exposure in acidic animal stomachs.

Lead mimics calcium in animals and they suffer lethal effects. Organs can shut down and animals starve and have permanent neurological damage. California Condor are experiencing

exposures and deaths in a flock with less than 100 birds.

Non lead ammunition works as well as lead for the take of animals but the ammunition shortage is contributing to the use on lead ammo currently.

- 7 Approve September 2021 Minutes
Carry forward to November meeting
- 8 Approve October 4th, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes
Carry forward to November meeting.
- 9 Report Back on SEC Commissioner Monitoring of Environmental Issues and Agencies
- 10 Commissioner Comments
- 11 Next Meeting-November 15th, 6:00 p.m. via Zoom

This meeting is being audiotaped/videotaped in its entirety and will be available at the Environmental Management Department office. Agendas are posted in the offices of the City of Sacramento, Folsom, Galt, Isleton, Elk Grove, and the County of Sacramento and also on the EMD Website at: emd.saccounty.net. Agendas are also forwarded to interested parties upon request.