

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
AND SHEILA KUEHL**

DECEMBER 12, 2017

RENEWING THE HEALTH AGENCY INTEGRATION ADVISORY BOARD

On August 11, 2015, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the establishment of a Health Agency to integrate the operations of the Departments of Health Services (DHS), the Department of Mental Health (DMH), and the Department of Public Health (DPH). Each of these Departments continues to maintain its own budget and reports directly to the Board. The primary goal of the Health Agency is to improve coordination of services provided by the three Departments.

At the same time the Health Agency was established, the Board convened a temporary Integration Advisory Board (IAB) consisting of representatives from several commissions, including the Mental Health Commission and the Public Health Commission, among others, as well as consumer and labor union representatives. The IAB was initially commissioned for a two-year period, ending in October 2017.

Since 2015, the Health Agency has been led by a director, but has not had any other Health Agency staff assigned to it. According to a TAP International, Inc. evaluation of the Health Agency, directed by the Board on December 6, 2016 and released in September 2017, the Health Agency model has produced benefits, including “improved and increased collaboration and communication” among the Departments, but has also led to challenges, such as “lack of clarity about roles and responsibilities” among staff from the three Departments. Similarly, a November 2017 report from the

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**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS RIDLEY-THOMAS AND KUEHL
DECEMBER 12, 2017
PAGE 2**

above-mentioned IAB concluded that overall the Health Agency model has been “positive in the County”, though there is a need for the Health Agency to “continue forward with an even greater sense of urgency and clarity to bring the benefits of integration to full fruition.”

The TAP International, Inc. report, as well as the November 2017 IAB report, indicate that the Health Agency ought to better integrate businesses processes and coordinate services among the three Departments more effectively. In order to do this, both reports highlight the need for additional Health Agency staff and a more formal Agency structure.

The TAP International, Inc. report, as well as the IAB report, indicate that the Health Agency continues to evolve towards achieving its initial goals. As such, there is a need for close oversight of the Health Agency in the months ahead. For this reason, “the IAB recommends its continuation in a re-constituted form as a board or commission to work in an advisory position to the Board on the activities of the Health Agency.”

WE THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

Direct the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to:

- 1) Continue the Integration Advisory Board (IAB), in its current form, through December 31, 2018. As it currently is constituted, the IAB should consist of two representatives from each of the following Commissions: the Mental Health Commission, the Public Health Commission, Hospital and Health Care Delivery Commission, Commission on Alcohol and Other Drugs, and the Commission on HIV; one consumer from each Commissions’ discipline; and one representative from each Department’s organized labor unions. The Commission and consumer representatives should be selected by public vote of each Commission. Labor representation should be determined by labor leadership. Two co-chairs of the IAB shall be selected by vote at the next public meeting of the IAB. Current members of the IAB are eligible to continue serving on the IAB at the determination of their Commission or Labor leadership as appropriate. The

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS RIDLEY-THOMAS AND KUEHL
DECEMBER 12, 2017
PAGE 3**

current co-chairs are also eligible to continue serving in this capacity if elected to do so at the next public IAB meeting. The IAB should continue as it has been, serving as an advisory body to the Board of Supervisors (Board) and reporting in writing to the Board on at least a semi-annual basis (i.e., at minimum twice during its one-year term), on the impact of the Health Agency on ongoing Departmental activities and operations and on achieving Los Angeles County's health-related priorities.

- 2) Propose a board or commission that can advise the Board on the Health Agency for an additional two-year period, beginning after the IAB sunsets on December 31, 2018. The CEO should present this proposal to the Board for consideration in writing no later than June 30, 2018.

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