

Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2021

10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

2020-21 Board:

David Haywood, Chair • Vacant, Vice Chair
Janet Yaldezian, Treasurer • Erin Thompson, Secretary
Cristina Chang, Past Chair

Remote Meeting Hosted by County of Orange Environmental Health

Meeting Link:

<https://orangecountyenvironmentalhealth.my.webex.com/orangecountyenvironmentalhealth.my/j.php?MTID=mcfcd525b5cfcb0a60a99599812fa275>

1. Meeting Called to Order – David Haywood (FSAC Chair) 10:03 AM
2. Introductions – All
3. Treasurer’s Report – Janet Yaldezian: \$1,994.17
4. Approved Minutes – Erin Thompson
5. OC EHD Updates –Christine Lane and Bao Huynh

Award of Excellence will not be issued for 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

OC has new inspectors in training that will fill current vacancies.

OC is still in the purple tier which allows outdoor dining, the number of cases are decreasing, hopefully by mid-March we will be in the red tier.

Recent news article published regarding Food / Agriculture will be included in vaccinations. EHD is working with the OC Chapter Restaurant Association to provide updates. EHD will continue to communicate information through FSAC via email notification.

6. New Legislation Updates – Bao Huynh

Third-party food delivery platforms (uber, door dash) AB3336 having a tamper proof packaging for delivery. Adding a sticker that goes over the opening showing it was not opened prior to delivery is a common method. The county will be conducting a soft roll out educating operators. Effective January 1, 2021.

7. COVID Updates – Jenafer Forester

AB685 Cal OSHA mandates COVID-19 workplace outbreaks in any business to be reported to the local Health Department within 48 hours. An outbreak is defined as 3 or more confirmed COVID-19 cases among employees within 14-days at one workplace location. Additionally,

employer must notify their employees of any COVID-19 workplace exposure. More information: [AB685 – Reporting COVID Outbreaks & Notification](#). Effective January 1, 2021.

Current communication system in place requires 2-step process. Step 1: Register the business by address. Step 2: Log-in to the Shared Portal for Outbreak Tracking (SPOT) using Event Exposure # assigned by the local Health Department and provide names, DOB, contact information, location or department worked for COVID-19 cases and close contacts for the specified business site. Workplace COVID-19 cases can continue to be entered by operator until the outbreak is closed out. An Event Exposure is closed out by the local Health Department when no employee cases are reported within 14-day period. On the website there is a training guide “COVID-19 Outbreak Reporting Process for OC Businesses - Feb 2021” on how to complete the form and use SPOT. Follow CDC guidelines, self-quarantine, self-isolation to help slow the spread in a workplace. More information: [Shared Portal for Outbreak Tracking \(SPOT\)](#)

For schools, there is a separate investigation team and process. For questions please contact the OC Health Referral Line at (800) 564-8448 and follow prompts for schools or contact (714) 834-2000 or email: ETeam@ochca.com. You may find additional resources at <https://coronavirus.egovoc.com/guidance-school-administration-resources>.

For grocery, retail and wholesale food facilities reporting a COVID-19 outbreak to Environmental Health, contact our hotline at (714) 433-6418. This hotline is answered during business hours Monday – Friday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM. In the event you call afterhours please leave a message with the name of your facility, facility address and contact and EHD will return your call the following business day.

If you have medical questions regarding COVID-19 please contact the OC Health Referral Line at (800) 564-8448.

8. FSAC Q & A

Christine Lane, REHS (County of Orange Environmental Health –Director)

Bao-An Huynh, REHS (County of Orange Environmental Health – Food Safety Program Manager)

Stephanie Wilkins-Singleton, REHS (County of Orange Environmental Health – Food Safety Program Manager)

Jenafer Forester, REHS (County of Orange Environmental Health – Supervising EHS)

Q1: Will all food workers be eligible for vaccinations?

- Food service, grocery and agriculture workers will be eligible for the vaccine and are in Phase 1B, Tier 1. This includes food workers in restaurants. In the event corporate staff also travel and work in various restaurant locations, then this should be considered. For more detail information on the Food and Agriculture (FA) sector visit: <https://covid19.ca.gov/essential-workforce/>

Q2: How will the County plan to communicate with the group vaccination updates?

- The county will have a plan to communicate through various methods: website, PIO, and will continue to communicate to grocery stores and restaurants on all updates for COVID-19 via blast emails, also communicating directly through FSAC. For more information

regarding vaccine distribution visit:

<https://coronavirus.egovoc.com/covid-19-vaccination-distribution>

Q3: If there is a COVID-19 outbreak, what are the next steps?

- CDPH has published “Responding to COVID-19 in the Workplace for Employers” and provides guidance for next steps for Outbreak Management: to include identifying and reporting workplace cases / close contacts of cases, control measures and disinfection.

For more information visit:

<https://files.covid19.ca.gov/pdf/responding-to-covid19-workplace--en.pdf>

Q4: Do COVID-19 workplace notifications need to be public facing?

- No. An employer must provide a workplace notification when an employee(s) tests positive for COVID-19 at the workplace. You will want to also consider the infectious period, as this is 48 hours prior to the initial onset of symptoms. For Employee Notification Letter templates in English and Spanish visit:

<https://occcovid19.ochealthinfo.com/guidance-businesses-worksites>

Q5: Are there any updates on Bipolar Ionization (BPI) to allow for opening indoor dining?

- Information has not been released by CDPH / Cal-OSHA regarding the use of BPI for reopening indoor dining. Technologies such as ionizers are designated by CDC as emerging technologies. For more information, see the Epidemic Task Force

https://www.ashrae.org/file%20library/technical%20resources/covid-19/ashrae-filtration_disinfection-c19-guidance.pdf

American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) released the following guidance documents:

- Guidance for Small Temporary Dining Structures
- In-Room Air Cleaner Guidance for Reducing COVID-19 In Air In Your Space/Room
- Core Recommendations for Reducing Airborne Infectious Aerosol Exposure

<https://www.ashrae.org/technical-resources/filtration-disinfection>

Recommended contacting CA Restaurant Association to further this discussion as this group is an advocate for the retail food industry and is actively meeting with CDPH’s policy group.

Q6: Will self-service be included in phased re-opening?

- Self-service like salsa bars and beverage stations and other areas where customers may congregate are closed. Orange County reached out directly to CDPH and other counties regarding self-service modification and the concern remains that these areas can lead to crowding.

Q7: Are there any touchless self-service holistic ideas being presented?

- Yes, while there are touchless self-service ideas presented, the main concern is not the transmission of virus on contact surfaces such as packaging like cups as released by FDA, USDA, CDC, but the concern is congregating in a small area and shared air space. Orange County agrees for self-service to resume, there needs to be a balance of both reducing close contact and increasing ventilation in a shared air space.

9. Roundtable

10. Board Election – Vice Chair Results – Klarissa Koras

11. Next OC FSAC Meeting – Wednesday, May 26, 2021

12. Meeting Adjournment 10:45 AM