

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting Boulder County Public Health Auditorium April 13, 2015

BOH Members Present: President Gregg Thomas; Vice President Don Misch, M.D.; and Board Members Olga Bermudez, Sonya Jacquez-Lewis, and Jorge DeSantiago.

Staff Members Present: Public Health Director Jeff Zayach, Director of Administrative Services Stephanie Martz, Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon, Director of Strategic Initiatives Susan Motika, Environmental Health Division Manager Joe Malinowski, Built Environment and HEAL Coordinator Rachel Arndt, Budget Coordinator Jeff Rank, Budget Consultant Sandy O'Connor, and Administrative Division Manager Tammy Golden.

Meeting Called to Order.

President Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

Introductions: Public Health Director Jeff Zayach introduced Director of Strategic Initiatives Susan Motika, who began working at BCPH on April 6. Director Motika will manage the Health Planning & Epidemiology, Health Communications, and Information Technology Programs. She previously worked at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), where she served as the Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) and Law and Policy Unit Manager. Public Health Director Zayach said Director Motika is a lawyer who has extensive expertise drafting policy and working at the strategic and systems levels. She also has significant supervision and management experience. The Board welcomed Director Motika to BCPH.

ITEM 1. Public Comments (on unscheduled agenda items).

None.

ITEM 2. Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of March 9, 2015, Board of Health Meeting Minutes.

Vice President Misch made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Bermudez, to approve the consent agenda, as presented. With all Board Members voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion approved.

ITEM 3. Resolution 2015-01, Approving 2015 Operating Budget.

Director of Administrative Services Stephanie Martz introduced Budget Coordinator Jeff Rank and Budget Consultant Sandy O'Connor. She said BCPH contracted with Mrs. O'Connor, BCPH's former budget coordinator, to help finalize the 2015 operating budget.

Director Martz said the Board of Health approved Resolution 2014-02 on August 11, 2014, adopting the proposed 2015 operating budget in the amount of \$16,519,816. She then presented Resolution 2015-01, which would adopt the final 2015 operating budget in the amount of \$14,111,111.

Director Martz presented and reviewed various budget documents with the Board. She said the most significant changes since the proposed operating budget was adopted were the inclusion of funding for integration of the Addiction Recovery Centers (ARC) from BCPH to Mental Health Partners (MHP) and the newly created Health Planning & Epidemiology (HPE) Program manager position. This position is being funded 100% by BCPH this year due to the ban on new position funding that was imposed by the County Commissioners because of expenses incurred following the 2013 Boulder County flood.

Board Member Bermudez asked about funding for the Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program, which receives federal pass-through dollars. She also asked about Natural Highs, an interactive, strengths-based educational program that integrates traditional and alternative approaches to substance abuse prevention and intervention at New Vista High School in Boulder. Board Member Bermudez asked if any of those services would be provided to serve the larger community. Public Health Director Zayach said each time BCPH commits to provide programming within the community, it conducts an evaluation to determine what services could and should be applied in the community in order to have the greatest impact. Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon said he would be happy to meet with Board Member Bermudez to share more information about that evaluation process.

Director Martz said the agency's reserve fund was 8.4% after using \$685,203 to fund additional requests not included in the proposed budget. Those expenses included costs associated with the ARC integration to MHP, HEAL (Healthy Eating/Active Living) and Built Environment Program support, St. Vrain building remodel project, and sequestration bridge contingency funding.

Board Member Bermudez asked if the agency had a contingency fund for emergencies. Public Health Director Zayach said BCPH earmarks \$200,000 for emergency funding each year to help cover any disasters and emergencies. He said even after the recent flood and wildfires in Boulder County, the reserve fund only dipped about one-quarter because significant funding was received from the County Commissioners and federal government to help cover costs. He said BCPH is careful not to maintain an over-funded reserve fund balance since that would deflect funding from needed public health programs and services. He said the minimum acceptable reserve fund balance was 5%; in recent years, the lowest the reserve fund balance has been was 7.1%, and the highest was more than 10%.

President Thomas asked about the \$800,000 reduction in the unrestricted fund balance (from \$2 million to \$1.2 million). Director Martz said this budget cycle has been unusual because of shifts in program structure (i.e. ARC integration to MHP and creation of the HPE Program). She said staff is doing aggressive fundraising to help close funding gaps and would continue to be prudent the remainder of the year. She anticipated the fund balance would return to normal trends after 2015.

President Thomas asked about the Business Sustainability Program, the program with the largest budget after Administration. He was told that program helps businesses identify energy efficiencies and offers assistance to the businesses in securing rebate dollars to help recoup costs spent on energy-efficient projects.

Director Martz and Budget Coordinator Rank detailed the presented budget, outlining revenues and expenditures by program, personnel and operating costs, new funding requests, and reserve fund balance.

Vice President Misch made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Jaquez-Lewis, to approve Resolution 2015-01, adopting BCPH's 2015 operating budget. With all Board Members voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion carried.

ITEM 4. Consideration on Providing Support for the Health Impact Assessment (HIA).

Built Environment and HEAL Coordinator Rachel Arndt presented this item and said the Boulder County Regional Institute for Health and Environmental Leadership (RIHEL) decided to conduct a health impact assessment (HIA) to determine health benefits and impacts of a community-wide EcoPass (i.e. public transit) program.

In 2014, Boulder County completed a community-wide EcoPass feasibility study, evaluating the possibility of providing EcoPasses to an entire group or community within Boulder County (e.g. employees and/or residents of Boulder County or the city of Boulder). The EcoPasses would give participants free, unlimited access to the entire Boulder city and county public transit network.

Boulder County will lead two committees in 2015: 1) The Policy Advisory Committee (PAC), which will determine the scope, cost share, and funding mechanisms for such a program (e.g. property tax vs sales tax, etc.); and 2) the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), which will consider day-to-day matters involved with the program (e.g. taking EcoPass photos, issuing the passes, etc.).

The Boulder County RIHEL group decided to conduct the health impact assessment (HIA) to determine the health benefits and impacts of a community-wide EcoPass program. The HIA will analyze several areas, focusing on health benefits (e.g. physical activity, reduced stress, etc.) and environmental impacts. Other relevant topics that may be explored include economic impacts, environmental justice, and increased access to jobs. The timing of the HIA coincides well with the EcoPass policy and technical committee timeline (i.e. next 12-18 months).

The HIA will provide information that will assist in the decision-making process for a community-wide EcoPass. Initially, the goal will be providing objective health benefit and/or impact data to the TAC, PAC, and other interested agencies. But if the issue is placed on the 2016 or 2017 ballot, it will offer information to the community on health impacts the proposed program could provide. A longer-term project goal will be using the HIA process when evaluating other projects, programs, and policies in Boulder County.

Ms. Arndt shared background about HIA, saying it's an effective tool that utilizes data, research, and stakeholder input to determine a policy or project's impact on the health of a population and providing recommendations to help address those impacts. The HIA process engages and empowers a community by incorporating community feedback, building relationships, improving evidence, and creating transparency in decision making. She said the Denver City Council has mandated that an HIA be conducted for all neighborhood plans being conducted. Ms. Arndt said the HIA process has traditionally been used in Europe, although it is now being utilized more and more in the U.S. None have been conducted in Boulder County to date, however. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) conducted a study to evaluate HIAs and determined they do make a positive difference when policies and decisions are being developed.

Ms. Arndt said the vision of the RIHEL HIA will be to increase the use of health considerations in policy development and implementation, program design, and projects throughout Boulder County, starting with the community-wide EcoPass decision. She talked about recent public transportation changes in the county, such as adding free bus service in Longmont and the increased usage of Nederland residents without any increase in service. Benefits of a community-wide EcoPass would include increased physical activity since most bus trips start and end with participants walking or biking to and from the bus stop. There are also known air quality and greenhouse gas (GHG) impacts, as well as improved safety and

transportation cost savings, particularly for those on limited income. She said it would be interesting to see how community design will change over time with increased use of public transit resulting from the community-wide EcoPass. She said an example of this type of increased ridership is the Broadway corridor in Boulder, which transitioned due to the popular SKIP bus service.

The Board thanked Ms. Arndt for her presentation. She said the RIHEL group hopes to finalize its HIA report by next March, when she will present the findings to the Board and request a resolution of support.

ITEM 6. Director's Report.

Proposed Legislation: Environmental Health Division Manager Joe Malinowski gave an update on the status of proposed legislation and said fewer bills were being considered this year from last year. The proposed bill to increase retail food establishment fees would not be advancing, although the bill to use General Fund dollars for long-acting reversible contraception (LARC) was moving forward. Vice President Misch asked about the parents' bill of rights (i.e. establishes specific parental rights related to education, health care, and mental health care of minor children) and was told that bill was also advancing.

Fracking: Vice President Misch asked about the new fracking operation in Weld County (i.e. a second large oil and gas well development site being proposed just across County Line Road in Weld County). He was told that staff sent a letter to Weld County suggesting that they request consultation and input from CDPHE for that new fracking operation. Mr. Malinowski said according to rules of the permitting entity (i.e. Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission), only the local government designee in the county where the facility is located (Weld County, in this case) may request consultation from CDPHE. Mr. Malinowski said earlier this year when the first such large well site was proposed in Weld County, the county decided not to request CDPHE consultation. Board Member Jaquez-Lewis asked if the Boulder County Commissioners will get involved and was told they would be.

Casey Middle School Odor Issue: Mr. Malinowski said a few protestors attended the meeting conducted by Boulder Valley School District on the odors at Casey Middle School; however, presenters at the meeting did a good job explaining the school's plan to resolve the odor issue, so everyone seemed to have a better understanding of the situation.

Measles: Vice President Misch asked about the measles communication the local school districts distributed to school families. Public Health Director Zayach said collaboration between BCPH Communicable Disease Control Program staff and the local school districts has been excellent, and Director of Health Divisions Harmon said St. Vrain Valley (SVVSD) and Boulder Valley School Districts (BVSD) partnered with staff to send a letter to parents of students who could potentially be asked not to attend school if there is a measles exposure because of their unvaccinated status. The letter suggested the students visit their primary care providers, but it did not ask for a response from the parents. Director Harmon said the letter was distributed in both English and Spanish (emailed to parents in SVVSD and sent through regular mail to BVSD parents). The Board asked staff to confirm that SVVSD parents who did not have Internet access received hard copies of the letter.

Frequent Flyers: Board Member Jaquez-Lewis said former BCPH Director of Clinical Services Bernadette Albanese used to represent BCPH on a task force in Longmont that was addressing "frequent flyers," people who frequently sought medical attention at hospital emergency rooms because they didn't have a primary care provider. Public Health Director Zayach said the City of Longmont manages the task force and posted the series of implemented strategies on the city's website. He said BCPH was no longer participating on the task force.

Medicaid General Funds – GENESIS/GENESISTER: Board Member DeSantiago asked about the bill delaying the sunset date and use of general funds for the Medicaid Teen Pregnancy and School Dropout Prevention Program (GENESIS and GENESISTER had hoped to access the funds when they became available). The bill's been delayed indefinitely by the Senate Finance Committee, although Director Harmon said the State Health Care Policy and Finance (HCPF) may revise the language and seek a new sponsor to advance the bill further. He said many years ago, the legislature set Medicaid funding aside to be used to focus on completion of education and prevention of unintended teen pregnancies. GENESIS and GENESISTER hasn't received that funding but was well-positioned to receive it if and when the funding was released; therefore, the delay is unfortunate.

CSAP: Board Member Bermudez asked about the request for federal Drug-Free Communities grant funding submitted by the Community Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP). Director Harmon said the funding would support the work of the Reducing Substance Abuse (RSA) Coalition in preventing youth alcohol and marijuana use over the next five years, and grant awards will be announced in August. Board Member Bermudez asked about providing these services in Longmont and other Boulder County communities besides Boulder. Director Harmon said there are gaps in service provision in the county, although options are being considered to expand services in other areas of the county (e.g. taxes are being considered in Lyons and Lafayette).

Restaurant Water-Savings Program: Board Member Bermudez asked about the water-savings restaurant program wherein restaurants receive a free water-saving sprayer to clean food from dishes before washing. The devices were first introduced by the Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE) Program in early 2000, but they didn't catch on because of higher costs from using them than less-efficient devices. In partnership with the City of Boulder and Town of Nederland, PACE is reintroducing the devices. Board Member Bermudez asked if those efforts would be duplicated in other Boulder County cities, and staff said they would find out and give her an update.

Touchpoints Community Level Training (CLT): Board Member Bermudez asked about CLT and was told a Child Health Promotion Program staff member attended this training in Boston to become qualified to provide individual level training (ILT) to caregivers. The training is designed to increase caregiver resilience, which is known to result in better outcomes for young children, 0-5 years. Touchpoints focuses on helping professionals form supportive partnerships with caregivers, as well as caregiver strengths as a means of increasing collaboration while helping them anticipate and respond positively to children's changes in growth and development.

ITEM 5. Approval of BOH Member Job Description and Revised Bylaws.

President Thomas said Public Health Director Zayach and former Board President Paula McKey drafted the BOH member job description and updated the BOH bylaws before she resigned from the board due to a move out of state. In addition to outlining expectations for current Board members, the documents will be good to share with potential board members during recruitment.

The three major bylaw changes include:

1. Addition of language referencing the Colorado Public Health Act of 2008, which re-designated BCPH as the public health agency in Boulder County and reappointed the current Board members.
2. Addition of criteria and guidance for use in the recruitment of new Board of Health members.
3. Addition of language on expectations of board members with regard to meeting preparation (i.e. packet review) and meeting attendance.

Vice President Misch asked about the legal and procedural duties in the bylaws, including the ability to subpoena people. Public Health Director Zayach said that is reserved for situations like onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) cease-and-desist cases when groundwater is endangered.

Vice President Misch asked about signatures and was told the Board President’s signature was included on BCPH checks and often is required on grant applications and reports for funding agencies.

President Thomas said he thought the added language about commitment and expectations of members will be good to share with new and potential board members.

Vice President Misch made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member DeSantiago, to approve the revised bylaws. With all Board Members voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion carried.

Board Member Bermudez then made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Jaquez-Lewis, to approve the Board of Health job description. With all Board Members voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion carried.

ITEM 7. Old and New Business/Announcements.

A. Discussion on Tabled Consent Agenda Items (if any).

None.

B. Old and New Business.

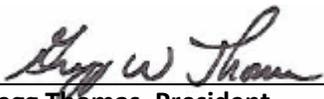
None.

C. Announcements.

Board Member DeSantiago invited everyone to participate in the 5k Carerra/Caminata Amistad “Wellness Movement” Run/Walk that is taking place Saturday, April 18, at Boulder Reservoir. He said Amistad helps to promote Latino families, and the goal of the event is to increase healthy living behaviors in the community.

ITEM 8. Adjournment.

There being nothing further to discuss, President Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.



Gregg Thomas, President



Jeffrey J. Zayach, Public Health Director