

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting Boulder County Public Health (BCPH) Auditorium August 14, 2017

BOH Members Present: President Gregg Thomas, Vice President Jorge DeSantiago (in at 5:51 p.m.), and Board Members Morgan McMillan and Bobbie Watson. Absent: Board Member Olga Bermudez.

Staff Members Present: Public Health Director Jeff Zayach; Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon; Director of Strategic Initiatives Susan Motika; Accounting Manager Julia Ozenberger; Environmental Health Division Manager Joe Malinowski; Food Safety Team Members Nathan Andrews, David Baum, Shawna Johnson, Rob Martinez, and Carol McInnes; and Business Operations Manager Tammy Golden.

Meeting Called to Order.

President Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

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

None.

ITEM 2. Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of July 10, 2017, Board of Health Meeting Minutes.

Board Member McMillan made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Watson, to approve the consent agenda, as presented. With all board members present voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion approved. Absent: Vice President Jorge DeSantiago and Board Member Olga Bermudez.

ITEM 4. Recognition of Boulder County Public Health Food Safety Team for Receiving 2017 Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award.

Public Health Director Jeff Zayach announced that the Boulder County Public Health (BCPH) Consumer Protection Program was recently awarded the prestigious Samuel J. Crumbine Consumer Protection Award, presented annually to a U.S. or Canadian local environmental health agency in recognition of their outstanding food protection services to reduce and eliminate foodborne illness. Services of award winners are often replicated nationally by other food protection programs as best practices. Mr. Zayach said it was the second time that BCPH has received the Crumbine Award since 1992. He also noted that this was the first year that two Crumbine Award winners were selected – BCPH and Kansas City.

The Crumbine Award is sponsored by the Conference for Food Protection in cooperation with the American Academy of Sanitarians, American Public Health Association, Association of Food and Drug Officials, Food Marketing Institute, Foodservice Packaging Institute, International Association for Food Protection, National Association of County & City Health Officials, National Environmental Health Association, and National Sanitation Foundation International.

In order to receive the Crumbine Award an agency must demonstrate:

- Sustained excellence over the previous 4-6 years documented by specific outcomes and achievements and evidenced by continual improvements in basic components of a comprehensive program.
- Improvements in planning, managing, and evaluating a comprehensive program.
- Innovative and effective use of program methods and problem solving to identify and reduce risk factors known to cause foodborne illness.
- Provision of targeted outreach; formed partnerships; and participation in forums that foster communication and information exchange among regulators, industry, and consumer representatives.

Mr. Zayach gave special recognition to Consumer Protection Program Coordinator Lane Drager, Food Safety Team Lead Gina Bare, and Environmental Health Division Manager Joe Malinowski for their leadership of the innovative Food Safety Program. Environmental Health Division Manager Joe Malinowski introduced and congratulated the following Food Safety Team members, who received certificates of recognition and congratulations from BOH President Thomas and Public Health Director Zayach: Nathan Andrews, David Baum, Shawna Johnson, Rob Martinez, and Carol McInnes. Also recognized were the following team members who were unable to attend: Lane Drager, Gina Bare, and Food Safety Team Members Melissa Ellis, Marshall Lipps, Zack Lustgarten, Nick Robles, Reina Sifuentes, and Rosa Stillwell.

President Thomas said employment in the food service business was rewarding, yet tiring. He thanked the Food Safety Team for helping to ensure the safe provision of food service in Boulder County. Board Member McMillan said she appreciated being able to recognize staff with the honor since environmental health is typically only discussed when there are concerns about food safety.

Carol McInnes thanked the Board of Health for the recognition and said her team appreciated the opportunity and freedom to develop such innovative programming. David Baum said he was working at BCPH when it won its first Crumbine Award in 1992 and has witnessed a lot of change through the years.

ITEM 3. Presentation of 2016 Audit Report.

Accounting Manager Julia Ozenberger presented this item and introduced Paul Niedermueller from the auditing firm CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP, which audited BCPH's 2016 financial statements. Mr. Niedermueller said the audit was conducted in accordance with generally accepted U.S. auditing standards. He announced that BCPH received a clean 2016 audit report, as his firm had no recommendations for any adjustments or significant changes.

Mr. Niedermueller said there was a change to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) regulations that now requires state and local governments to include net pension liability as part of defined benefit plans. This affects BCPH and Boulder County because they participate in the Colorado Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA). As such, BCPH had a negative equity balance of \$9,225,337 that included \$15,000,000 in pension liability. Mr. Niedermueller said BCPH increased its net position in 2016 by \$1,439,033 from 2015 due to higher revenues from grants and appropriations and a reduction in expenses across all divisions.

The board discussed the status of PERA and how it impacts Boulder County and BCPH. PERA consists of four divisions (i.e. judicial, local government, schools, and state) and is struggling with declining projections that may require legislative action. Public Health Director Zayach said staff will keep the board updated with any PERA news that could potentially impact BCPH.

Mr. Niedermueller said the auditors had one recommendation that pertained to segregation of internal control for journal entries. He said BCPH management was working to address that; however, once the county's new financial system, SWIFT, is implemented, the issue may be resolved. Board Member McMillan asked if the timing for implementation of SWIFT will impact the audit process. Ms. Ozenberger said the SWIFT conversion was a significant challenge for staff, but much of the work currently being done manually will become automated once the system is fully operational, which Public Health Director Zayach said was targeted to be in early 2019. He said the County will select a new financial software vendor by the end of the month, and Director of Administrative Services Aaron Pratt will provide updates to the Board on the selection process, system enhancements, etc.

President Thomas thanked Mr. Niedermueller for the audit report and congratulated staff for another clean audit.

ITEM 5. Director's Report.

Surge Trailer Cache: President Thomas asked for an explanation of surge trailer caches. Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon said they were trailers stocked with medical supplies that can be "stood up" as temporary hospitals or mass treatment centers during an emergency event. The Boulder County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is working out details with BCPH on maintenance of the surge trailer cache. He said it's been activated twice during recent emergency preparedness trainings.

Mosquitoes: President Thomas asked for an update on mosquitos, and Environmental Health Division Manager Joe Malinowski said Boulder County recently had its first human case this year (i.e. resident of Lafayette). He said this hasn't been the worst WNV year in Boulder County, even though total mosquito numbers have been higher than normal. He said cooler weather in the upcoming weeks will help to control numbers.

Rabies: President Thomas asked about the increased number of reported rabies cases and was told the risk from terrestrial (i.e. surface dwelling) rabies has become heightened because more skunk rabies cases are being reported. Staff also acknowledged that the increase in case numbers might be due to more proactive testing being done by Boulder County than in previous years or in neighboring counties.

E. coli: President Thomas asked about the closure of Boulder Reservoir due to *E. coli*. Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon said *E. coli* was not unusual at the reservoir. He also said staff was certain the occurrences at the reservoir weren't the mandatorily reportable strain that makes someone sick enough to warrant a doctor's visit. Mr. Malinowski said Boulder Creek posed a greater risk than the reservoir. He also noted that the City of Boulder follows protocols and contacts BCPH whenever it closes Boulder Reservoir or Boulder Creek because of elevated numbers.

Strategic Plan: Director of Health Divisions Harmon said staff has started working on the next version of the BCPH Strategic Plan (the current version covers 2013-2018). He outlined the following three goals, which have been identified for the next strategic plan:

1. Consolidate BCPH's strategic plan, public health improvement plan, and health equities strategic plan into a single document.
2. Identify strategic plan priorities.
3. Guide resource allocation.

Mr. Harmon said the current strategic plan version featured "focus areas," and the updated strategic plan will focus on "priorities." Mr. Zayach said BCPH is hosting a half-day strategic planning session for all staff later this year and invited all board members to attend.

According to the current strategic plan, a community health assessment is done every five years, yet hospital needs assessments are conducted every three years, in compliance with the Affordable Care Act. So a few years ago BCPH determined that the community health assessment should mirror the timeline for the hospital needs assessments (i.e. every three years). Because of today's health care environment and federal debates, the hospitals aren't all conducting their needs assessments, although BCPH decided to move forward with changing the community health assessment and strategic planning cycle to six years with mid-term updates being done in Year Three.

Community and staff input will be incorporated in the next strategic plan; that didn't happen when the current strategic plan was drafted. Health equity will be a priority in the updated plan, and it will also include budget and resource allocation discussions since budget should actually follow priorities. Staff is now reviewing sample strategic plans from entities throughout the country, as well as strategic planning resources available from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO).

PHIP: Director of Strategic Initiatives Susan Motika said the community will work together the week of November 15 to prioritize the public health improvement plan (PHIP). The session will involve about 200 community members to discuss mental health and housing, the top issues that have risen to the top. Work was done on mental health during the last strategic plan, and the community is now poised to address how to engage public health in the need for affordable housing. Ms. Motika said staff is researching successes throughout the country that could help in identifying what can be done in Boulder County.

Mobile Home Parks: Director of Strategic Initiatives Motika said there are still concerns about secondary drinking water standards at local mobile home parks (MHP). Because the tap water is discolored and distasteful, residents must purchase and use bottled water. Ms. Motika and Vice President DeSantiago said residents are often afraid or hesitant to voice complaints with the MHP property owners for fear of getting evicted or having the property owner elect to close the mobile home park instead of fixing the water treatment system or replacing aging pipes. There's a history of chronic problems with this issue, and it's a good opportunity for the community to collectively get involved. Ms. Motika said law clerks are researching the law to help educate residents about their rights. She said undrinkable tap water is also responsible for steering residents to drink sugar-sweetened beverages because they can't drink tap water, and that costs even more than buying bottled drinking water.

Cultural Inclusiveness Statement: Public Health Director Zayach said Boulder County elected officials and department heads have jointly issued a statement in response to White Supremacist-motivated violence that took place recently in Charlottesville, Virginia. The Boulder County leadership said they denounced racism and discrimination in America and condemned all manifestations of racial hatred.

Budget: President Thomas asked if Boulder County provided any feedback on BCPH's additional 2018 budget requests. Public Health Director Zayach said BCPH has asked for Health and Human Services (HHS; i.e. "Ballot 1A") funds to fund the GENESIS (teen pregnancy and parenting services) Program. He said the request had a strong chance of approval, as will the other one-time funding requests because they won't require sustainable funding in subsequent years. He said one-time funding requests are looked upon most favorably, especially during tight budget years. The County Commissioners will make final decisions on the submitted budget requests during the second week of November.

ITEM 6. Old and New Business/Announcements.

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

None.

B. Old and New Business.

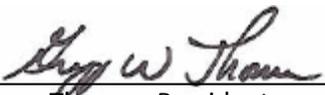
Oil and Gas Coalition: President Thomas said the City and County of Denver and Boulder County are the lead agencies for a local government coalition (LGC) pushing for a more open stakeholder process on control technique guidelines for the oil and gas industry. He said the LGC is advocating for greater frequency for leak detection and repair (LDAR) and tighter scrutiny of pneumatic controllers. President Thomas acknowledged the contributions of BCPH staff.

C. Announcements.

None.

ITEM 7. Adjournment.

There being nothing further to discuss, President Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m.



Gregg Thomas, President



Jeffrey J. Zavach, Public Health Director