Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting
Boulder County Public Health (BCPH) Auditorium
August 13, 2018

BOH Members Present: President Gregg Thomas and Board Members Bobbie Watson, Jorge DeSantiago, and Morgan McMillan. Absent: Vice President Olga Bermudez.

Staff Members Present: Public Health Director Jeff Zayach, Director of Administrative Services Aaron Pratt, Director of Strategic Initiatives Susan Motika, Health Planning and Evaluation Manager Kelli Hintch; Finance Manager Mike Paul; and Business Operations Manager Tammy Golden.

Meeting Called to Order.
President Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

ITEM 1. Public Comments (on unscheduled agenda items).
None.

ITEM 2. Consent Agenda.
A. Approval of July 9, 2018, Board of Health Meeting Minutes.
Board Member Watson made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member DeSantiago, 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 Olga Bermudez.

ITEM 3. Introduction of New Staff.
Director of Strategic Initiatives Susan Motika introduced Kelli Hintch, the new Health Planning and Evaluation (HPE) Manager. Dr. Hintch said she has an extensive background in international public health, having worked in 26 countries, including Honduras, Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Tanzania. She said Spanish is her second language, and she looked forward to bringing her broad experience to her work at BCPH.

Director of Administrative Services Aaron Pratt introduced Michael Paul, the new Finance Manager. Mr. Paul said he spent 14 years in the military doing accounting and budget work. He was deployed overseas to countries that included Africa and Afghanistan. Mr. Pratt said Mr. Paul will provide a great deal of support and expertise as Boulder County transitions during the next several months to SWIFT (System-wide Integrated for Financial Tracking), Boulder County’s new countywide financial software.

ITEM 4. Presentation of 2017 Audit Report.
Director of Administrative Services Aaron Pratt introduced Paul Niedermuller from CliftonLarsonAllen, LLP, the auditing firm that conducted BCPH’s 2017 financial audit. Mr. Niedermuller said his firm conducted the audit in accordance with generally accepted U.S. auditing standards. He said based on audit results, his firm made no recommendations for adjustments or significant changes and was pleased to report BCPH received a clean opinion.

Mr. Niedermuller detailed several audit highlights, including a change to Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) regulations that will now require all state and local governments to include net pension liability as part of their defined benefit plans. This regulation will affect Boulder County, including BCPH, because they are members of the Colorado Public Employees Retirement Association (PERA). The new liability will begin appearing
in financial statements beginning next year. Mr. Niedermuller and staff answered several questions about PERA and noted that Boulder County Finance Manager Bob Lamb was reappointed for another term as a member of the PERA Board of Trustees; Mr. Lamb will represent the Local Government Division.

Mr. Niedermuller said BCPH increased its revenues from expenditures over the past year. Cash value increased, partially due to advances from grants, and the 2017 total liabilities and fund balance was $4,131,584.

President Thomas thanked Mr. Niedermuller for his presentation.

ITEM 5. Director’s Report.

SWIFT (System-wide Integrated for Financial Tracking): Director of Administrative Services Aaron Pratt gave an update on Boulder County’s conversion to SWIFT, the new financial software system that will result in improved transparency, reporting capabilities, and efficiency. The “Architecture” Phase has been completed, and the next phase is “Configure and Prototype.” Mr. Pratt said the new system will be available to select staff to conduct hands-on testing at roughly 50% on September 1, 80% on October 1, and 90% on November 1.

Mr. Pratt said BCPH used to prepare its financials differently than Boulder County, but due to SWIFT, BCPH made changes to now align with the other county departments. One change that will impact BCPH and the Board of Health (BOH) is the timeline for approving the department’s budget. He said the BOH will need to approve the proposed budget in December instead of February/March, as well as an amended budget after the books close at the end of the year.

Public Health Improvement Plan (PHIP): Director of Strategic Initiatives Susan Motika said staff has been wrestling with options for improving population-based services, including mental health services, and how services could be provided more inclusively. They’ve been investigating coordinated entry systems (e.g. homeless, family resource network, criminal justice systems, and schools), as well as common issues with evidence-based practices and population-based services. Primary and early intervention work is very important, so community partners are looking through a lens trained on the school-age population that includes provision of universal home visitation through high school, which will require a great deal of policy focus and collaboration with community partners to break down barriers. She noted Boulder Valley School District (BVSD) has new leadership that staff has started working with. Representatives from local hospitals, public health directors, and health and human service agencies are collaborating and plan to meet with state officials to address common issues and concerns.

Regional Accountable Entity (RAE): Public Health Director Jeff Zayach said there have been significant changes to senior leadership positions at the Colorado Community Health Alliance (CCHA), which is this area’s RAE for the Regional Care Collaborative Organization (RCCO). Boulder County is part of Region 6, which includes the counties of Boulder, Broomfield, Jefferson, Gilpin, and Clear Creek. Mr. Zayach and Boulder County Housing and Human Services Director Frank Alexander are working to integrate RAE services with the work being done in Boulder County. This has been fruitful since much of the work with Medicaid clients in the RAE overlaps between the organizations. Data-sharing agreements have been developed, and work is being done to integrate CCHA data, both now and into the future, with HHS’s BC Connect (i.e. data and case management and referral system). BCPH data will eventually be integrated into that same system.

Hospital CEOs: Mr. Zayach reported that three of the five local hospitals have new CEOs, so staff is working with them to orient them on community efforts, including community health assessments.

Sugar-Sweetened Beverage (SSB) Tax: Board Member McMillan acknowledged the work being done with the funding received through the City of Boulder’s SSB tax and offered any additional support from the Board of Health. Staff will request BOH support, as appropriate, to help support future healthy eating initiatives.

Emergency Management: The Board asked about the need to stand up cooling centers during extreme heat events. Mr. Zayach said that likely wouldn’t be necessary in Boulder County like in other parts of the country. However, certain groups are greatly impacted during high-heat events, including performance bicyclists (who have ended up in emergency rooms), seniors, etc. Boulder County Community Services has been investigating cooling
centers and how other areas of the country (e.g. Arizona and the East Coast) handle high-heat events for vulnerable populations.

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 members and staff congratulated Board Member McMillan on the recent birth of her son.

ITEM 6. Adjournment.
There being nothing further to discuss, President Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Gregg Thomas, President
Jeffrey J. Zayach, Public Health Director