

# OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

## **Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting Boulder County Public Health (BCPH) Auditorium July 22, 2019**

**BOH Members Present:** President Gregg Thomas and Board Members Morgan McMillan and Jorge DeSantiago. Absent: Vice President Olga Bermudez and Board Member McKenzie Rieder.

**Staff Members Present:** Public Health Director Jeff Zayach; Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon; Director of Administrative Services Megan Hatten; Communicable Disease and HIV Prevention Program Coordinator Carol Helwig; and Business Operations Manager Tammy Golden.

### **Meeting Called to Order.**

President Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m.

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

None.

### **ITEM 5. Old & New Business and Announcements.**

**Hepatitis A Outbreak:** Communicable Disease and HIV Prevention Program Coordinator Carol Helwig gave an update on the recent hepatitis A outbreak affecting the country, including Colorado. Kentucky is the state hit the hardest currently with more than 4,700 cases.

Ms. Helwig stressed the importance of washing hands before eating; hepatitis A is a highly contagious liver disease that is spread through person-to-person contact or by eating contaminated food or drink. Symptoms generally appear within 15-50 days after infection and include yellow skin or eyes, fatigue, fever, nausea, muscle aches, diarrhea, and dark urine or light-colored stools. Infections generally last less than two months, but some people remain ill for up to six months.

The current outbreak started in California in 2016, with the first wave of cases occurring in San Diego in encampments where poor hygiene and lack of facilities exasperated the spread of the disease. The disease then spilled over to food handlers. There are 25 states affected so far, with more than 22,295 cases reported across the country, as well as 13,184 hospitalizations and 22 deaths. Utah and California have declared that the hepatitis A outbreaks in those states have concluded.

The Colorado outbreak began in October 2018, and most cases have been reported in El Paso County. The people most affected are homeless, drug users, and/or are recently incarcerated. Ms. Helwig said public health agencies across Colorado are collaborating to contain the outbreak. Based on what has taken place in other states, the number of cases in Colorado is expected to increase. Ms. Helwig said BCPH staff is also collaborating with community partners, including the homeless shelter and jail, to prepare for an outbreak in Boulder County.

Governor Jared Polis allocated \$600,000 to help battle the outbreak, and the State of Colorado has released vaccine to immunize drug users, men who have sex with men (MSM), as well as those who are homeless or without stable housing, incarcerated people, and hepatitis clients. Over 6,000 people in Colorado have been vaccinated. BCPH has been participating in planning calls with Denver, Weld, and Larimer Counties, and the State of Colorado has activated an incident command.

Ms. Helwig said BCPH conducted a hepatitis A tabletop exercise on May 29 with internal responders. Since December 17, the Immunization Program has collaborated with the Communicable Disease / HIV Prevention Program to provide 306 vaccines at free hepatitis A vaccination clinics hosted at community agencies. Upcoming clinics will take place at the Boulder Homeless Shelter, HOPE Shelter, and Boulder County Jail. On average, 80 people attend the vaccination clinics.

Board Member DeSantiago asked if information was available in Spanish, and Ms. Helwig said she would distribute information to the Board of Health that included Spanish versions.

Ms. Helwig said measles was another communicable disease staff is preparing to battle.

The Board thanked Ms. Helwig for the update.

**ITEM 2. Consent Agenda.**

The consent agenda included the following items:

- A. *Approval of June 10, 2019, Regular Board of Health Meeting Minutes.*
- B. *Approval of May Financial Report.*

***Board Member McMillan 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 Bermudez and Board Member Rieder.***

**ITEM 3. Resolution 2019-03, Approving 2020 Proposed Budget.**

Director of Administrative Services Megan Hatten presented this item and said staff presented BCPH's proposed 2020 budget at the June 24 Board of Health study session. Resolution 2019-03 formally establishes the proposed budget for submission to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) by the August 1 deadline.

Ms. Hatten said the proposed budget increased an average of 2%. The fund balance decreased slightly, although revenues were increasing more than expenses. She said the decreased fund balance would mainly impact GENESIS, GENESISTER, and the Strategic Initiatives Branch (SIB). She also presented a new future projects chart that displayed revenues, expenses, and fund balance that the Finance Team will continue to update. Public Health Director Zayach added that the fund balance will continue to ebb and flow because of vacancy savings and other financial impacts.

In addition to adoption of Resolution 2019-03, staff requested that the board authorize staff to submit a \$1,570,200 request for Sustainability Tax funding as outlined below:

- *Business Sustainability – \$831,200: Personnel costs and incentives for energy efficiency, solar, waste, transportation, and water.*

- *Air Quality – \$350,000:* Aerial sampling, additional VOC (volatile organic compound) sampling, and consultant costs.
- *Water Quality – \$172,000:* Personnel and consultant costs.
- *HEAL (Healthy Eating & Active Living) –\$217,000:* Personnel costs and healthy food incentives.
- TOTAL: \$1,570,200

**Board Member DeSantiago made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member McMillan, to approve Resolution 2019-03, approving the 2020 proposed budget, and authorize staff to submit the Sustainability Tax funding requests outlined above. With all board members present voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion approved. Absent: Vice President Bermudez and Board Member Rieder.**

**ITEM 4. Director’s Report.**

**Core Public Health Services Assessment:** Public Health Director Zayach announced that Health Planning & Evaluation (HPE) Manager Kelli Hintch and Health Data Specialist Emily Payne recently coordinated the completion of BCPH’s core public health services (CPHS) assessment, which was distributed by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) in collaboration with the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials (CALPHO). The assessment was distributed to all 53 local public health agencies (LPHA) in Colorado and will help to identify current statewide implementation and spending on CPHS and estimate the cost to fully deliver CPHS statewide based on the current service delivery paradigm.

**Vaping:** Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon announced that local municipalities and Boulder County were considering amendments to current smoke-free ordinances to include vaping products. The City of Boulder is also considering raising the legal purchase age for tobacco products to 21 years.

**Climate Change:** Public Health Director Zayach announced that the BCPH Management Team is discussing the possibility of including climate change as one of the agency’s strategic priorities.

**ITEM 5. Old & New Business and Announcements.**

**Announcements:**

- Board Member McMillan announced that she recently started a new job as executive director of Winslow Foundation, an organization working to address climate change.
- Public Health Director Zayach announced that Vice President Olga Bermudez has decided not to apply for a second term on the Board of Health; her last meeting will be August 12. Since she is the current BOH vice president, a new vice president will need to be appointed at that meeting as well.

**ITEM 6. Adjournment.**

There being nothing further to discuss, President Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

  
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Gregg Thomas, President

  
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Jeffrey J. Zayach, Public Health Director