

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Special Meeting
Boulder County Public Health (BCPH)
Online/Telephonic Meeting
April 2, 2021

BOH Members: President Gregg Thomas; Vice President Jorge DeSantiago; and Board Members Brooke Harrison and Morgan McMillan. Absent: Board Member Landrey Fagan, M.D.

BCPH Staff: Public Health Interim Director Lexi Nolen; Boulder County Medical Officer Chris Urbina, M.D., Communicable Disease & Emergency Management Division Manager Indira Gujral; Environmental Health Division Manager Joe Malinowski; Acting Family Health Division Manager Melinda Morris; Regional Epidemiologist Kaylan Stinson; Site Services and Vital Records Manager Jordan Bullard; Acting Communications and Marketing Manager Angela Simental; and Administrative Assistant Rita Mangeyn.

Boulder County Staff: Deputy County Attorney Trina Ruhland and Senior Assistant County Attorney Kate Haywood.

Meeting Called to Order.

President Thomas called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. and asked all participants to identify themselves for the record (see above). He declared that a quorum was present, that notice of the meeting was posted on the Board of Health website, and that call-in information was included to allow for public participation. Due to COVID-19, President Thomas said the meeting was being conducted virtually.

ITEM 1. Approval of Public Health Order 2021-03, Removing Outdoor Face Covering Requirements.

Interim Public Health Director Lexi Nolen introduced Deputy County Attorney Trina Ruhland, who said staff was requesting approval of Public Health Order (PHO) 2021-03, which removed face covering requirements if people were outdoors in Boulder County. Ms. Ruhland said the PHO was in alignment with PHO from other Denver Metro Area public health agencies and was possible due to the excellent vaccination rates and decreased COVID-19 activity in the county, especially among the senior population.

Ms. Ruhland requested Board of Health approval of PHO 2021-03, which she said would be in effect for 30 days during which time Interim Public Health Director Lexi Nolen should be authorized to amend, modify, or extend the Order, as needed. She confirmed that community members 11 years of age and older must continue to wear a mask when inside indoor public spaces. Ms. Ruhland clarified that the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) required the wearing of facial coverings when using public transportation and while awaiting public transport services, and PHO 2021-03 was in alignment with that guidance.

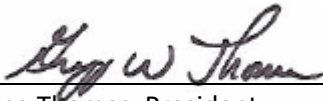
The Board asked if PHO 2021-03 applied to schools, including the University of Colorado (CU). Staff said it would only apply to outdoor areas of schools, and schools also had the ability to enact stricter guidance, if desired. Boulder County Medical Director Chris Urbina, M.D., said the eased restrictions encompassed outdoor sporting activities, parks, etc., and that requirements for all indoor sporting sectors and activities would remain intact. Staff said updated masking guidance for sports activities would soon be available on the Boulder County Public Health COVID-19 website.

Board Member McMillan asked if the easing of restrictions was evidence-based. She was told current data supported the easing of restrictions since outdoor COVID-19 transmission rates were low. Communicable Disease & Emergency Management Division Manager Indira Gujral added that vaccination rates were accelerating across the state, and incident rates were forecast to continue decreasing, which further supported the easing of facial covering restrictions.

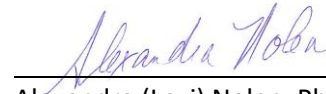
Board Member Harrison made a motion, which was seconded by Vice President DeSantiago, to approve Public Health Order 2021-03, and authorize Interim Public Health Director Lexi Nolen to amend, modify, or extend the Order, as required. With all Board Members voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion carried.

ITEM 2. Adjourment into Executive Session, Pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes §24-6-402(4)(f), for Purposes of Conducting the Public Health Director Recruitment Process.

Board Member Harrison made a motion, which was seconded by Vice President DeSantiago, to adjourn to executive session at 1:15 p.m., April 2, 2021, pursuant to Colorado Revised Statutes §24-6-402(4)(f), for purposes of conducting the public health director recruitment process. With all Board Members voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 1:14 p.m.



Gregg Thomas, President
Boulder County Board of Health



Alexandra (Lexi) Nolen, Ph.D., MPH
Interim BCPH Executive Director