

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting Online/Telephonic Meeting June 12, 2023

BOH Members:

President Morgan McMillan; *Board Members* Gregg Thomas and Lindy Hinman; Absent: *Board Member* Brooke Harrison, and *Vice President* Landrey Fagan.

BCPH Staff:

Executive Director, Lexi Nolen; *Director of Administration and Finance*, Katherine Palmer; *Director of the Strategic Initiatives Branch*, Kelli Hintch; *Communicable Disease and Emergency Management Division Manager*, Indira Gujral; *Business Operations Coordinator*, Jorden Thomas; and *Administrative Specialist*, Dalia Mohamed.

Boulder County Staff:

Senior Assistant County Attorney, Kate Haywood, and *Business Operations Manager*, Robin Valdez.

Members of the Public who Provide Comment:

Carolyn Bninski
Ryan Scott

Meeting Called to Order.

President McMillan called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. and asked all participants to identify themselves for the record (see above). She declared that a quorum was present, that notice of this meeting was posted on the Board of Health website, and that the call-in information was included to allow for public participation. This meeting was held in hybrid-fashion with members of the board and staff meeting in-person and members of the public attending online to test the hybrid-capabilities of the on-site meeting space.

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

Members of the public expressed concerns related to BCPH's response to COVID-19, returning to in-person board meetings, and providing COVID-19 vaccinations to children.

ITEM 2. Approval of May 8, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes.

Board Member Thomas made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Hinman, to approve the May 8, 2023, Regular Board of Health minutes. With all Board Members present in favor of the motion, President McMillan declared the motion unanimously carried.

ITEM 3. Staffing Announcement.

President McMillan welcomed Alexandra (Lexi) Nolen as BCPH's Executive Director. Lexi accepted the position and began on May 26, 2023.

ITEM 4. BOH Consensus on Preference in Skills/Values of Next BOH Member.

The BOH will be recruiting for its next member during the summer 2023 Advisory Boards and Commission application process, organized within the Boulder County Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) office. During the May 15, 2023, BOH and BOCC retreat, the BOCC requested a memo of the BOH-agreed upon skills and values of the next BOH member. The BOH members agreed that the following four values are most important in the next member:

- Experience with Management, Budget, Oversight, and Strategic Planning
- Understanding the Role of Public Health
- Diversity of Location, Experience, and Culture
- Understanding and Application of Health and Racial Equity

President McMillan will work with Jordan to draft and send the memo to the BOCC prior to the summer recruitment.

ITEM 5. BOH Application Questions.

The current application for the BOH recruitment contains the following three questions:

1. Why are you interested in serving on this board?
2. What are your qualifications for serving on this board?
3. Please indicate and explain any potential conflict of interest you may have in serving on this board?

Jorden presented four additional questions for the board to consider adding to the application:

- A. What experience do you have working with community-based organizations or residents?
- B. Please explain your philosophy about working with team members who may have different opinions on a path forward and give an example of how you've successfully navigated conflicts.
- C. Diversity, Equity, Access, and Inclusion is a foundational priority for Boulder County. What role do you think the Board of Health plays to promote this priority? What experiences can you draw upon as a Board of Health member to progress this role?
- D. Please describe any experience you have working on public health issues.

The board members present agreed to edit the current questions for applicants to elaborate on experience and values as a future board member, and to add questions B-D. Jorden will draft the final questions for review and submit to Robin Valdez to be uploaded into the application system.

ITEM 6. Director’s Report.

- President McMillan asked if the survey that St. Vrain School District completes is comparable to the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey that Boulder Valley School District completes.
 - Lexi will work with staff to include a response in the next Director’s Report.
- Board Member Hinman asked if there is concern in vector control regarding the increase in rain Boulder County has experienced this summer.
 - Lexi will work with staff to include a response in the next Director’s Report.
- Board Member Hinman asked for more information regarding xylazine outbreaks in the community.
 - Lexi noted that BCPH was notified that xylazine was found in street drugs used in overdoses. Xylazine is a veterinary tranquilizer that extends the high of other drugs if it is mixed, and can render the user unresponsive to Naloxone and have lasting skin sores that are resistant to healing. BCPH issued a notice and has been communicating the risk to partners and the public. BCPH has ordered test strips to provide to community members and community partners. Since BCPH has not previously tested for xylazine presence in the past, there is currently no prevalence data.
- Board Member Hinman asked how the budget planning process is going.
 - Katherine provided the county’s shortened budget timeline, and outlined how BCPH will move forward to have a draft budget for approval at the BOH study session. After BOH approval, the budget will be sent to the Board of County Commissioners.

ITEM 7. Old and New Business.

None.

ITEM 8. Adjournment.

There being nothing further to discuss, President McMillan declared the meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.



Morgan McMillan,
President



Alexandra (Lexi) Nolen,
Executive Director