

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting

Online/Telephonic Meeting

July 10, 2023

BOH Members:

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

BCPH Staff:

Executive Director, Lexi Nolen; Chief Medical Officer, Bob Belknap, M.D.; Director of the Strategic Initiatives Branch, Kelli Hintch; Community Health Division Manager, Heather Crate; Environmental Health Division Manager, Joe Malinowski; Communicable Disease and Emergency Management Division Manager, Indira Gujral; Health and Racial Equity Manager, Kevalyn Maw; Health Planning and Evaluation Manager, Elise Waln; Health Planner, Rachel Mintle; Consumer Protection Program Coordinator, Lane Drager; Finance Manager, Desiree Kazarosian; Business Operations Coordinator, Jordan Thomas; Administrative Lead Technician, Rita Mangeyn.

Boulder County Staff:

Senior Assistant County Attorney, Kate Haywood.

Members of the Public who Provide Comment:

Ryan Scott

Erin Meschke

Meeting Called to Order.

President McMillan called the meeting to order at 5:31 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 Meeting Minutes.

Board Member Thomas made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Harrison, to approve the June 12, 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. 2023 Budget Amendment.

Desiree Kazarosian presented Resolution 2023-01 Budget Amendment for board approval in the amount of \$27,258,255. On December 12, 2022, the board approved Resolution 2022-02 which adopted the 2023 Recommended/Approved budget in the amount of \$27,234,037 for January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023. Resolution 2022-02 was based on preliminary information known at the time. Since then, further current information has been received to present a more accurate budget outlook for the year 2023. Resolution 2023-01 Budget Amendment was drafted to align with the following updated information: increase in ARPA related funds from the county; shift in grant funds (includes new, terminating, increases, and decreases); amendment to S-Tax funds; application of 2023 Program Exception Requests; application of prior county requests; wage increases; and an updated fee analysis.

- President McMillan asked for further clarification on the taxes that are included in the County Tax line item.
 - Desiree and Lexi provided the county taxes include those that are voted on and approved by the community, but will get further information on each one and will be included in the August Director's Report.
- Board Member Harrison asked for clarification on the EERT Response Pager Pay.
 - Indira provided the EERT Response pager is for emergency environmental hazards, such as hazmat incidents, that allow environmental health staff to respond to a situation and provide technical assistance to mitigate damage.
- Board Member Harrison asked if the Meth Contamination Response funding was mainly used for the City of Boulder Library response or for broader use.
 - Lexi noted that the funding is for the move of a .75 FTE staff member to a full 1.0 FTE to meet the needs of the community that have resulted from the increase in environmental exposures and contamination.
- Vice President Fagan asked for clarification on the Jen Brown Fund line item.
 - Desiree noted the item is a historical amount of funding from the county that was originally for a staff member, but it was allocated into operation funding, which results in the amount not increasing over time, like it should if it was correctly placed into personnel funding. The agency is working to rectify this with the county.
- President McMillan asked if there is an agreed-upon fund balance percentage the agency and board would like to maintain.

- Lexi noted that the current balance does not reflect the number of expenses the agency is expecting and hoping the county to cover, therefore the agency is hesitant to dip into the fund balance until clarity has been given on the county's ability to cover additional costs.

Board Member Thomas moved to approve Resolution 2023-01 to adopt the 2023 Amended Budget. Vice President Fagan seconded. With all Board Members present in favor of the motion, President McMillan declared the motion unanimously carried.

ITEM 4. Policy and Legislative Session Wrap-Up.

Heather Crate and Lane Drager presented the 2023 Policy and Legislative Session Wrap-up. The 2023 State Legislation Session concluded in late May, and several actions taken impact public health. Heather and Lane provided the BOH with a list of key bills that passed and failed, BCPH staff activities during the session, accomplishments by state-wide organizations: Colorado Association of Local Public Health Organizations (CALPHO) and Colorado Public Health Association (CPHA), and internal BCPH efforts to increase coordination around policy work and progress in building a stronger infrastructure to support policy work.

Lane presented the bills that were supported by CALPHO and CPHA which align with BCPH's strategic priority areas of Mental and Behavioral Health, Climate Change, Health Equity, and Prevention and Access to Care. A number of bills that were supported by CALPHO and CPHA had an ongoing focus to create additional opportunities for public health funding and revenue and general public health infrastructure support. CALPHO supported 12 bills in total, in which 11 passed with a focus on Public Health Workforce, Behavioral Health and Substance Use, and Immunizations.

Heather presented the efforts that BCPH has completed and plans to complete to support the internal policy infrastructure. An internal policy workgroup began after the BOH adoption of the 2023 legislative priorities. The workgroup created a tracking system for bills to monitor or to act on which increased the support and celebration for staff engagement in policy work and advanced partner and community conversations to align with activities and messages.

The next steps the agency will be completing to further support internal policy infrastructure include the building out of an annual calendar cycle which outlines the goals for the next legislative session, developing internal workflows, and identifying resource needs which include a job description and funding source for a policy lead position within BCPH. Further, the workgroup will use the Community Health Profile and the draft Strategic Plan to inform agency policy priorities to support and to identify broad priority areas for planning and acting with partners. Lastly, the group will advance plans with the County Policy team to continue collaboration and support throughout the entire community.

Lexi ended the presentation with discussion questions for the board to provide feedback on the direction of the internal policy efforts and how the board would like to be involved in the next year.

- Vice President Fagan noted it is difficult to be able to respond quickly to testimony requests and to know which bills are on the docket for discussion.
 - Lane confirmed the two options for submitting testimony are through remote video and written. Lane and Heather have access to a legislative software that provides a schedule for when bills are sent to committee, but understands that it often does not give adequate timeframes to provide advance notice for testimony efforts. If bills are scheduled early enough, Lane and Heather can notify the BOH if they are interested in providing testimony during the next session.
- President McMillan likes the amount and frequency of information that is shared throughout the legislative session, and the board is receptive to any support efforts that are identified by BCPH or the County Policy team. Further, she would like to continue the conversation on determining how to move forward with a dedicated policy staff member and to ensure policy is a key part of the agency's Strategic Plan.
 - Heather agreed in working with the County Policy team, it increases the efficacy of policy efforts and helps to identify the subject-matter-experts who can give testimony on a subject. Lane also noted there are efforts that the internal BCPH policy workgroup does not have the capacity to follow – municipal-level legislation, Consortium of Cities, etc., so having a dedicated staff person would greatly advance efforts.

ITEM 5. Strategic Plan and PHIP Update.

Elise Waln and Rachel Mintle presented the 2024 – 2029 Strategic Plan and 2023 – 2028 Public Health Improvement Plan (PHIP) update. The upcoming activities the Health Planning and Evaluation team will be completing to advance the Strategic Plan include continued progress with the priority workgroups to develop goals and objectives (which will include feedback from community partners); drafting additional components of the document (i.e., Sustainability Plan, Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning Plan, etc.); and having BCPH supervisors and staff review the goals and objectives to provide feedback.

The upcoming activities for the PHIP include the finalization of the 2023 Community Health Assessment; PHIP workgroup finalization of action plans; begin planning for the implementation phase; and to submit the PHIP to the BOH for approval and to CDPHE per state statute. Rachel presented the draft PHIP objectives for the board to review: Policy, Social Connectedness, Strategic Communications, Sustainability and Funding, and Technical Assistance and Training.

Rachel ended the presentation with a discussion with the BOH.

- Vice President Fagan asked how Mental Health Partners is involved in the Strategic Plan and PHIP.
 - Elise provided Mental Health Partners have been involved in the development of the Boulder County Behavioral Health Roadmap, which provides the qualitative data to be included in the Community Health Assessment. Lexi also noted that there are Harm Reduction staff located at Mental Health Partners, so this partnership provides an opportunity for BCPH to be transparent about the mental and behavioral health prevention work the agency is responsible for.
- Vice President Fagan followed with a clarification of the partnerships with Clinica.
 - Lexi noted it is a similar partnership with that of Mental Health Partners. BCPH is within the prevention spaces; whereas Clinica is in the treatment space. Through the Behavioral Health Roadmap, agencies like BCPH and Clinica can collaborate on trainings and community efforts across a larger spectrum of services.
- Board Member Harrison asked if the training efforts will be focused on training members of the priority population to reach out for services, or if the training will specifically target the needs of priority populations.
 - Elise noted the specifics of the training goal has not been fully developed, but one of the first activities currently outlined for this work is to establish an MBH-related training and technical assistance plan for the agency . Kelli, Indira, and Lexi expounded on this as an emphasis of aligning the Strategic Plan, PHIP, and Behavioral Health Roadmap in working with partners and community members to support the range of work that is needed in the mental and behavioral health field.

ITEM 6. Director's Report.

- Vector Control
 - Lane confirmed there have been no human cases of West Nile Virus in Boulder County.
 - Board Member Thomas asked if there are any Boulder County notifications for previous or current mosquito spraying.
 - Lane noted there is a Boulder County page within VDCI's Colorado Customers website that provides spray schedules.
 - Vice President Fagan asked what is used to spray for mosquitos.
 - Lane provided it is largely made of Permethrin, and can provide more information to the board.
- Water Quality – Marshall Fire Impacted Septic Systems
 - Board Member Thomas asked if the majority of septic systems impacted by the Marshall Fire will need to be rebuilt completely even if they are underground, or if it is just the parts above ground that are needing to be rebuilt.

- Joe noted the Environmental Health Division is receiving a mix of permit requests ranging from homes that want to expand the footprint of the home or adding an accessory dwelling which requires a review of the existing and any new septic systems.

ITEM 7. Old and New Business.

- The Board of Health Application is open through August 13, 2023.

ITEM 8. Adjournment.

There being nothing further to discuss, President McMillan declared the meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.



Morgan McMillan,
President



Alexandra (Lexi) Nolen,
Executive Director