

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting Online/Telephonic Meeting

Date January 13, 2025

BOH Members

President Morgan McMillan; *Vice President* Lindy Hinman (remote); *Board Members* Brooke Harrison, Ph.D. (remote), Landry Fagan, MD (remote), and Amber Johnson, DNP, CNM (remote)

BCPH Staff

Executive Director, Lexi Nolen; *Deputy Director*, Indira Gujral; *Director of Administration and Finance*, Armando Guardiola; *Director of the Strategic Initiatives Branch*, Kelli Hintch; Daphne McCabe; *Communicable Disease and Emergency Management Division Manager*, Stephanie Faren; *Senior Budget Analyst*, Sarah DeVore; *Finance Manager*, Desiree Kazarosian; *Chief Medical Officer*, Dr Bob Belknap; *Water Quality Program Coordinator*, Erin Dodge; *Boulder County Water Quality Program Manager*, Chris Ayres; *Administrative Assistant*, Patrick Kuhnell; *Administrative Specialist*, Dalia Mohamed.

Boulder County Staff

Senior Assistant County Attorney, Kate Haywood (remote).

Members of the Public who Provide Comment

None.

Members of the Public present for OWTS variance hearing

Tori Peglar, Jupiter Hill Ranch; Steven Walsh, Architect

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). Patrick Kuhnell declared that a quorum was present. This meeting was held in hybrid-fashion with members of the board, staff, and members of the public meeting in-person and online.

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

No public comments.

ITEM 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes.

Board Member Johnson made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Fagan to approve the December 16, 2024, Regular Board of Health minutes. With all Board Members present in favor of the motion, President McMillan declared the motion unanimously carried.

ITEM 3. Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) Variance Request Hearing

- Erin Dodge introduced Chris Ayres from the Boulder County Water Quality Program, who presented the variance request for a barn with two bathrooms on 8550 North 39th Street. The proposal includes a 2500-gallon precast vault with an alarm to alert property owners when it is 75% full. The variance request is supported by the Boulder County Public Health OWTS coordinator and recommended for approval.
- There being no questions from the Board Member Hinman made a motion to approve the variance request which was seconded by Board Member Johnson. With all Board Members present in favor of the motion, President McMillan declared the motion unanimously carried.

ITEM 4. BCPH Budget and Finance Update

- Armando Guardiola presented the new adopted budget for 2025 and the budget calendar for 2026. The budget calendar is broken down by quarters, with key dates for budget reports and amendments. He also emphasized the importance of early preparation and collaboration with the county for budget alignment and noted that the budget process includes priority-based budgeting, with a focus on strategic planning and resource allocation.
- Armando Guardiola next explained the three phases of priority-based budgeting: foundational, framework, and implementation. This initiative aims to add value to public services and align budget priorities with organizational goals. He highlighted the importance of strategic planning and stakeholder involvement in the budgeting process. The goal is to complete the priority-based budgeting process by 2026, with a focus on transparency and accountability.

Discussion and Action Items:

- Board Member Brooke Harrison expressed the need for more specifics on the priority-based budgeting process and how priorities will be defined.
 - Armando Guardiola acknowledged the need for training and more detailed information to be provided to the board, particularly ahead of the March budget study session.
 - Lexi Nolen highlighted the importance of aligning the priority-based budgeting approach with the organization's strategic plan and data/performance management efforts.

- The discussion centered around ensuring a smooth transition to priority-based budgeting, providing the board with a clear understanding of the process, and securing buy-in from key stakeholders including staff, the BOH, and the BOCC as well as community partners.
- Action Items:
 - Provide training and more specifics on priority-based budgeting to the board prior to the March budget study session.
 - Bring the priority-based budgeting scorecard to the board for review, likely in the April-June timeframe.
 - Discuss priority-based budgeting and data/performance management at the finance subcommittee meeting.

ITEM 5. Year in Review 2024

- Kelli Hintch introduced a video highlighting the accomplishments of multiple BCPH programs in 2024. The video showcased various projects and initiatives, emphasizing the organization's impact on the community. Kelli Hintch discussed the importance of data and performance management in driving organizational decisions and the importance of celebrating the good work done in 2024 and providing a visual representation of the organization's achievements.

ITEM 6. Director's Report.

- Lexi Nolen provided updates on:
 - The union vote, which was extended to January 16. The Board discussed the potential impact of the union vote on bargaining processes and appeals.
 - BOCC has decided to award the JULL settlement funds to BCPH and we will be providing services on a reimbursement basis. The Community Health team are working on a plan for how those funds will be used.
 - Working on filling in the gap on what the BOH wants to focus on in 2025, will use holistic agency goals as a template for reporting to the Board and what we are planning to achieve in 2025.

Discussion and Action Items:

- Board Vice President Lindy Hinman raised a question about the public health community's response to the Surgeon General's warning on alcohol consumption. Lexi Nolen noted that the issue of alcohol use has been a topic of discussion at the state level and among local public health authorities (LPHAs) for about the last year. Empirically, alcohol use is on par with other drug use in terms of its public health impact, and CDPHE has recognized this. There are likely to be some grants rolling out for initial

projects related to addressing alcohol use, and that a state-level strategy may be in the works, though it would take longer to develop. BCPH used to do work on alcohol-related issues, though it is not currently labeled as a strategic priority. There may be opportunities for BCPH to engage with CDPHE and other LPHAs about what alcohol-related work could look like, given the data and outcomes around this issue.

ITEM 7. Old and New Business.

None.

ITEM 8. Adjournment.

There being nothing further to discuss, President McMillan declared the meeting adjourned at 6:24 p.m.



Signed, Morgan McMillan,

President



Signed, Alexandra (Lexi) Nolen,

Executive Director