

Board of Health AGENDA

NOTICE REGARDING COVID-19 (Novel Coronavirus): To adhere to COVID-19 social distancing precautions, all on-site public Board of Health meetings are postponed until further notice. To allow access to this meeting, and future Board of Health meetings, call 719-583-4513 for more information. The public may make any public comments by email to Executive Assistant Ramona Chisman-Ewing, at mona.ewing@pueblocounty.us.

The Board of Health meeting will be held **Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at 12:00 noon by Zoom.**

- A. 12:00 - 12:03 p.m. – Call to Order and Approval / Changes to Agenda **(Action Required)**
- B. 12:03 - 12:06 p.m. – Approval of Board of Health Meeting Minutes held **March 24, April 13, April 19, 2021 (Action Required)**
- C. 12:06 – 12:15 p.m. – **Special Recognitions/Celebrations** - Resolution recognizing 2021 Public Health Champion – Randy Evetts
- D. 12:15 - 12:20 p.m. - **Public Comment**
- E. 12:20 – 12:30 p.m. – **Action Items**
 - Monthly Financial Report – Georgia Alfonso
 - Contracts – Georgia Alfonso
- F. 12:30 - 12:45 p.m. – **COVID-19 Public Health Order Update** – Randy Evetts
- G. 12:45 – 1:00 p.m. – **Special Presentation:** WIC; Breastfeeding Peer Counselor; Baby and Me Tobacco Free Program Updates: Presenter: Chelsea Hollowell
- H. 1:00 - 1:05 p.m. - **Public Health Director’s Report**
 - General Updates - Randy Evetts
- H. 1:05 – 1:10 p.m. – **Deputy Director’s Report**
 - Legislative Update – Katie Davis
- I. 1:10 – 1:15 p.m. – **Unfinished Business**
- J. 1:15 - 1:20 p.m. – **New Business**

ADJOURN

The Board of Health meeting was held by Zoom March 24, 2021, at 12:00 noon.

Board Members

Present: Donald Moore, Board President
Michael J. Nerenberg, Board Vice President
Ed Brown, City Council Member
Eileen Dennis, Board Member
Garrison Ortiz, County Commissioner

Legal Counsel: Marci Day, Assistant County Attorney

Administrative Staff

Members Present: Randy Evetts, Public Health Director
Katie Davis, Deputy Director
Georgia Alfonso, Budget and Finance Director
Jody Carrillo, Environmental Health and Emergency Preparedness Division Director
Ramona Chisman-Ewing, Executive Assistant

Medical Officer: Christopher Urbina, MD

Staff Members: Vicki Carlton, Jenny Case, Derek Coe, Denise DeNardo, Justin Gage, Sarah Joseph, Alicia Solis, Kim Sugar, Chad Wolgram

A. **Call to Order and Approve or Make Changes to the Agenda**

Board President, Donald Moore, called the meeting to order and asked for approval of the Agenda.

MOVED by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Michael Nerenberg, to approve the Agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Michael Nerenberg, seconded by Eileen Dennis, to approve the February 24, 2021, BOH meeting minutes as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. **Special Recognitions/Celebrations**

- Randy Evetts recognized the Vital Statistics program. The program received a perfect annual audit; the Department's Vital Statistics program is one of the few in the state to continue to receive a perfect audit each year.
- Randy recognized community partners and Health Department staff members who assisted at the mass COVID-19 vaccination site; over 40,000 doses of vaccine were administered at the clinics. Donald Moore stated he was impressed with the regular amount of work the Department staff members have been able to maintain during the COVID-19 response. Garrison Ortiz has heard from various elected officials and agencies how great the Pueblo's mass vaccination site has come together. The Governor has cited Pueblo as the best well run vaccination site in the state.

D. **Public Comment**

None

E. **Special Presentations**

Strategic Plan – Performance Management Update

Public Health Planners Jenny Case and Derek Coe presented the Strategic Plan/Performance Management update to the Board. The five strategic plan pillars include Engagement, Excellence, Population Health, Sustainability, and Workforce. There are seven department-level performance measures with 13 division-specific measures included in the plan.

- Excellence: A new Quality Improvement (QI) committee was formed in 2020 to help build additional QI subject matter experts. Due to the COVID-19 response, 2020 accreditation progress was behind,

so a new approach was approved by Sr. Management and significant progress has been made to get ahead in 2021.

- Sustainability - COVID-19 has provided the opportunity to regularly meet with elected officials; process started for evaluating fee analysis for programs, but at this time fees will not be raised due to financial stress on local businesses from COVID-19 limitations.
- Population Health: CHIP- developed a new reporting template to encourage actionable efforts; meetings held with partners and Community Health Steering Committee refocused Behavioral Health to include efforts in Youth Substance Use, Partner Engagement, Suicide, and Education and Prevention.
- Workforce: a new workforce development plan was developed and aligns with the new strategic plan to be finalized and implemented in 2021. An audit of the standardized process for retention and storage of documents showed overall conformance.
- Engagement: PDPHE is a trusted source of accurate information as shown by an increase in social media followers and website visits during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Reviewed Department Performance Management and Population Health Measures with the Board. Reviewed the year end performance measures and the target goal for 2020. Only two goals out of seven were met, due to the COVID-19 response impact.

Michael Nerenberg asked about increased syphilis rates and if there was a plan to address this issue. Jenny stated there is an objective in the Strategic Plan to address this including activities aimed at educating providers and working with school districts on sexual health education. He also asked if there was a particular age group at risk; Jenny Case stated she thinks it is the 20 plus age group. Southern Colorado Harm Reduction Association will be adding STI testing to their services. Garrison asked how many kids were sampled for the health promotion measure regarding vaping e-cigarettes and marijuana. Jenny Case stated approximately 2,000 students were surveyed. Donald Moore noticed the increase in the number of people who are accessing the Department's website since COVID-19 and stated the Department is now seen as a community resource for serious health issues. Eileen Dennis stated it has become second nature to request data when it comes to surveys, etc. Randy Evetts acknowledged both Jenny and Derek for the work they have done not only on the strategic plan, but their overall contribution to the Department.

F. **Program Reports**

Operations and Health Promotion

Financial and Contract Cost Reports

Financial reports for the end of February 2021, were presented to the Board. Expenditures exceeded revenues by \$146,038.76. The immunization vaccine funding contract is a deliverable, not a reimbursement; funding is being distributed 1/6 at a time from the state. To date, only two months of funding has been received. The funding is spent and as revenue comes in, this balance will even out. Accounts receivable is high, due to the CARES funding, which still has to be received.

MOVED by Michael Nerenberg, seconded by Ed Brown, to accept the monthly financial report as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Contracts

There were no contracts to present this month.

G. **Public Health Director's Report**

COVID-19 Update

Public Health Director Randy Evetts provided a written report to the Board and reviewed some of the following information with the Board:

- **Current Pueblo County COVID-19 Metrics (as of 3/16/2021)**
 - Pueblo County overall status/ Dial- Level Blue
 - 7-day Cumulative Incidence- 79.1/100,000
 - 14-day Cumulative Incidence- 155.3/100,000
 - 7-day Average positivity - 1.4%
 - 14-day Average positivity - 1.3%

- Hospital census 3-10 patients daily
- **Variants in Pueblo County**
 - 1 U.K Variant (B117)
 - 12 California variant (B.1.427/B.1.429)
 - 13 pending/ suspected variants
- **Testing in Pueblo County**
 - Average tests/day for last 14 days - 109
 - Total tested at community-based/MAKO site to date- 70,586
 - Positive cases Pueblo County to date: 14,413
 - Total deaths to date: 376
- **Outbreaks in Pueblo County**
 - To date: 176
 - Unresolved: 25
- **Vaccinations given in Pueblo County**
 - 37,950 first doses - 23,177 second doses
 - Community-based site: 22,515 first doses - 14,429 second doses

COVID-19 Updates:

- State of Colorado will deploy a mass vaccination site in Pueblo beginning on March 22, 2021. This will be a Type 2 site (up to 3,000 vaccines per day) to start and will evolve to a Type 1 site (up to 6,000 vaccines per day) as the state receives an increased supply of vaccine. The site will be a drive-through clinic located at the Colorado State Fair Grounds in the carnival lot area. The state has chosen Centura Health/ Covid Check Colorado as the vendor for the Pueblo site.
- The PDPHE mass vaccination site at the Pueblo Mall will cease operation March 19, 2021.
- MAKO testing will relocate to the Pueblo Mall location following their testing clinic on Saturday, March 20, 2021 and will begin testing operations at the Pueblo Mall site on March 22, 2021. The testing site at the Colorado State Fair Grounds will cease operation on March 20, 2021.
- Vaccines are expected to continue ramping up in Colorado. By mid-April, the state expects to receive 400,000 to 500,000 vaccines per week. Goal is to make vaccine available to every eligible Coloradoan by May.
- PDPHE will begin working to provide equity clinics once the mass vaccination site is turned over to the state.

Dr. Nerenberg asked if the J & J vaccine would be available in Pueblo. Randy stated the J & J vaccine is not yet widely available in the state. However, PDPHE should expect to receive some J & J vaccine in the future. Randy also informed the Board there is still a certain percentage of people who are hesitant to receive the vaccine because they fear the vaccine may be detrimental to them. The Department is also working on a plan to try to vaccinate the homebound in Pueblo and the J & J vaccine would be very beneficial to this population, as it only requires one dose.

H. **Unfinished Business**

None

I. **New Business**

Garrison Ortiz mentioned a bill that was being proposed in the legislature stating county commissioners cannot sit on boards of health. This bill was introduced because of the disconnect between elected officials and public health; some Boards of Health only have County Commissioners as their members. Garrison was going to testify on the bill, but it was struck down. Garrison will update the Board as time goes on. Donald Moore asked if there has been legislation regarding public health bills that could be a threat or opportunity. Deputy Director Katie Davis responded at this time there are several bills the Colorado Association of Local Public Health officials are actively supporting, but no bills that are a threat to public health. Randy Evetts stated because of the number of threats public health directors have been receiving related to the COVID-19 response, there is a bill that would make it a penalty to harass a public health official punishable by fines and/or jail time. Counties have been asked to remove public health directors/workers information from public view, due to safety reasons. Dr. Nerenberg would like the legislative report presented at the BOH meetings in the future.

The next regular BOH meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 28, 2021, at 12:00 noon by Zoom.

MOVED by Michael Nerenberg, seconded by Eileen Dennis, to adjourn the Board of Health meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Donald Moore, Board of Health President



Randy Evetts, MPA, Public Health Director