

## **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 Board of Health meeting will be held **Wednesday, April 22, 2020, at 12:00 noon by ZOOM.**

- A. 12:00 - 12:05 p.m. – Call to Order and Approval / Changes to Agenda **(Action Required)**
- B. 12:05 - 12:10 p.m. – Approval of Board of Health Meeting Minutes held **March 25, 2019 (Action Required)**
- C. 12:10 – 12:15 p.m. – **Special Recognitions/Celebrations** – Public Health Champion – Randy Evetts
- D. 12:15 - 12:20 pm - **Public Comment**
- E. 12:20 – 12:50 p.m. - **COVID-19 Update**
  - Overview of Current Work- Randy Evetts
  - Communicable Disease Case Investigation and Contact Tracing- Maria Telfer
  - PH Order Enforcement Activities Report- Chad Wolgram
  - PDPHE COVID Operations Report- Katie Davis
  - PDPHE COVID- Financial Update- Georgia Alfonso
- F. 12:50-12:55 pm - **New Business**
- G. 12:55- 1:00 pm – **Unfinished Business**
- H. 1:00 – 1:15 pm – **Public Health Director’s Report**
  - General Updates – Randy Evetts
- I. 1:15 – 1:30 pm - **Division Reports**

### **Operations & Health Promotion Division**

- Monthly Financial Report – Georgia Alfonso **(Action Required)**
- Audit Update- Georgia Alfonso
- Contracts – Georgia Alfonso **(Action Required)**

**ADJOURN**



The Board of Health meeting was held by a phone-in conference call March 25, 2020, at 12:00 noon.

**Board Members**

**Present:** Donald Moore, Board President  
Michael J. Nerenberg, Board Vice President  
Eileen Dennis, Board Member  
Garrison Ortiz, County Commissioner

**Absent:** Ed Brown, City Council Member

**Legal Counsel:** Marci Day, Assistant County Attorney

**Administrative Staff**

**Members Present:** Randy Evetts, Public Health Director  
Maria Telfer, Community Health Services Division Director  
Katie Davis, Operations and Health Promotion Division Director  
Georgia Alfonso, Budget and Finance Director  
Ramona Chisman-Ewing, Executive Assistant  
Denise DeNardo, Human Resources

**Staff Members:** Chelsea Hollowell, Zak VanOoyen

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. A request was made to add the monthly financial report to the Agenda.

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

***MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

B. **Approval of Minutes**

**MOVED** by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Michael Nerenberg, to approve the February 26, 2020, BOH meeting minutes as submitted.

***MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

C. **Special Recognitions**

Maria Telfer, the new Community Health Services Division Director was introduced to the Board. Maria jumped right into the COVID-19 response and has been a valuable asset to the Department during this event. Welcome Maria!

D. **COVID-19 Update**

The following updates were given to the Board regarding the COVID-19 response:

- COVID -19 response started at a local level.
- The response progressed into a unified command with Randy Evetts and Sheriff Kirk Taylor acting as joint Incident Commanders.
- Public Health is the lead agency for this incident.
- Governor Polis declared a state of emergency to access resources on a larger scale.
- Communication management has been the biggest challenge as information changes daily if not hourly.
- Challenges to date have been learning to make decisions more quickly, learning to work in a unified command structure with the support from other agencies, and communicating good information on a timely manner with all staff, community leaders, and community residents.
- Staff members are documenting where they have encountered obstacles and where processes or policies have been a hindrance so, plans and systems for future responses can be refined.
- This week, a meeting took place with both hospitals and the Pueblo Community Health Center to discuss surge capacity and community testing. The hospitals together have some capacity to expand. Staffing and PPE (Personal Protective Equipment) are a concern; however, the group

discussed options to include using health professionals from medical and dental offices that may not currently be busy or even operating due to the governor's orders.

- Surrounding counties are also being monitored in order to assist if needed.
- If COVID-19 tests and PPE become available, a community testing site will be set up.
- Meeting with law enforcement will take place later today to discuss how to enforce public health orders (reducing workforce, social distancing, closing nonessential services, etc.) issued by Governor Polis.
- Responders are relying on community members to do the right thing for everyone who lives in Pueblo County.
- Community leaders are also discussing possible 'stay at home' orders; both pros and cons. Currently, there is no plan to implement such orders.
- The Colorado State Fair is part of the emergency operations plan, so if needed they could assist with space issues.
- Many discussions are taking place with other community partners and how they can assist if needed.
- Homeless population is a concern; community agencies are working with the shelters and possibly alternative locations if needed (old warming shelter, possibly a hotel, etc.).
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is in short supply, so a PPE donation event will take place this Friday, March 27 for unopened medical supplies (gloves, masks, etc.).
- A limited SNS (Strategic National Stockpile) stockpile did arrive this week. It will be distributed to regional partners and long-term care facilities in the community.
- A future SNS shipment may arrive, but the exact date is unknown.
- The jail reduced their inmate numbers by 146 to a current population of just over 500 inmates.
- PDPHE building access has been limited; essential services such as birth/death certificates may be purchased on-line; WIC educator visits are taking place by phone and eWIC cards are being loaded electronically.
- The public, as well as staff members, are being screened before entering the building; temperatures are being taken before admittance, adhering to social distancing, working remotely if needed, etc.
- Clinic services have been reduced to most essential services such as immunizations for children under two-years of age and STI's.
- Environmental Health has asked clients to call ahead to inquire about their needs such as septic, etc.
- Staff members are working in the COVID-19 call center, manning the vestibule at the front entrance, responding to complaints regarding public health orders, distributing PPE, assisting with the PPE drive, etc., which affects normal daily work.
- Communication with staff members is taking place by press releases and daily emails to keep everyone informed as much as possible.
- The Business and Finance Office (BFO) estimates the cost of this response will be around \$75,000 per month mainly for staff who are supporting the effort. The BFO has established activity codes, so staff members can track time spent on COVID-19. At this time, there are concerns that staff members are not billing to their specific grants and therefore not collecting indirect on those grants. This is a struggle for health departments throughout the state. The Department is waiting direction from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) on how to manage these grants moving forward.
- Garrison Ortiz noted Pueblo County government has worked to free up about \$500,000 to help support the Department, the Sheriff's office, and other essential support functions for this COVID-19 response.
- The Department will be receiving some funding from CDPHE who in turn received funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Department is waiting to see how these funds will be disbursed, as it is based on a formula.
- Human Resources is looking into options to keep people earning income if the COVID-19 event goes on for an extended period of time.
- Federal funding could assist the Department when this incident moves into recovery mode; however, it can take several years to receive this funding, based on past experience.

Board members gave their verbal support to the Department and all staff members for doing a great job on the COVID-19 response.

**Financial Report**

Financial reports for the end of February 2020, were presented to the Board. Revenue exceeded expenditures by \$2,505.82.

**MOVED** by Michael Nerenberg, seconded by Eileen Dennis, to accept the monthly financial report as presented.

***MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

The next regular BOH meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 22, 2020, By ZOOM video conference, at 12:00 noon.

**ADJOURN:** Board of Health President Donald Moore adjourned the meeting.



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Donald Moore, Board of Health President



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Randy Evetts, MPA, Public Health Director