

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, March 24, 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 **February 24, 2021**
(Action Required)
- C. 12:06 – 12:10 p.m. – **Special Recognitions/Celebrations**
- D. 12:10 - 12:15 p.m. - **Public Comment**
- E. 12:15 – 12:30 p.m. – **Special Presentation:** Strategic Plan – Performance Management
Presenters: Jenny Case and Derek Coe
- F. 12:30 – 12:45 p.m. – **Action Items**
 - Monthly Financial Report – Georgia Alfonso
 - Contracts – Georgia Alfonso
- G. 12:45 - 1:00 p.m. - **Public Health Director's Report**
 - COVID-19 Update
 - General Updates
- H. 1:00 – 1:05 p.m. – **Unfinished Business**
- I. 1:05 - 1:10 p.m. – **New Business**

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The Board of Health meeting was held by Zoom February 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

Excused Absence: 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
Maria Telfer, Community Health Services Division Director
Ramona Chisman-Ewing, Executive Assistant

Medical Officer: Christopher Urbina, MD

Staff Members: Vicki Carlton, Megan Collins, Shylo Dennison, Chelsea Hollowell, Sarah Joseph, Alicia Solis, Dayton Ryden, Autumn Whittaker, 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 Michael Nerenberg, seconded by Eileen Dennis, to approve the Agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

B. **Approval of Minutes**

MOVED by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Michael Nerenberg, to approve the January 27, 2021, BOH meeting minutes as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. **Public Comment**

None

D. **Election of Officers**

MOVED by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Michael Nerenberg, to elect Donald Moore as Board of Health President and Michael Nerenberg as Vice President effective today, February 24, 2021.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. **Special Presentations**

Medical Officer Update

Dr. Christopher Urbina presented updates to the Board regarding communicable diseases. He acknowledged the Communicable Disease team for doing a good job on regular CD cases, as well as COVID-19 quarantine/isolation investigations. The following communicable diseases and case counts were discussed: Rabies, Animal Bites, Tuberculosis, Sexually Transmitted Infections, Hepatitis A, and Coronavirus. There has been a rise in gonorrhea, chlamydia, and syphilis cases; work continues to inform and educate people about these diseases. Donald Moore stated primary care utilization has been interrupted by COVID-19, so he asked Dr. Urbina if this includes testing for communicable diseases. Dr.

Urbina concurred currently, not enough testing is occurring. Michael Nerenberg stated COVID-19 has interfered with HIV testing at the Needle Exchange site as well. Donald Moore thanked Dr. Urbina for his presence, work, and involvement in Pueblo's COVID-19 response. Dr. Urbina informed the Board he does 'fireside chats' on Facebook about various public health topics and will do some in Spanish in the future.

Model Aquatic Health Code Update

Environmental Health Specialists Megan Collins, Dayton Ryden, and Autumn Whittaker updated the BOH regarding the Model Aquatic Health Code (MAHC) for improved safety for Pueblo County swimmers. This health regulation was last updated in 1994. Colorado Board of Health rulemaking hearing October 22, 2020, unanimously voted to adopt MAHC by reference, effective December 15, 2020. The MAHC is updated every three years. The next step is to adopt applicable portions of MAHC locally by a City and County regulation. Two stakeholder meetings were held in February and November of 2020. On-going education with stakeholders will continue by meetings and quarterly newsletters. Upon adoption, major facility changes will be:

- Chemical and pH adjustment feeders in all aquatic facilities
- Newly constructed therapy, wading pools, or interactive water play venues need secondary disinfectant system
- Diaper changing stations required with portable hand wash station
- Existing automatic controllers shall be interlocked
- Certificate of Operation will be needed

Within one-year, major facility changes will be:

- Interlock controls and no or low flow deactivation
- All facilities must have automated controllers
- Diaper changing station with adjacent hand sink installed and operational within one year
- Compliance agreements available

The next steps at the local level will be:

- Gain support and feedback from PDPHE and BOH
- Present information to City Council, Board of County Commissioners and the public in the spring/summer
- Create new regulation language and open a public comment period in 2021
- Collect baseline MAHC data during inspections to know the impact of adopting the MAHC
- Adoption goal: January 1, 2022 at the latest

Public Health Director asked what the feedback has been at the stakeholder meetings. Megan replied stakeholder meetings have received concerns about budgets and the cost to come into MAHC compliance; overall the feedback has been positive. Michael Nerenberg asked about a cost analysis to show the positive impact the MAHC could have opposed to the cost of pool closures. Program Manager Vicki Carlton stated this would be good to present at the next stakeholders meeting. Donald Moore asked about a stipend for businesses to help with the cost of implementing the MAHC. Vicki stated this is a five-year continuation grant with the CDC, so she could inquire about stipends. Donald stated many smaller or private pool operators might endorse meeting the new standards if they know larger commercial and county governmental entities, such as city and school pools etc. are endorsing the MAHC. Michael Nerenberg asked if the fountains at the state fair and the Riverwalk are included in these aquatic regulations. Vicki replied the Riverwalk fountains are regulated, but the fountain at the fairgrounds uses fresh not recirculated water. Randy Evetts asked if it would be helpful to let elected officials know the Board's position on the MAHC by a resolution or formal proposal. Vicki Carlton is working with attorney Marci Day to get the correct language in the MAHC proposal before presenting to elected officials. Marci stated she will work with PDPHE staff members on a proposal or formal resolution before the Department presents to the City and County.

F. Program Reports

Operations and Health Promotion

Financial and Contract Cost Reports

Financial reports for the end of January 2021, were presented to the Board. Revenues exceeded expenditures by \$15,868.79. The Department is receiving additional funding for the COVID-19 response (vaccine, supplies, etc.) from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Currently, funding is adequate; no use of restricted funds will be necessary at this time.

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

Randy Evetts updated the Board regarding Colorado's COVID-19 pandemic response.

- Positivity rates are down to approximately 1.3%
- Across the state rates are down in hospitalization, deaths, and incidents
- Vaccination efforts are on-going in Pueblo County and at full capacity
- Pueblo's hospitals are reporting lower rates
- The 'alternative care site' at St. Mary-Corwin hospital is being dismantled
- Challenges continue with scheduling software and the weather
- Vaccination of educators in both public and private schools are taking place
- Safeway and Albertson's are also holding vaccination clinics, as well as the larger box stores and local retail pharmacies
- It is anticipated by the end of March or first of April vaccine supply should be plentiful
- The UK and California variants continue to spread in the U.S.
- FEMA and the state are looking at setting up a 'Pod' in Pueblo; details are still unknown at this time
- Pueblo is currently 'Blue' on the dial and more businesses continue to reopen

Eileen Dennis stated several educators are reaching out to alternative vaccination sites, but she endorses the efficiency at the Pueblo Mall site. Randy acknowledged the support of the EOC, as well as other community partners. Donald Moore stated the Department is getting back to 'normal duties' such as inspections, wastewater, WIC, etc., so he asked if adequate resources are in place to keep up with the COVID response, as well as regular duties. Randy stated public health has been understaffed and funded for some time, so there will be challenges as staff members pull back from the COVID-19 response to pick up their normal public health duties. Donald stated use of reserves may be necessary in the future to continue funding and assigning resources as necessary.

H. **Executive Session**

MOVED by Ed Brown, seconded by Eileen Dennis, to convene into Executive Session for discussion of a personnel matter under C.R.S. Section 24-6-402(4)(f) and not involving: any specific employees who have requested discussion of the matter in open session; any member of the Board; the appointment of any person to fill an office of the Board; or personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOVED by Michael Nerenberg, seconded by Ed Brown, to reconvene into the Board of Health meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The next regular BOH meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 24, 2021, at 12:00 noon by Zoom.

MOVED by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Ed Brown, to adjourn the Board of Health meeting.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY



Donald Moore, Board of Health President



Randy Evetts, MPA, Public Health Director