

Board of Health AGENDA

A Board of Health meeting will be held **Wednesday, September 27, 2023**, at **12:00 p.m.** in the **THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM C**, at the Health Department, **101 W. 9th Street**.

(Lunch for Board Members will be served at 11:30 a.m.)

- A. 12:00 – 12:03 PM – Call to Order and Approval / Changes to Agenda (**Action Required**)
- B. 12:03 – 12:05 PM – Approval of Board of Health Meeting Minutes held Aug. 23, 2023 (**Action Required**)
- C. 12:05 – 12:10 PM – Public Forum
- D. 12:10 – 12:20 PM – Budget and Finance
 - Monthly Financial Report – August 2023
 - Contracts (**Action Required**)
- E. 12:20 – 12:30 PM – Report on Accreditation Process
- F. 12:30 – 1:15 PM – Fee Analyses:
 - International Travel
 - Public Accommodations
 - Laboratory
- G. 1:15 – 1:30 PM – BOH Updates/ Reports

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Pueblo Board of Health Meeting Minutes
August 23, 2023

The Pueblo Board of Health meeting was held at the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment (PDPHE) on August 23, 2023.

Board Members Present:

Ed Brown, Vice President
Eileen Dennis, Board Member
Zsuzsa Glasscock, Board Member
Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha, Board Member

Legal Counsel:

Marci Day, Assistant County Attorney

Administrative Staff Present:

Randy Evetts, Public Health Director
Katie Davis, Deputy Director
Georgia Alfonso, Budget and Finance Office (BFO) Director
Maria Telfer, Community Health Services (CHS) Director
Chad Wolgram, Environmental Health (EH) Director
Shylo Dennison, Community Engagement, Prevention, and Response (CEPR) Director
Jonathan Hontz, Administrative Assistant

Other Staff Members Present:

Joseph Philip, Performance Improvement Coordinator

Guests:

No guests were present at this meeting.

Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Zolanye McCulley Bachicha, to approve the Aug 23, 2023 Board of Health meeting agenda.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Approval of Minutes

MOVED by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Zsuzsa Glasscock, to approve the July 26, 2023 BOH meeting minutes as submitted.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Forum

There were no requests for public comment.

Budget and Finance

Monthly Financial Reports

Budget and Finance Office Director Georgia Alfonso presented financial reports for July 2023. PDPHE is running at a \$28,000 deficit currently, in line with BFO projections. COVID ELC funding discrepancies are reflected in the financial reports, as PDPHE was unable to spend money allocated to specific COVID purposes for any other expenses. Some unassigned fund balance will be spent to make up for budget shortfalls, and this was expected.

MOVED by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha, to accept the July financial reports as presented.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Contracts

No contracts were presented that required board action.

Information-Only Contracts

Congenital Syphilis Elimination Grant: 8/1/2023 – 7/31/2024, \$383,275.17

This is a Program between CDPHE and PDPHE which serves to prevent new cases of congenital syphilis by screening, identifying and treating syphilis in persons of reproductive age. The project seeks to increase early detection of syphilis, access to treatment and referrals, and linkage to prenatal care services, which will reduce the risk and burden of syphilis transmission between mother and child. This project is being funded to address the increasing rates of congenital syphilis in Colorado. The funding has been increased to offer the services in other counties along the Front Range, and an additional FTE has been added to support the additional services. (Amendment #2 2024*2011) No BOH action or legal review is required; the amendment is only a date and amount change.

2024 – 2026 Strategic Plan Overview

Performance Improvement Coordinator Joseph Philip presented proposed goals and objectives for PDPHE's Strategic Plan for the next three years:

Goal 1: Maximize the physical and behavioral health potential for all people in Pueblo County using an EDI approach.

- Objective 1: Reduce barriers to accessing PDPHE services, programs, and educational messaging to improve health inequities.
- Objective 2: Maximize existing resources and community partnerships to improve health service availability and accessibility.

Goal 2: Promote healthy, safe, and sustainable community environments.

- Objective 1 (solid waste): Determine and implement equitable policy and programmatic changes to reduce solid waste issues in Pueblo County.
- Objective 2 (food access, physical activity): Support and encourage improvements to the built environment, promotion of physical activity, and access to healthy foods through PDPHE programs and services.

Goal 3: Build and support a diverse and skilled public health workforce.

- Objective 1: Implement and evaluate a Workforce Development Plan that includes improvements to new employee experience, strategic professional development, and growth.
- Objective 2: Establish equity informed methods and processes for supporting existing, and recruiting new, PDPHE employees.

Goal 4: Build and maintain a strong organizational infrastructure for public health.

- Objective 1: Evaluate and improve internal communication to enhance transparency, awareness, and collaboration.
- Objective 2: Ensure funding sources are used in an effective, efficient, and transparent manner to achieve a balanced budget.

Goal 5: Improve and innovate through ongoing evaluation, research, performance management, and continuous quality improvement.

- Objective 1: Strengthen the use of equity-informed evaluation, research, and data to improve public health strategy and impact.
- Objective 2: Amplify and continue to improve the culture of quality and performance improvement at PDPHE.

A presentation was given explaining the rationale behind these proposed goals and objectives, as well as the process used to arrive at these goals. Randy Evetts explained PDPHE’s strategic planning history and how the number of goals and objectives was derived, as an effort to avoid over-subscribing. PDPHE’s commitment to employing data-driven methods and decision-making processes was reiterated. Randy explained that an effort was made to incorporate many of PDPHE’s other strategic plans (CHIP, CHA, Emergency Operations, etc.) into this strategic plan to maintain focus and assure that efforts were not needlessly duplicated.

Eileen Dennis was glad to see the incorporation and prioritization of data in the plan. Randy stated that our Data Analyst position is now fully funded, but that PDPHE also wants to perform off-grant work and additional funding is being sought to this end. Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha was also happy to see the data emphasis and a focus on mental health. All board members present were in favor of moving forward with the goals and objectives as presented. Another presentation on these goals with final Board approval will occur in November.

Organizational Chart Review

Randy Evetts talked about the updated PDPHE organizational chart, reflecting organizational changes that have occurred in the past couple of months. Of note is the creation of CEPR and

the appointment of a new director position to lead it, currently held by Shylo Dennison, the Communicable Disease (CD) team being reassigned from CHS to CEPR, and reassignment of some of the programs in the Office of Policy and Strategic Implementation to allow for better span of control among the two Program Manager positions there. The new PDPHE organizational chart was displayed and discussed. The changes to PDPHE's Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) program were reviewed, following reorganization by CDPHE, and Pueblo's relegation from regional EPR hub to more of a local/county-focused organization. These and other changes necessitated some of the reorganization displayed by the chart.

Public Health Director's Report

- Randy Evetts discussed close-out of the Pueblo Diesel Plume in the Grove neighborhood. EPA was involved in investigating the extent of the diesel fuel plume, which overflowed into the storm sewer system after heavy rain events. A No Further Action Letter was sent to PDPHE from the state, informing that the issue is closed from the perspective of the state and the EPA, posing no current threat to the water supply. PDPHE efforts to address the issues from this plume will not stop, and the effects of the plume remain an environmental justice issue. Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha asked if a cost for remediation of the site was provided by the EPA. Chad Wolgram answered that costs were not provided. Randy also clarified that this is a separate issue from the Colorado Smelter Superfund site.
- CDPHE conducted a financial desk audit of our WIC office with no issues.
- Big Latch-On breastfeeding event attendance at the Pueblo Mall was good this year, as was attendance at the Wellness Fair at Bessemer Park on August 9. The Board of County Commissioners made a proclamation celebrating World Breastfeeding Week in Pueblo County.
- Our new Public Information Officer, Trysten Garcia began work on August 17, following the retirement of Sarah Joseph.
- The first confirmed West Nile Virus death in Pueblo County occurred this month, with 7-9 confirmed cases as of this meeting. Mosquito counts remain high, with additional traps ordered to address the volume.
- Nationwide Bicillin shortage is affecting PDPHE's congenital syphilis treatment program. New patients will be treated with Doxycycline, an alternative treatment course, while current patients will continue with Bicillin.
- Clinic and vital records appointments have been very busy with back-to-school business, providing immunizations and documentation to families for school enrollments.
- Environmental Health is continuing to offer food safety classes and the State Fair inspections are ready to begin, with help from CDPHE this year at the Fair.
- A celebration event at the Weisbrod Aircraft Museum last week commemorated the closeout of the CSEPP program and Loraine Greenwood's over 20 years of service to this program. PDPHE's role in the program will be ending. Randy took time to acknowledge how many projects in the community were funded by CSEPP. Moving forward, agencies like the Health Department, hospitals, and the emergency operations center will be required to fund replacement of equipment that was previously purchased

by CSEPP.

- Randy provided a glance at BOH business in the coming months. Final 2024 budget will be presented in December, but a work session before that time may be required to discuss the many changes. The Strategic Plan will be presented for board approval in November, personnel policy changes and additions will be presented in November or December. There will be many fee analysis presentations to the BOH in September through November/ December to assure that PDPHE is maximizing its revenues wherever possible.


Board Vice President Ed Brown adjourned the Board of Health meeting at 12:57 PM

Next BOH Meeting

Wednesday, September 27, 2023, at 12:00 noon



Ed Brown, Board of Health Vice President



Randy Evetts, MPA, Public Health Director

BOH/MINUTES/August 2023
Submitted by Jonathan Hontz
Administrative Assistant