

## **Board of Health AGENDA**

A Board of Health meeting will be held **Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 12:00 PM**  
in the **THIRD FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM C**, at the Health Department, **101 W. 9th St.**

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

- A. 12:00 – 12:01 PM – Call to Order and Approval / Changes to Agenda **(Action Required)**
- B. 12:01 – 12:02 PM – Approval of Board of Health Meeting Minutes held Jan. 24, 2024 **(Action Required)**
- C. 12:02 – 12:05 PM – Public Forum
- D. 12:05 – 12:10 PM – Election of 2023 Board of Health Officers **(Action Required)**
- E. 12:10 – 12:15 PM – Board Member for Public Health Champion committee
- F. 12:15 – 12:25 PM – Medical Officer Update
- G. 12:25 – 12:35 PM – Budget and Finance
  - Monthly Financial Report – January 2024 **(Action Required)**
  - Contracts **(Action Required)**
- H. 12:35 – 12:50 PM – BOH Updates/ Reports
  - Director's Report
  - Legislative Updates
- I. 12:50 – 1:15 PM – **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.

**ADJOURN**

**Pueblo Board of Health Meeting Minutes**  
**January 24, 2024**

The Pueblo Board of Health meeting was held at the Pueblo Department of Public Health and Environment (PDPHE) building at 101 W 9<sup>th</sup> St.

**Board Members Present:**

Donald Moore, Board President  
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  
Chad Wolgram, Environmental Health (EH) Director  
Shylo Dennison, Community Engagement, Prevention, and Response (CEPR) Director  
Denise DeNardo, Human Resources Manager  
Jonathan Hontz, Administrative Assistant

**Other Staff Members Present:**

Mariah Solano, Website Support Technician  
Alicia Solis, Program Manager  
Joe Philip, Performance Improvement Coordinator  
Nikayta Neu, Health Promotion Specialist  
Courtney Kincannon, Program Manager

**Guests:**

There were no guests present.

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED** by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Ed Brown, to approve the Jan. 24, 2024, Board of Health meeting agenda.

***MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

## **Approval of Minutes**

Donald Moore asked the Board for revisions to the minutes. There were none.

**MOVED** by Ed Brown, seconded by Zsuzsa Glasscock, to approve the Dec. 27, 2023 BOH meeting minutes as submitted.

### ***MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

## **Public Forum**

There were no requests for public comment.

## **Sunshine Law C.R.S. 24-6-402 (2) (c)**

Public Health Director Randy Evetts requested the 1st floor vestibule and the Department's website, pueblohealth.org, be the designated sites to post notices for the Board of Health meetings for 2024.

**MOVED** by Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha, seconded by Ed Brown, to approve the 1st floor vestibule and the Department's website, pueblohealth.org, be the designated sites to post notices for the Board of Health meetings for 2024.

### ***MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

## **Recognize Years of Service: Employees July – December 2023**

- 5 Years:
  - Mariah Solano – Website Support Technician
  - Autumn Whittaker – Environmental Health Technician
- 10 Years: Alicia Solis – Program Manager
- 25 Years: Pearl Valdez – Staff Accountant
- 30 Years: Vicki Carlton – Program Manager

Randy introduced Mariah and Alicia, who were present for the meeting, gave a summary of their accomplishments and acknowledged and thanked them for their services.

## **Budget and Finance**

### *Monthly Financial Reports*

BFO Director Georgia Alfonso presented financial reports for December 2023. A Revenue Advance Funding line item shows on the budget, which represents an increase to PDPHE's restricted funds of \$245,913.30. These funds were received in 2023 but will not be expensed until 2024. Deficit of \$58,294.78 at the end of 2023, which is better than projected. Unassigned balance stands at \$741,040.24, which is the money available to cover budget shortfalls in the future.

**MOVED** by Ed Brown, seconded by Eileen Dennis, to accept the December 2023 financial reports as presented.

***MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**Contracts**

There were no contracts presented at this meeting.

**Increasing Building Accessibility – Automatic Doors Proposal**

Randy introduced an effort by PDPHE to make the building more accessible to persons with disabilities. The building is handicap-accessible, but some of the internal doors are not as friendly to people such as wheelchair users as they ought to be. Katie Davis further elaborated that some doors, such as the bathroom doors, are very heavy to operate, and the Clinic and WIC waiting room doors are not currently outfitted with automatic openers. County Facilities staff has addressed the openers for the bathrooms and they will be serviceable for now. The proposal is to change the Clinic and WIC waiting room doors to ADA-accessible, push-button door openers. This allows the doors to remain closed for privacy and helping keep children together with their families. PDPHE will be inviting the City's ADA Commission to perform an audit of the building to address any other items that may have been missed.

Total cost for this project is about \$20,000 for the two doors. \$11,600 can be used from the remaining Healthy Giving, Healthy Living donations received by private individuals when the building was constructed, so total budgetary cost would be limited to about \$9,000 out of the committed capital funds.

Eileen Dennis said that she was thankful that we had done an audit of these doors and discovered these deficiencies.

**MOVED** by Eileen Dennis, seconded by Ed Brown, to accept the proposed improvements as presented.

***MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

**2021 – 2023 Strategic Plan Closeout**

Performance Improvement Coordinator Joe Philip gave a presentation summarizing the major accomplishments of PDPHE's 2021 – 2023 Strategic Plan (attached to the end of this document). His presentation briefly described the four goals and two priority areas for the previous years' plan, highlighting PDPHE's accomplishments in each. Joe also gave an overview of the current 2024 – 2026 priority areas and the five goals.

Eileen Dennis asked if there were any evaluations of the Sexual Health presentations at D60 and D70, given as part of this Plan. Joe answered that there were both pre- and post-presentation evaluations that were collected and evaluated to improve the program.

## **Public Health Director Evaluation Process**

Board President Donald Moore briefly informed the Board it is that time of year where the process for the Public Health Director's evaluation is initiated. Human Resource Manager Denise DeNardo, Director Evetts, and Donald have organized the process and will be sending an online link the Board can activate to do the evaluation. The Public Health Director's contract anniversary is April 1, 2024. Denise and Donald will work together to assemble the information and bring it to the February Executive Session.

## **Public Health Director's Report**

- Deputy Director Katie Davis, who is also the Policy Committee Chairperson for the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials (CALPHO), began with a legislative update on bills that have a public health implication.
  - Legislative session began about two weeks ago.
  - 175 bills have been introduced as of 1/23/24.
  - Last week the State said that their understanding of ARPA funding has changed: funds must be spent by 12/31/24 instead of the previous 12/31/26 understanding.
  - CALPHO has been supporting bills concerning:
    - SB1, Youth Behavioral Health Counseling Sessions
    - HB1003, Opiate Products and Detection Policies in Schools
  - CALPHO is opposing bills concerning:
    - SB43, Authorizing Sales Direct to Consumers of Raw Milk
    - Modifications to the Child Fatality Prevention Act: a father of a child fatality felt there was judgement being placed on him because of this Act's investigative process, causing discussion of modifications. CALPHO is convinced of the benefits of this Act as it stands, as this Act does not have anything to do with any charges brought.
  - In 2021, the Governor put extra funds into the long bill for public health, \$10 million dollars of which went to local public health agencies (LPHAs) over a three-year commitment. This funding will end in June, and the CALPHO lobbyist for is trying to get \$12 million. If successful, this will represent approximately \$250,000 in unassigned funds that can be used at the discretion of PDPHE, rather than being heavily restricted like grant funding. Katie also said that if any of the Board members had any ability to discuss the importance of this funding with State legislators, that they are encouraged to do so.

Donald Moore asked if our local representative knows about the \$12 million that the LPHAs are trying to get. Randy answered that he doesn't know if they are aware specifically, and we are waiting for direction from CALPHO before PDPHE attempts to contact them regarding this funding.

- Randy Evetts invited the Board to an Academic Health Partnership event that is happening at CSU-Pueblo. This is PDPHE's second such networking event to help build the

relationship between the school and local public health for talent/training, but also for research.

- Randy also noted that PDPHE is currently undertaking an emergency preparedness exercise to train staff on responding to public health events.
- WIC funding has been a struggle, but the Pueblo program is stable in spite of the changes at the federal and state levels. WIC demand is increasing, but funding has remained flat. The changes to the funding structure is still going forward, but the timeline is being extended and input from local public health agencies is being gathered. Courtney Kincannon, WIC program manager will be sitting on the state committee advising this process.
- Randy stated that the Sunrise Funeral Home in Florence is being demolished as an EPA project, and the waste will be sent to the West Side Landfill. Chad Wolgram, EH director noted that CDPHE had to issue a special approval to allow the disposal to occur at the Southside Landfill on Highway 78. The City of Pueblo and Public works have to sign off on the project. PDPHE has been involved in the discussions. The material will be treated as biohazardous, though it is low risk and potentially asbestos-containing. The EPA is taking every precaution to assure that the clean-up and disposal are safe.
- Funding to support Narcan training has ended. Interestingly, there has been a recent upsurge in demand from local government offices after a threat was identified with tainted ballots in other states. Due to funding, PDPHE is unable to meet all the demand for training, but the agency is still going to be providing fentanyl/Naloxone training on a limited basis.
- Randy talked about PDPHE's current effort to put the goals and objectives of our many plans into a form that is more digestible. The organization's three pillars of Accountability, Performance, and Quality are intended to serve this purpose of more effectively and intelligibly communicating PDPHE's activities.
- Randy stated that anyone who is interested in serving as Board of Health President or Vice President should contact him prior to Board elections next month.

Zolanye McCulley-Bachicha asked about current COVID death rates. Alicia Solis said that COVID deaths have plateaued and are now decreasing. RSV and flu are increasing, and PDPHE's medical officer has also been seeing gastrointestinal illness frequently.

Donald Moore asked about the six-month CHS data on immunizations, which show an increase at the PDPHE clinic. Maria Telfer answered that daily reminder calls and reaching out to the community, promoting vaccinations may be a primary driver of those increasing numbers. Donald asked about the syphilis numbers. Maria answered that they are still close to where they've always been, but with increased testing should come more response and treatments.

Board President Donald Moore adjourned the Board of Health meeting at 12:59 PM.

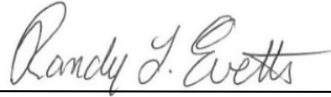
### **Next BOH Meeting**

Wednesday, February 28, 2024, at 12:00 noon



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Donald Moore, Board of Health President



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Randy Evetts, MPA, Public Health Director

Submitted by Jonathan Hontz  
Administrative Assistant