

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting Boulder County Public Health Auditorium March 9, 2015

BOH Members Present: Vice President Gregg Thomas and Board Members Don Misch, M.D., and Olga Bermudez. **Absent:** Board Members Sonya Jaquez-Lewis and Jorge DeSantiago.

Staff Members Present: Public Health Director Jeff Zayach, Director of Administrative Services Stephanie Martz, Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon, Environmental Health Division Manager Joe Malinowski, Air Quality and Business Sustainability Coordinator Pam Milmoie, Budget Coordinator Jeff Rank, and Administrative Assistant Rita Mangeyn.

Meeting Called to Order.

Vice President Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Introduction of Newest Board of Health Member Olga Bermudez.

Public Health Director Jeff Zayach welcomed Olga Bermudez, who was recently appointed by the County Commissioners to serve on the Board of Health; her term expires August 31, 2019. Ms. Bermudez works as a counselor for the City of Longmont Children, Youth, and Families. Mr. Zayach gave a brief introduction on Board Member Bermudez's many notable contributions to the Boulder County community and her work with the City of Longmont. Board Member Bermudez said she was happy to serve as a member of the Board of Health.

ITEM 1. Public Comments (on unscheduled agenda items).

None.

ITEM 2. Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of February 9, 2015, Board of Health Meeting Minutes.

Board Member Misch made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member Bermudez, to approve the consent agenda, as presented. With all Board Members present voting in favor of the motion, Vice President Thomas declared the motion approved. Absent: Board Members DeSantiago and Jaquez-Lewis.

ITEM 3. Director's Report (moved from Item 7).

Casey Middle School Odor Issue: Public Health Director Zayach asked Environmental Health Division Manager Joe Malinowski and Air Quality and Business Sustainability Coordinator Pam Milmoie for an update on the recent air quality concerns at Casey Middle School (CMS) in Boulder. Ms. Milmoie said CMS students and staff have been complaining of hydrogen sulfide odors at the school. She said air quality monitoring has been conducted, and authorities are trying to alleviate the odors by pressurizing the building, although that's been a difficult task due to the recent redesign of the building. Experts are trying to identify the source of the odor, which hasn't yet been confirmed, so more extensive air quality monitoring and smoke testing will be conducted during the school's upcoming spring break.

Vice President Thomas said this same issue happened at an Adams 12 Five Star school, although he wasn't sure which school it was and if the issue was resolved. He suggested that staff contact Adams 12 School District to learn more about the Adams 12 odor issue and any steps taken to eliminate the odors.

Board Member Misch asked if CMS parents had expressed concern about potential health effects and was told 12 parents have contacted the school to date. Experts continue to evaluate the situation to ensure that exposure to hydrogen sulfide exposure remained at safe levels. So far they have not reached harmful levels for children and other sensitive populations. Officials continue to search for the source of the odor and are mindful of the discomfort that the odors are causing students and staff. Board Member Bermudez questioned how intense the odors have been and was told some children have felt uncomfortable enough to leave school until the situation is resolved.

BCPH staff member Michael Richen is a regionally renowned industrial hygienist who has been a great resource in support of the school's efforts. The State has also been providing assistance to the school.

Vice President Thomas thanked staff for their support of Boulder Valley School District.

Ozone: Board Member Misch asked about Colorado's compliance with federal ozone standards. Ms. Milmoie said the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Air Pollution Control Division (APCD) reported that the state's compliance level with federal ozone standards worsened, according to a recent U.S. Environmental Protective Agency (EPA) report (i.e. Colorado moved from a "minor" to a "moderate" level). Colorado will now be required to submit a new plan to the EPA detailing how it planned to reduce ozone emissions in the state. Ms. Milmoie said she didn't foresee any immediate risks associated with the increased levels of ozone.

CSAP: Board Member Misch asked about the Community Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) Program. Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon said the program was formerly called the "Alcohol Diversion Program" and was led by former program coordinator Katie McGee. The program name has been changed to more broadly reflect the work that the program is providing in the community.

Oil & Gas: Vice President Thomas asked for an update on the Governor's Oil and Gas Task Force. Ms. Milmoie said the task force submitted a legislative proposal to bolster oil and gas requirements in Colorado, although it didn't pass. The sponsor of the proposed legislation is, however, considering submitting a second proposal.

Farmers' Markets: Board Member Bermudez asked about farmers' markets in Longmont since there are many families who could benefit from the ability to purchase fresh produce. Director of Health Divisions Harmon said the Boulder County Farmers' Market does operate in Longmont, as well as Boulder. Board Member Bermudez said there many people are probably unaware of the markets until later in the season. Public Health Director Jeff Zayach announced that a relatively new program called Harvest Bucks is now available for qualified families, enabling them to at double the amount of produce they can purchase at the local farmers' markets.

Measles: Board Member Bermudez asked about the agency's plan regarding measles. Director of Health Divisions Harmon said BCPH had a measles plan in place due to the highly contagious aspect of the disease. There are currently no measles cases in Boulder County, and Communicable Disease (CD) Division staff is collaborating with the local school districts and child care centers to keep parents updated and educated on the recent measles outbreak. Mr. Harmon noted the heightened awareness

of area physicians, who are alerting BCPH more regularly about suspect cases. No cases have been confirmed to date. BCPH is focusing on improving MMR (measles, mumps, and rubella) immunization rates in Boulder County, so staff sent letters to the local school districts to encourage parents to vaccinate their children to help protect those (e.g. infants) who can't be vaccinated. Board Member Misch said the University of Colorado – Boulder has contacted the students and faculty who would benefit from another MMR vaccination. Board Member Bermudez asked about possibly hosting a community vaccination event, and Mr. Harmon said he would share that suggestion with staff.

Open Burn: Vice President Thomas asked about the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) proposal to conduct a prescribed burn of 700 acres at Rocky Flats, which was placed on hold. Air Quality and Business Sustainability Program Coordinator Pam Milmoie said open burning was the traditional approach to control vegetation, and she didn't believe the USFWS was considering any other methods. She said monitoring information has indicated that a burn would not be dangerous, although officials are reviewing public comments in disagreement with that approach. She noted that Boulder County Parks and Open Space also utilized the open burn approach.

ITEM 4. Update on 2015 Unbalanced Operating Budget.

Director of Administrative Services Stephanie Martz introduced this item and Budget Coordinator Jeff Rank. Ms. Martz said the Board would not be asked to approve the 2015 operating budget until the April 13 BOH meeting; the purpose of this presentation was to provide a preview of the operating budget and explain why the 2015 operating budget was not yet balanced. She said by law, the budget that is adopted by the Board of Health is required to be balanced.

Ms. Martz said the current budget deficit was \$790,000, which is higher than normal at this time of year (i.e. last year the amount was \$487,000). Ms. Martz said the main reason the budget was unbalanced was due to lost indirect revenue (\$500,000) as a result of the Addiction Recovery Centers (ARC) integration to Mental Health Partners (MHP). Also, major expenses stemming from the 2013 flood have resulted in the County Commissioners deciding not to fund any new staff positions this year, meaning the coordinator position for BCPH's newly created Health Planning & Epidemiology Program would not be funded this year by Boulder County. Although BCPH will ask the County to fund the position in future years, the position will be funded internally this year.

Board Member Misch asked what "pre-adjustment" meant and was told it referred to what the budget was at around this time last year before it was balanced. Ms. Martz explained that Administration typically has the most surplus, which is then distributed to other programs to offset deficits.

Ms. Martz and Mr. Rank said the deficit amount with regard to the operating budget was 5% this year; last year it was 2%. Since the overall budget of \$14,000,000 remains healthy, Mr. Rank explained that funding sources like County operating funds of \$400,000, per capita from the State, Housing and Human Services Fund (i.e. ballot measure that allocated a portion to BCPH), surpluses from programs like Vital Records, and the Reserve Fund would be evaluated and used to help balance the budget.

Board Member Misch said he appreciated the many funding sources that BCPH managed and asked what would happen if the budget couldn't be balanced. Ms. Martz said the agency would be in default if that were to happen; however, BCPH must legally adopt a balanced budget. In addition to the funding sources noted above, other strategies employed to ensure a balanced budget include taking a more aggressive and conservative approach with regard to new expenditures, digging deeper into the Reserve Fund, and becoming more aggressive on grant funding.

Board Member Misch asked about the Reserve Fund balance and was told it was projected to be around \$1,000,000. Ms. Martz said staff wasn't too concerned about the balance in the Reserve Fund, so no major cuts were being planned and a balanced budget would be presented to the Board for approval on April 13.

Vice President Thomas said the 2016 proposed budget would be reviewed at the June 22 BOH study session. He also noted that the proposed 2015 budget was already approved by the Board last summer, and that the budget being presented for approval next month will be the final 2015 operating budget.

Vice President Thomas thanked Ms. Martz and Mr. Rank for the budget update.

ITEM 5. Approval of BOH Member Job Description and Revised Bylaws.

Public Health Director Zayach introduced this item and said he and former BOH President Paula McKey had drafted a BOH member job description and updated the BOH bylaws before she moved out of state and resigned from the board. Once approved, these two documents will be used in future board member recruitment efforts.

Mr. Zayach highlighted three major changes to the bylaws:

1. Addition of language referencing the Colorado Public Health Act of 2008, which re-designated BCPH as the public health agency in Boulder County and reappointed the current Board members.
2. Addition of criteria and guidance for use in the recruitment of new Board of Health members.
3. Addition of language on expectations of board members with regard to meeting preparation (i.e. packet review) and meeting attendance.

Board Member Misch asked about repercussions for not adhering to the attendance guidelines and was told it was the responsibility of the board to enforce the provisions.

The Board members present expressed support for the recommended changes, but Vice President Thomas tabled the item until the April 13 BOH meeting to allow the full Board to discuss.

ITEM 6. Election of BOH President and Vice President.

Vice President Thomas nominated himself to serve as BOH President for the next year, and Board Member Misch nominated himself to serve as Vice President for the next year. The Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendations suggested by President Thomas and Board Member Misch. Absent: Board Members DeSantiago and Jaquez-Lewis.

ITEM 7. Old and New Business/Announcements.

A. Discussion on Tabled Consent Agenda Items (if any).

None.

B. Old and New Business.

Tajikistan Delegation: Public Health Director Zayach acknowledged Director of Administrative Services Stephanie Martz for her role in hosting a delegation of maternal child health officials from Tajikistan. Ms. Martz updated the Board on events held, which included hospital tours, staff presentations, in-person observations of various BCPH clinics (e.g. WIC, HIV, and GENESIS), visits to local birthing centers, tours of Safe House and Community Food Share, and evening social events. The delegation consisted of five women's health doctors who worked in various Tajikistan settings that included universities, hospitals, and local health departments. Board Member Misch asked if any BCPH staff have traveled to Tajikistan, but Ms. Martz said BCPH has no official travel exchange program with Tajikistan. She did

note, however, that there are many Americans from Boulder County who travel to Tajikistan on behalf of other agencies and programs. The Board thanked Ms. Martz for her work in hosting the delegation in Boulder County.

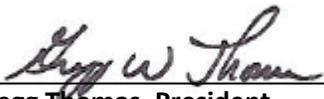
Healthy Kids Colorado Survey: Board Member Bermudez asked about the Healthy Kids Colorado Survey (HKCS) and the parental opt-in option being presented to the State Board of Education. Public Health Director Zayach said the Board of Education will likely vote to require an opt-in process. He said requiring opt-in has historically resulted in limited data favoring white male students from affluent families versus the opt-out system, which results in a more robust, diverse sample. Public health agencies used these critical data to tailor programs for at-risk youth who would benefit the most from such programs. He also indicated that the opt-in choice typically resulted in a 60% response rate, while the current opt-out option has resulted in a 90% rate. Mr. Zayach expressed his disappointment and surprise at this recent decision, and President Thomas said he agreed. Information was not available on why an opt-in system was being recommended to the Colorado Board of Education.

C. Announcements.

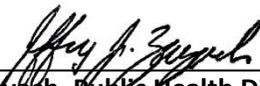
None.

ITEM 8. Adjournment.

There being nothing further to discuss, President Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.



Gregg Thomas, President



Jeffrey J. Zayach, Public Health Director