

OFFICIAL RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Boulder County Board of Health (BOH) Regular Meeting Boulder County Public Health Auditorium November 14, 2016

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

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, Consumer Protection Program Coordinator Lane Drager, Healthy Beverage and Food Advisor Tessa Hale, Built Environment and HEAL (Healthy Eating & Active Living) Coordinator Rachel Arndt, and Business Operations Manager Tammy Golden.

Meeting Called to Order.

President Thomas called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

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

None.

ITEM 2. Consent Agenda.

A. Approval of September 12, 2016, Board of Health Meeting Minutes.

B. Approval of August and September Financial Reports.

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

ITEM 3. Presentation on Year One Results for Healthy Beverage and Food Activities.

BCPH Healthy Beverage and Food Advisor Tessa Hale presented this item and said the Healthy Beverage Partnership (HBP) is a regional effort to prevent obesity and dietary-related chronic disease through education, environment, and policy change. HBP works in seven counties in the Denver metropolitan area, encompassing 50% of the state's population. The partnership consists of six lead agencies – Boulder County Public Health, Broomfield Public Health and Environment, Denver Environmental Health, Denver Public Health, Jefferson County Public Health, and Tri-County Health Department. HBP is facilitated by Denver Public Health and sponsored by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) through the Cancer, Cardiovascular, and Pulmonary Disease (CCPD) Grants Program, which began funding in July 2015.

HBP's priority populations are Latino communities and children 0-6 years old. Collectively, the HBP supports 11 local coalitions to help carry out the work. The partnership is working to develop organizational policies to increase access to healthy foods and beverages, shift norms, and create a culture of health

for making healthy choices. The healthy meeting policy has become the foundation of the HBP policy. One area of focus is healthier vending and concessions (i.e. snacks and beverages).

The healthy vending criteria include no sugar-sweetened beverages and utilizing effective marketing. Eight local assessments were conducted in Boulder County at Boulder Community Health, Boulder County Public Health, Boulder County Transportation, and Clinica. Not many healthy options were available overall – only 8% of beverages and 15% of snacks. Throughout the HBP, 319 assessments were conducted at a variety of community venues, including recreation centers, libraries, government buildings, schools, museums, and hospitals. Although only 28% of them currently offered healthy beverages and 16% offered healthy snacks, many of the organizations did have or were in the process of developing and adopting healthy food and beverages policies.

Ms. Hale said they engaged with some local coalitions that had aligned missions to determine their ability to reach priority populations and ability to sustain work in the community. She highlighted the following findings:

- A) **Lafayette Youth Advisory Committee (LYAC):** This coalition consists of 25 youth, primarily from the local high school in Lafayette. The coalition’s mission is to engage Lafayette youth in outreach, advisory, and educational opportunities through solutions-based discourse and action in their community and, reciprocally, to promote understanding in the greater community of the importance of youth leadership and civic participation. LYAC developed the tagline “BoCo4H₂O,” tagline to educate the community about the harms of sugary drinks and promote tap water consumption. LYAC presented this at the recent Colorado Public Health Association (CPHA) Annual Conference, Lafayette City Council, and Longmont Youth Council. Next steps are to work with the local recreation center and water park to adopt healthy meeting and healthier vending policies; they would also like to pursue a city policy to address restaurant menus.
- B) **Programa Compañeras:** This coalition consists of immigrant women, primarily mothers, whose first language is Spanish (some are monolingual). These women engage families to increase their awareness about factors affecting their health. This includes the provision of education on the harms of sugary drinks and the benefits of increased fruit and vegetable consumption. The coalition’s work has highlighted access to drinkable tap water because not everyone in the community has access to clean drinking water, especially in some local mobile home parks.
- C) **County-Wide Healthy Eating Active Living Coalition:** This coalition, comprised of community organization and citizens, was created as an offshoot of Boulder County’s Healthy Eating & Active Living (HEAL) Public Health Improvement Plan Implementation Team. The coalition’s vision is to create a community where all people are empowered and supported to access healthy food and beverages. The coalition will be working with local high schools to engage and educate high school students about the harms of sugary drinks. It will build on the efforts of the LYAC regarding healthy default beverage options on children’s menus in other Boulder County municipalities.

Ms. Hale said HBC’s Year Two goals include:

- Developing a healthier vending RFP for Boulder County.
- Collaborating with the Tobacco Education & Prevention Program (TEP) and Breastfeeding-Friendly Workplace.
- Advocating for healthy default beverages on children’s menus.
- Developing a campaign to address cultural concerns about tap water.
- Supporting efforts to ensure drinkable tap water.
- A youth-focused soda-free “spring fling.”

- Continued work towards organizational policy adoption.

President Thomas asked if the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) was involved in these efforts and was told DRCOG concentrates more on high-level policy issues like land use and transportation.

Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon added that the involvement of youth was very powerful, and including youth in leadership roles was important for them as well as BCPH. He acknowledged the strong work commitment of the youth involved in this effort.

Board Member Jaquez-Lewis asked if there were any intentions of requiring healthy food choices at local special events. Consumer Protection Program Coordinator Lane Drager said staff could advocate for that; however, current retail food regulations did not grant local governmental authorities the ability to require that.

The Board and Built Environment and HEAL Coordinator Rachel Arndt acknowledged and thanked Ms. Hale for all of her hard work and dedication to this effort.

ITEM 4. Adoption of Special Event Retail Food License Fees.

Consumer Protection Program Coordinator Lane Drager presented this item and said the Colorado Food Protection Act was revised during the 2016 legislative session to include several retail food establishment fee increases. It also granted local public health agencies (LPHA) the ability to establish local license fees for special and temporary events held within their jurisdictions. He said “temporary events” were community events or celebrations lasting less than 14 days (e.g. fairs, festivals, etc.), and “special events” were all other events not included under temporary events where retail food establishments prepare and serve food for consumption (e.g. farmers markets, college football games, etc.).

There are approximately 130 temporary events in Boulder County each year and about 85 special event licenses. Temporary events generate about 7% of the Consumer Protection Program’s annual fees, and special events generate about 5%. Staff proposed phasing in the new fees over the next three years. Even after full implementation the fees will not provide full cost recovery and would be comparable to those vendors as fees for other food vendor (e.g. mobile food trucks) to ensure equity. Although the State Statutes allow LPHA to charge temporary events for their staff time, Mr. Drager said BCPH would strive for about half of full cost recovery in order to remain equitable with other retail food establishment vendors.

Mr. Drager said the program is losing two federal grants, so these new fees would help to offset lost revenues. There are currently about 1,700 retail food facilities in Boulder County, so he said the full burden of cost recovery shouldn’t be placed on special and temporary event vendors. He estimated an overall net increase of about \$110,000 to the program’s budget based on all retail food license fee changes for 2017. He said one area where fees should be increased was restaurants since the last fee increase for those establishments occurred seven years ago.

Board Member Jaquez-Lewis made a motion, which was seconded by Board Member DeSantiago, to approve a new 2017 license fee for special and temporary events in the amount of \$330. With all members present voting in favor of the motion, President Thomas declared the motion carried. Absent: Board Member Bermudez.

ITEM 5. Director’s Report.

Welcome Back: The Board welcomed Director of Administrative Services Stephanie Martz, who was gone from August 15 to October 13 to participate in a project sponsored by the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologist (CSTE) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Ms. Martz assisted in CDC’s Ebola response and control efforts by providing epidemiological and project management support to CDC in Guinea, West Africa.

Syringe Exchange: Board Member Jaquez-Lewis asked if BCPH tracked type of drugs used when clients exchanged their syringes. Director of Health Divisions Heath Harmon said he didn’t believe so but would check with staff; he said he believed most clients used heroin. Public Health Director Jeff Zayach shared information about syndromic surveillance systems, which is currently used by Denver Public Health and Tri-County Health Department. This is surveillance using health-related data that precede diagnosis and signal a sufficient probability of a case or an outbreak to help warrant public health response. He also talked about “kratom,” leaves that are digested for their mood-uplifting effects and pain relief. Some people believe kratom can help to control withdrawal symptoms and cravings from addiction to opioids and other addictive substances.

Ricin: Board Member Jaquez-Lewis asked if there have been any additional ricin reports in the county. Mr. Harmon said the local case involving a youth using homemade ricin was an isolated case.

All-Staff Meeting: Public Health Director Jeff Zayach said BCPH held its biannual all-staff meeting last month and was attended by President Thomas. He said the second half of the meeting focused on the agency’s health equity plan and raising awareness of structural racism (i.e. where it came from and how it is impacting us all today). He said staff members of color from throughout the agency facilitated the discussion and gave a very powerful presentation about the history of racism and its impact on their own families in Boulder County through the years.

ITEM 5. Old and New Business/Announcements.

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

None.

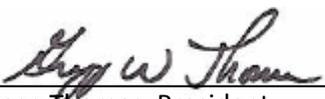
B. Old and New Business.

C. Announcements.

None.

ITEM 6. Adjournment.

There being nothing further to discuss, President Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.



Gregg Thomas, President



Jeffrey J. Zayach, Public Health Director