



DELTA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Board of Health
Delta, Colorado 81416
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Delta County Board of Health Annual Meeting Minutes Jan 17th, 2023

Board Members	Staff	Guests/Public
Jeri Roberts Wendell Koontz, Chair Jo Rosenquist Mike Lane, Vice Chair Don Chapman	Greg Rajnowski Karen O'Brien Leone Anderson Pat Sullivan Teri Stephenson	

Call to Order

- The annual meeting was called to order by Commissioner Koontz at **3:25 PM**.
- Action on the minutes:
 - Nov 15th monthly meeting minutes - Don Chapman moved to accept the minutes, Member Roberts Second, Unanimous.
- Election of the Officers (moved to front of agenda)
 - Commissioner Lane nominated Commissioner Koontz as Chair and Member Roberts Second. Unanimous.
 - Commissioner Koontz nominated Commissioner Lane Vice Chair, and Member Roberts Second. Unanimous
 - Commissioner Koontz left for a meeting and Commissioner Lane conducted the rest of the meeting.

Public Health Director's Report

- **Financial Report (Leone Anderson)**
 - Payment Approval Report- no questions, Don Chapman moved to accept the financials, and Member Roberts Second. Unanimous.
 - December was the close out for the 2022 budget with remaining \$927,876 in the fund balance:
 - Most of this is siloed funding and will not likely be able to spend it down due to the limited flexibility for use (COVID testing, contract tracing and contract investigation only, no vaccines) in spending it.
 - ELC1 ended Nov 2022, and the beginning balance changed because funds had to be "deobligated" on that grant.

- ELC2 funding expires July 31, 2023 (unspent will stay with CDPHE, or will be deobligated). We bill for these funds as they are spent.
- **Annual Meeting**
 - Election of Officers - Review 2023 Membership
 - Terms for Board of Health members: positions are 5 years. Don Chapman renewed his (Thank YOU!) and will serve his 1st additional term. Member Rosenquist will be finishing her 1st additional term this year, and can renew Dec 2023 (members can serve 2 5-year terms) to serve one more additional term.
 - Member Roberts is currently serving under Commissioner Lane's term (for 1 yr). Member Roberts has agreed to a 5-year term instead and will continue until the end of 2026 with option to resign at any time or renew for an additional 5 year term.
 - 2022 Vital Statistics Report- Teri Stephenson
 - COVIS report is unavailable at this time but Teri pulled data together.
 - *Births*: Looked at trends and 2022 shows a decline since 2021 in births (although we are pretty steady since 2015).
 - *Deaths*: data shows a decrease in 2022 (there was an increase in 2020/2021). Birth and death certificates can be obtained from ANY county.
 - Huge increase in paper expense (vital stats paper), due to shortages in materials (almost doubled due to the "certified" nature of it.)
 - Marriage licenses will see an increase in 2022. Online transactions increased. Online kiosk has helped significantly and decreased office time.
 - Revenues overall have decreased.
 - Identification for death certificates increased and the Clerk's office provided a clarification on the back side of the application.
 - Turnaround time is almost a single day.
 - May have an onsite audit this year- the audit encompasses security and error tracking.
 - There are no free-standing birth centers in Delta County but we do have other doula/midwife services available. Commissioner Lane asked if these services require certifications? Yes, there are specific types that ARE certified, however not all get it, and often the paperwork is filled out by the family.
- **Private/Green Burial Charter was moved up on the agenda while Teri was present.** Greg shared the charter and answered general questions regarding the limitations and specifics around requirements. A Private Burial Charter has been prepared and we are already revising the current ordinance and making improvements to some of the documentation that will support the process.

- Link to redline version:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1UBAg9epxc683PCTaEUGdVu9_H1oDEXPZ/edit?usp=sharing&oid=113330214509001302475&rtpof=true&sd=true
- Teri Stephenson commended Greg for the research and work put into drafting the new ordinance and site review process.
- Greg asked the board to review and send any changes/comments to him.
- **Annual Meeting - continued:**
 - *Annual review of the Bylaws:* There was a question about the structure of the board and a provision for all 3 Commissioners serving. Karen stated that in counties with a population of less than 100,000, a three member board may be appointed. The board of county commissioners may designate itself as the county Board of Health if there was not a separate Board of Health prior to the effective date of the Public Health Act of 2008. The Delta County Board of Health was comprised of 5 members prior to this Act. The board found no changes to be made to the Bylaws and Karen said she would document that the Bylaws were reviewed with today's date (1/17/2023).
 - *Review of Environmental Health Fee Schedule:* The board reviewed the fee schedule and there were **No Changes** reported.
 - *Annual BOH Training HB21-1115.* This is a requirement for all board members. Wendell and Jo are complete with the training. Other members are due. Karen will resend the course offering with the link.
- **Department Updates- Karen O'Brien**
 - *COVID-19 cases*, positivity and hospitalizations are declining locally and state-wide. However, cases are increasing in the U.S. but hospitalizations are flat. Our 7-day incidence rate per 100,000 as of 1/10 was 28 cases with 3.2 hospitalizations and three additional deaths that occurred in December. Variant XBB1.5 is making gains in the US – 27.6% of all cases with higher increases in the eastern regions.
 - Delta County is at low risk according to the CDC community level and “moderate” community transmission as of 1/17.
 - Our immunization clinic was very busy in November and December administering COVID boosters and flu vaccines. Additionally, the state's vaccine bus visited many locations throughout the county: 11/1 Dia de los Muertos, 11/6 St. Michael's Bazaar, 11/17 Don's Market in Paonia, 11/27 Delta's Walmart, 12/4 Hotchkiss City Market, 12/11 Grand Mesa Arts & Events Center, 12/15 River Valley Convenient Care Clinic, 1/6 Grand Mesa Arts & Events Center, 1/13 Hotchkiss City Market, 1/18 Lions Pavilion Rocky Mountain Food Bank, 1/22 St. Michael's.

- The demand for self-administered COVID test kits (curb-side) was quite high in November and December but has recently slowed. We are also seeing a major slow-down for PCR tests at our Tuesday testing site.
- *Influenza is decreasing* - The state reported 2,666 hospitalizations for influenza on 1/7 and Delta Health reported 11 hospitalizations in December. Cumulative rates of flu hospitalizations are higher than in past seasons. (The majority of cases have been Influenza A.) Flu vaccines have slowed but we continue to accommodate any walk-ins.
- *RSV* (Respiratory Syncytial (sin say shal) Virus) is decreasing. There were 2,318 hospitalizations in Colorado as of 1/7 with 476 outbreaks in schools and childcare facilities and 17 at residential care facilities. Delta Health reported 1 hospitalization in December.
- *WNV* - We reported 23 cases of West Nile Virus with 2 deaths for the season. Greg will be presenting our final report.
- *Staffing* – No applications received for the Nurse Manager or Nurse Practitioner positions.
- *Immunization remodel* – our immunization room has been unavailable for over two months due to the remodel. We have been diverting clients to our family planning's refill room for administering vaccines; however, it's not very convenient for our senior population as they need to maneuver through the building to get to this room. Our building and grounds team has done a great job with this remodel but in order to speed things up, health staff will locate and purchase a new countertop and have the cabinets repainted. So far, the Health Department has paid \$2,069.06 from administrative funds for this remodel.
- *Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI)* - has been identified at Confluence among the population of geese. We have a protocol from CDPHE regarding how to deal with human exposures.

Environmental Health Director's Report

- *Floodplain Administrator* - Greg assumed the role when he took over for Ken Nordstrom. Floodplain Administrator position was approved by the BOCC:

Floodplain Management Ordinance – Second Reading:

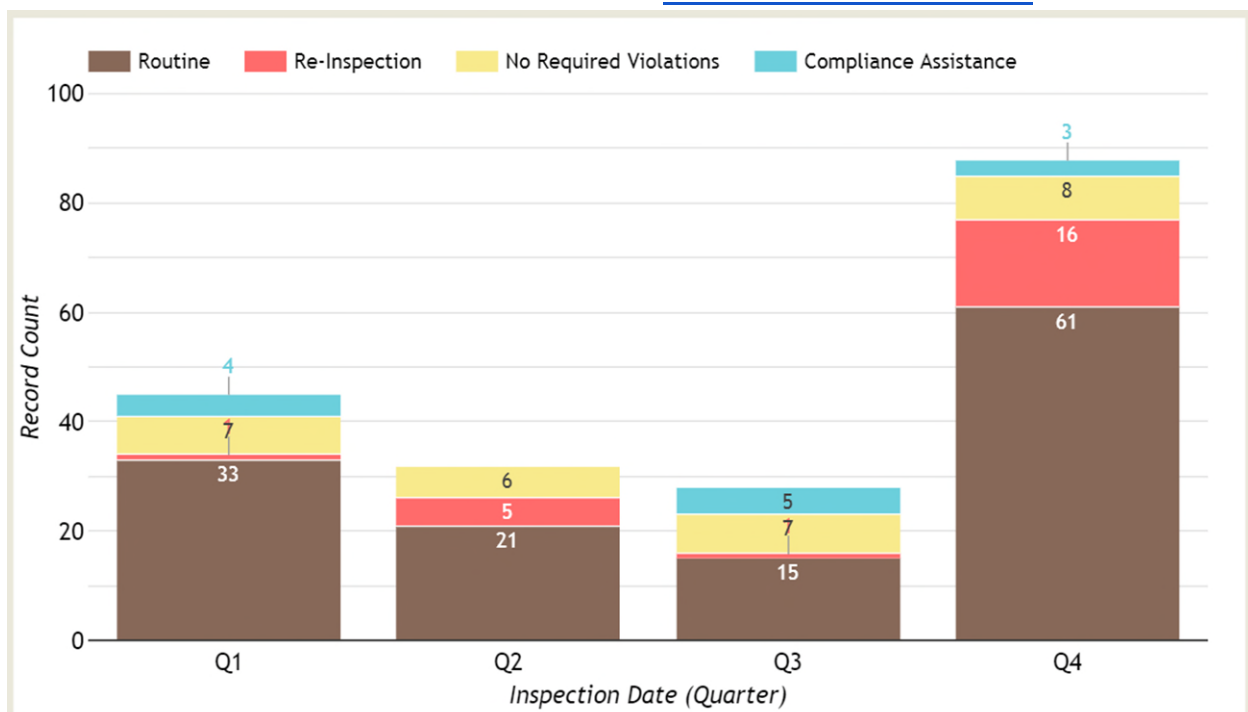
Christine presented to the Board for the second reading an Ordinance to Adopt and Enforce Floodplain Management Regulations that Adhere to the Minimum Standards of Both the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and the State of Colorado.

Christine explained that this is complying with State law in updating Delta County's Floodplain Management Regulations by January 14, 2014.

Commissioner Hovde made a motion that the Board sign the adoption of Ordinance No. 2013-002 an Ordinance to Adopt and Enforce Floodplain Management Regulations for Delta County effective January 2014. Commissioner Roeber seconded the motion.

Motion carried by a vote of 3 to 0.

- Whatever changes are made in the floodplain maps, they must go through the Planning Commission for approval and updating, and then adopted by ordinance with the BOCC. This would be a perfect time to designate the office for the Floodplain Administrator. There is no state statute that designates which office is the office of Floodplain Administrator.
- Most counties hold this position in their building departments by an Engineer. Tim McCracken is the engineering office for the county, that would be one option, other than EH. Time is really the concern, not the number. The problem solving and time is often the greatest factor in handling these permits. The timing of the application and review process aligns more with the beginning of the planning process. Coordination with many state agencies (Health, and Department of Natural Resources and Colorado Water Conservation Board is necessary for this role. Additionally, there is no funding stream for EH as a Floodplain Administrator.
- Karen asked that the BOCC review the funding, support and workload for this role and said that at the last board meeting, Commissioner Koontz said that Commissioner Suppes had some discussions about this role and he would visit with him and report back to the Board.
- *West Nile virus End of Year Report* - is in the review stages. Any comments, questions, or additional information you would like to see, just send Greg an email.
- *2022 RFE and OWTS numbers-* [Administrators Dashboard](#)

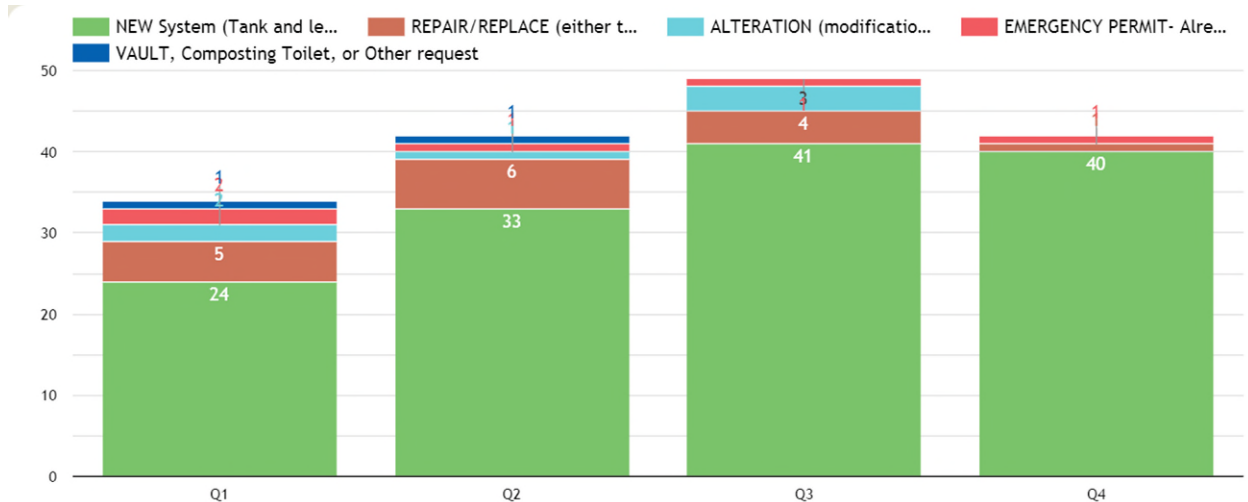


- Retail Food Inspections are now online- on the state website. We'll be doing some public education around this resource during our April "What is EH?" launch.

<https://inspections.myhealthdepartment.com/colorado/>

- **OWTS Permits for 2022:**

Application Status	Record Count ▾
Final Approved	94
In Progress	47
Engineer Letter	13
Conditional Issued	6
Unpermitted Syst...	1
Grand total	161



- Karen stated that we have not had any variances since revising the OWTS regulations. These have been well received by the engineers and installers, as well as streamlined the permit process. Education in advance has had a huge impact on reducing concerns as well.

4:48 pm Adjourn - Karen thanked the board again for their service. The Board of Health meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Lane.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Greg Rajnowski and Karen O'Brien.