

Delta County Board of Health Meeting Minutes
 May 16, 2023

Board Members	Staff	Guests/Public
Jeri Roberts Wendell Koontz, Chair Jo Rosenquist Mike Lane, Vice Chair Don Chapman	Greg Rajnowski Karen O'Brien Pat Sullivan Robbie LeValley Leone Anderson Leah Rawson Kris Stewart Evan Bolt	Jason Wilson, Asst County Attorney John Baier, County Attorney

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Koontz at 3:30 PM.
- Action on the minutes:
 - April 18th, 2023 monthly meeting minutes - Don Chapman moved to accept the minutes, Jeri Roberts, Second. The minutes were approved unanimously.
- John Baier- County Attorney clarified that there will be no adjournment (as mentioned on the agenda) and the meeting will continue to the Executive Session at the end of EH Director Report with no end to regular meeting. Chairman Koontz acknowledged this change on the agenda.

Public Health Director's Report

- **Financials** - Leone Anderson
 - Leone reviewed the remainder on the *Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity* (ELC2) grant as \$314,068.06. This will include the awning extension of the Health Department's front entrance for testing of contagious diseases.
 - Leone presented the income statement for the end of April and said that there are many new grants starting July 1.
 - Leone presented the payment approval report and asked if there were any questions.
 - With no questions, Jo Rosenquist motioned to approve as presented; Don Chapman second, the vote was unanimous and the financials were approved.

- Kris Stewart introduced Evan Bolt, the new EM Coordinator, to the board.

- **Department Updates - Karen O'Brien**
 - **Flooding** – The department is participating in flood planning meetings and coordinating messages with the County PIO. A medical partners ESF8 meeting is scheduled for 5/23.
 - **COVID-19** – The federal public health emergency ended on May 11. The highlights are as follows:
 - COVID Vaccines and will remain free as long as the supply of federally purchased vaccines remains.
 - Coverage for COVID-19 testing and treatment will now vary by insurance type. However, self-administered tests and community test sites will remain free until supplies last.
 - COVID vaccines (should be free while federal supplies last):
 - adults 65 and older and immunocompromised individuals are able to receive an *additional bivalent* (original and omicron strains) vaccine dose.
 - Individuals who have never received a COVID vaccine dose, can receive the bivalent vaccine. The original (monovalent) COVID-19 mRNA vaccine is no longer available.
 - The state vaccine bus officially ended on May 11. This month's bus schedule: 5/ 5 Cinco de Mayo in Delta and on 5/6 Partner's Palooza Delta.
 - COVID Data Reporting - As of May 11, 2023, the CDC data page has been renamed "United States COVID-19 Hospital Admissions Data, Deaths, and Emergency Visits by Geographic Area." New state-and county-level hospital admissions data and emergency department visits maps are now featured on this page.
 - **Hospital admission rates** and the **percentage of COVID-19 deaths among all deaths** are now the primary surveillance metrics.
 - COVID-19 hospital admission levels replace COVID-19 Community Levels (CCLs) as the main indicator of county trends. COVID-19 hospital admission levels are comparable with CCLs.
 - Provisional death certificate data from the [National Vital Statistics System \(NVSS\)](#) will become the primary source for mortality surveillance, replacing aggregate death counts.
 - Aggregate case and death count reporting has been discontinued.
 - ED visit data will serve as an early indicator of COVID-19 activity.
 - County-level COVID-19 Electronic Laboratory Reporting data on test positivity will no longer be posted because national reporting of negative laboratory results is no longer required.
 - The [National Respiratory and Enteric Virus Surveillance System \(NREVSS\)](#), a voluntary reporting network of more than 450 laboratories,

will be the new primary source for regional test positivity data and another early indicator.

- **Immunizations** – We have completed our school Tdap clinics with administering vaccines to 33 students. These were for students going into the 6th grade.
- **Mpox** - In the United States, cases of mpox (formerly monkeypox) have declined since peaking in August 2022, but the outbreak is not over. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) continues to receive reports of cases that reflect ongoing community transmission in the United States and internationally. This week, CDC and local partners are investigating a cluster of mpox cases in the Chicago area. From April 17 to May 5, 2023, a total of [12 confirmed and one probable case of mpox](#) were reported to the Chicago Department of Public Health. All cases were among symptomatic men. None of the patients have been hospitalized. Spring and summer season in 2023 could lead to a resurgence of mpox as people gather for festivals and other events.
- **Staffing** – Currently, we are recruiting for a Nurse Practitioner for 3 days a week and a Community Engagement Coordinator to replace Shirley who accepted the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator position.
- There was a question about any hospitalizations for COVID? Not at this moment.

Environmental Health (EH) Director's Report - Greg

General:

- **Industrial Hemp:** EH Director presented the situation regarding the industrial hemp. The presentation included a discussion of the fires that occur in Delta on Hwy 348 and the G Rd hemp processing plant fire. Commissioner Koontz asked what a proposed “plan review” might look like (similar to restaurant plan reviews), and requested a list of the 16 “registered sites” in Delta County. He also asked Robbie to review the land use code to see if reviews are noted in the plan. Greg said he would send the board an example of the plan review and the list of the 16 registered sites.
 - **Questions:** This one that burned operated under different names. Is there a way to go back and try to prosecute them? Once they move, there is little that we can do. We could license, but we mostly have the capacity to only do plan reviews at a minimum.
 - Comment from County Attorney: Table 2 from the Land Use Code (LUC)- some of the language for industrial hemp processing was stricken from that version. If the THC concentration changes, we may need to change some of the language.
- **West Nile Virus:** we have a lot of support from each of the various municipalities to do a good job with prevention. We are holding new releases until the 2nd week of June to decrease overlap with flooding information. The Town of Cedaredge has drafted an IGA that they'd like to have the county join as the lead educator and surveillance entity. The EH Director will send the IGA to the Board of Health for review. May 18th/19th the CDPHE Medical Entomologist will be here to assist with mosquito identification training.

- **Question:** will North Fork Mosquito District assist more this year? Yes- they are sending some of their mosquito pools to us for testing with the State.

Executive Session

Attorney John Baier read a prepared statement about entering into the executive session - following the "Advice of counsel, pursuant to CRS 24-6-402(4)b and 6122 Graff Rd". John reminded the board that executive session discussions constitute a privilege of the board and doesn't require minutes or recording to be kept.

Commissioner Lane motioned that the Board go into executive session. Member Chapman Second the motion. The vote was unanimous. The board went into executive session at 4:15pm and ended the session at 5:05pm. Chairman Koontz resumed the regular board meeting at 5:05pm.

Adjourn

- The Board of Health meeting was adjourned at 5:07pm by Commissioner Koontz.

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