



Delta County Board of Health Meeting Minutes December 19, 2023

Board Members	Staff	Guests/Public
Wendell Koontz, Chair Jo Rosenquist Mike Lane, Vice Chair Don Chapman Jeri Roberts – Resigned 11/13/2023	Karen O’Brien Shawn Gardner Robin Mills Leah Rawson Leone Anderson Robbie LeValley	

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Koontz at 3:29 PM.
- Action on the minutes:
 - October 17, 2023 meeting minutes – Jo Rosenquist moved to accept the minutes, and Don Chapman second. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Health Director’s Report

- **Financials**
 - Leone presented the payment approval report and stated that a large number of vaccines were paid for in October/November and the revenue will probably not show up until the December/January timeframe. She asked if there were any questions? There were no questions.
 - Jo Rosenquist motioned to accept the financials and Don Chapman second. The vote was unanimous and the financials were approved.
- **Department Updates**
 - **New Staff** - Karen introduced the agency’s newest staff member Robin Mills. Robin will continue the great work Pat Sullivan did as our Nurse Practitioner. Robin has most recently worked at Denver Health and was there for 11 years. She is Board Certified in Lifestyle Medicine, and holds certifications for Basic Life Support and a Tobacco Treatment Specialist. We are very pleased and excited to have Robin on board.

- **Communicable Diseases**
 - COVID – For Delta - there were 60 COVID cases in the last 2 weeks (12/4-12/17), 11 hospitalizations in December but currently all discharged, and 2 deaths in December.
 - Flu – There were 599 hospitalizations statewide since 12/13, mostly subtype A. Delta had one hospitalization (A).
 - RSV – Since 10/1, rates of RSV hospitalizations have continued to increase. There were 626 hospitalizations since 12/13. The majority of cases were 0-4 years.
 - Immunizations – Continue to administer COVID and Flu vaccines. We will continue to offer COVID vaccines as long as there is demand for them. Our Wednesday clinics have been booked solid.
- **Fiscal/Staffing**
 - Karen said that we congratulated Tessa on receiving a promotion to the finance department, working with Leone and Suesan. Her job is now posted and we have received many applications.
- **Agreements to Review**
 - Two documents were reviewed and signed by the board chair: *Intergovernmental Agreement* with the West Central Public Health Partnership and the acceptance of the *Community Health Assessment and the Public Health Improvement Plan*.
 - Jo Rosenquist motioned to accept the agreement and Don Chapman second. The vote was unanimous and approved by the Board. Commissioner Koontz then signed the documents.
- **Board of Health Positions**
 - Open Board Position – A vacancy was created when Jeri Roberts resigned on November 13, 2023. Karen sent the application* from Dr. Antonio Calderon to the Board to review.

Environmental Health Update

- **Retail Food Establishments (RFE)**
 - Shawn reported that CDPHE inspectors are in Delta and Montrose Counties this week (12/18-12/22) conducting joint inspections with Evan and Carina who are really close to being signed off to conduct independent inspections. Starting in 2024 they should be able to begin catching up with regular inspections.
 - Shawn said payments for RFE annual license renewals were steadily coming in.
- **Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS)**
 - Shawn reported that installer license renewals were issued at the end of November and payments were steadily coming in. OWTS application and inspections have slowed down due to winter.
- **Graff Road**

- Shawn said that septic inspection was completed and the cost was \$485. The department paid the bill and will work with the County's Clerk and Records Office to file the charge against the property.
- The Attorney's Office is engaged in the next step of the process, which is filing an injunction on the property.

- **Delta Cleaners**

- The rubble from the Delta Cleaners fire has not been removed because the entire 1,300 cubic yards of material is considered contaminated with friable asbestos. Adobe Butte landfill is not permitted to take it, and the possibility of obtaining a waiver from CDPHE is not an option due to the landfill's current limited space. Mesa County landfill has offered to waive its prohibition on out-of-county asbestos to receive this material, but their costs still put the cost of disposal in Mesa County over the cost of taking it to Denver. The total cost will likely be around \$500k and the insurance claim does not appear to cover costs associated with the asbestos. Shawn is in communication with the City of Delta manager to seek funding options to help the company remove and dispose of the asbestos debris.
- This incident also raised the question about whether Delta County Public Works should seek permitting and allocate space for asbestos disposal and the collection of hazardous waste within their current expansion plans at Adobe Butte Landfill. The BoH Chair granted the EH Director consent to pursue such conversations and work on developing such plans.

- **Burials on Private Property**

- Shawn gave a summary of the meeting held with John Baier, Lance Boron, Mike Lane and Shawn Gardner:
 - The Board of Health does not wish to make burial site inspections on private property mandatory. Rather, Environmental Health (EH) will be a primary source of educational information about burials on private property and a provider of services in selecting a burial site on private property.
 - John and the BoCC will repeal the BoCC ordinance 2015-1, thus limiting our regulations and enforcement for burials on private land to relevant State statutes (§ 25-2-111 and others).
 - Robbie proposed that the setbacks articulated in the ordinance could be included in the Land Use Code by John Baier before January 10, 2024. Shawn will follow up on that proposal.
 - The setbacks will also be put into a document for public distribution by the Clerk and Recorder, Hospice, Coroner, or EH, and provided to applicants in preparation for burial site inspections.
 - EH will create a public facing web page under the Health Department and a printed pamphlet to communicate the process for planning, conducting, and recording burials on private property.
 - Once the web page and pamphlet are published, all partners who field queries or requests for burials on private property (Clerk, Coroner, Hospice, hospitals, etc.) will be provided links.

Adjourn

- The Board of Health meeting was adjourned at 4:12 pm by Commissioner Koontz.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Karen O'Brien and Shawn Gardner.