



Delta County Board of Health Meeting Minutes January 16, 2024

Board Members	Staff	Guests/Public
Mike Lane, Chair Wendell Koontz, Vice Chair Jo Rosenquist Don Chapman - Excused Board Vacancy	Karen O'Brien Shawn Gardner Robin Mills Leah Rawson Leone Anderson John Baier Jason Wilson	

Call to Order

- Karen said that Don Chapman has an excused absence; however, there is a quorum to begin the meeting.
- The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Koontz at 3:30 PM.
- Action on the minutes:
 - December 19, 2023 meeting minutes – Jo Rosenquist moved to accept the minutes, and Commissioner Lane second. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Public Health Director's Report

- **Annual Meeting**
 - Election of Officers - Karen presented the board membership that specified terms for each board member, stating there is a vacancy (Jeri Roberts) with a term to be filled until December 31, 2026. She said the vacancy would be further addressed later in the meeting. The board preceded with election of officers. Jo Rosenquist motioned to accept Mike Lane for Chair, Commissioner Koontz second and the vote was unanimous. And, so by default, Commission Koontz was accepted to be Vice Chair.
 - Commissioner Lane then facilitated the meeting as the new Chair.
 - Vital Records – Teri Stephenson was not present to provide the 2023 vital statistics. Karen said she would obtain them from Teri and submit them in the board packet for the next meeting.
 - Meeting Schedule for 2024 – Karen reviewed the 2024 meeting schedule for the Board of Health.

- By-Laws – Karen presented the By-Laws and asked if anyone had any additions or changes. There were no additions or changes; thus, the By-Laws will stay as presented. The review took place on January 16, 2024.
- Environmental Health Fee Schedule – Karen presented the fee schedule and asked if anyone had any additions or changes. There were no additions or changes; thus, the Environmental Fee Schedule will stay as presented.

- **Financials**

- Leone presented the payment approval report and explained the fund balance amount decreased due to payouts for Reiley Jones' last paycheck (with PTO) and the retirement payout for Pat Sullivan. This eventually will be covered by replacement revenue (American Rescue Funds). The budget for these funds was submitted to the state. Leone asked if there were any questions. Commissioner Koontz asked about the \$22,000 to Moderna. Leah explained that it was for our COVID vaccine. COVID vaccines are no longer free. She explained that we need to purchase and then bill the patient's insurance to recoup our costs. Mike asked if Johnson and Johnson was available and Leah said that it was not available at this time.
- Jo Rosenquist motioned to accept the financials and Wendell Koontz second. The vote was unanimous and the financials were approved.

- **Department Updates**

- **Communicable Diseases**

- COVID – Karen reported there were 60 COVID cases for Delta 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 – Our clinic continues to administer COVID and Flu vaccines. We will continue to offer these vaccines as long as there is demand for them.

- **Fiscal/Staffing**

- Karen said we have a new staff member Alyssa Fritchman, she will be our new Administrative Coordinator and will be training with Tessa.

- **Board of Health Positions**

- Karen sent the board a resume from Dr. Antonio Calderon for the open board seat left vacant by Jeri Robert's resignation. He is from Paonia and according to the bylaws we should have representation from each Commissioner District. Karen said he appears to be a good candidate for the board since he has a medical background and is from a district we need represented.

- Commissioner Lane asked if the Board would interview the candidates. Karen explained that at one time the Board did interview but Commissioner Suppes said that this would be a Board of County Commissioner responsibility and they would appoint the position. Karen said she did not know the process the Commissioners used to appoint these positions and if that included interviews.
- Commissioner Koontz said the board would like to repost the position to obtain more candidates. Karen will work with Lindsay on this.

Environmental Health Update

- **Retail Food Establishments (RFE)**
 - Shawn reported that both Carina and Evan are signed off by CDPHE to conduct independent inspections of RFE's. He further explained that the department will be conducting inspections at a rate of about 10 per week to catch up on overdue inspections.
 - Shawn announced that the department recently was awarded \$19,000 toward accomplishing FDA Standardization in our Food Safety program over the next year.
- **Childcare and School Inspections**
 - Shawn reported that environmental health (EH) staff has begun training with CDPHE on childcare facilities, schools, and special institutions in the County. The goal is to complete our training to conduct these independently by April.
- **West Nile Virus**
 - The EH team is gathering data from last year and will be meeting with our mosquito district partners this next month to prepare a 2023 report and a 2024 plan. Reports will be shared with the board in February.
- **Floodplain Administration**
 - Shawn said the department has recently received two inquiries from people desiring to develop in floodplains. As the Planning Director is now the Floodplain Administrator, Shawn has been sharing records from Environmental Health's past and discussing how best to transfer web resources and procedures from the Health Department to Planning.
 - Commissioner Lane announced that there will be a floodplain and drone meeting on January 23.
- **Delta Cleaners**
 - The City Manager (Elyse) is pursuing possible EPA's Brownfields funding or another EPA program to assist with funding the cleanup.
 - Mesa County offered to waive their restriction on receiving out-of-county friable asbestos, but the cost still exceeded that of sending the waste to the Front Range.
- **Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)**
 - Graff Road - The Attorneys are encountering some complications defining who the title holder is on the mobile home, but are continuing to pursue filing an injunction.
- **Burials on private property**
 - John Baier has determined that Ordinance No. 2015-01 for private burial/human interment is in need of being repealed for various reasons.
 - The setbacks specified in the ordinance for the location of burial sites are to be communicated in a document that will be part of the educational packet for those seeking a site inspection from Environmental Health.

Adjourn

- Chairman Lane asked if there was any other business before the Board. Hearing none, the Board of Health meeting was adjourned at 4:14 pm by Commissioner Lane.

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