

March BOH Meeting Minutes

Date: March 18, 2025

Call to Order

- Commissioner Mike Lane called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

Approval of Minutes

- The minutes from the February 18 meeting were reviewed and approved with a motion by Don, seconded by Tony.
- A copy of the dashboard was added.

Financial Report – Jesse Negrete

- Fund Summary Report: Had a negative month, but year-to-date, we are still above budget.
- Payment Approval Report: Reviewed.
- Don approved the financials as presented, and Tony seconded the motion.

Health Department Reports

Immunizations and Communicable Diseases

- Patients Seen: 46
- Measles Tabletop Exercise: Conducted in coordination with the state. It was highly valuable, and we learned a lot.
- COVID Cases: 14
- Flu Hospitalizations: 16 (compared to 1 in 2024). Cases are decreasing in March, but RSV cases are increasing.
- Animal Bites: 5
- Pertussis Cases: None reported.
- Flu Vaccination Rates: 18 (compared to 13 in 2024).
- COVID Vaccination Rates: Decreased to 7 (compared to 13 in 2024).

MMR & Measles Outbreaks

- Overview: The good news—measles is not currently in Colorado. The bad news—the state believes it is only a matter of time. Both Delta County and Colorado have low vaccination rates.

- National Cases: 301 cases as of March 6, 2025. The majority are children under five years old. 95% of cases are either unvaccinated or of unknown vaccination status. There have been 50 hospitalizations and 2 deaths in the U.S.
- Delta County Vaccination Rates:
 - 2023/2024 School Year: 85.8%
 - Kindergarten Rate: 78.4%
 - Delta County has the 11th worst vaccination rate in the state.
 - Highest Risk Groups: Children under five, pregnant women, individuals with weakened immune systems, and unvaccinated adults over 19.
- Action Plan:
 - Increasing messaging to children and school populations, emphasizing the safety of the MMR vaccine.
 - Met with the school district and emergency management to coordinate efforts and develop response plans.
- Discussion:
 - Tony asked how do we diagnose measles beyond just a rash? As a pediatrician in Mexico, measles was supposed to be eradicated by the 1990s. Unlike COVID, where responses evolved in real-time, we already have established protocols for measles.
 - Commissioner Lane asked the question of how measles is treated. Leah responded that there is no known cure. Commissioner Fuller inquired if measles is a “one-and-done” illness, or do people need boosters. Leah mentioned that one dose provides 93% protection, and two doses increase protection to 97%

Family Planning

- 49 visits this month; this is a new data point we’re keeping this year so no comparison available. Submitted the request for Title X and we were awarded the grant. This is a federal grant, and the designation gives us a lot of help from the state and helps us get other grants
- CSBG Annual Report submission accepted.
- Additional money for WWC / breast and cervical cancer for underinsured and non-insured.
- Kayleigh and Robin completed facilitator training for the Baby and Me Tobacco Free program.
- Caring for Colorado grant part one submitted, applying for up to \$125k

Environmental Health

- 27 completed Retail Food Establishment Inspections were completed.

- Proctoring numbers: On March 12, we partnered with CDPHE and had the course for English and Spanish. There were 32 participants who were proctored in the English exam, and we had a passing rate of 30 out of 32. There were 16 who had taken the Spanish exam, and only 5 out of 16 passed for the CFPM exam. Delta County EH is going to be hosting a 2-hour refresher course quarterly for the community to attend if they wish. Spanish numbers.
 - There were 10 OWTS permits issued, with the total being 15 for the year.
 - Samantha and Raven are scheduled to go to a training on laundry to landscape for gray water on March 31, 2025 in Denver.
 - Childcare; EH was able to go to Clifton for the new revisions of the Childcare rules and regulations with CDPHE.
 - Radon: EH was able to utilize Main Street Printing in the production of 300 booklets for radon that will be given out to the community. More radon kits were ordered through Radonova to replenish the giveaways from the last few weeks.
 - EH did not receive the Environmental Justice grant, and is still waiting on the results for the FDA Voluntary Standards grant to be awarded.
 - EH did ask for more money on this year's waste Tire Contract. The amount given last year was just barely enough to cover the costs of the program.

.Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR)

- PHEOP. Went to the CEMA conference with the Emergency Management team.
- Deutch Domestic Water Incident recap.
- Stepp
 - Podcast
 - Vape Disposal Kick-Off - regional efforts. Commissioner Fuller asked more about vaping and if there were flavors that were illegal. Shirley talked more about certain flavors because they were considered to target children.

Directors Report

- Outreach & Collaboration:
 - Met with the Executive Director of the Kidz Clinic to discuss potential partnerships and ways we can collaborate on public health initiatives.
 - Met with Mindy Baumgardner from the Attorney General's Office.
 - Key Public Health Concerns:

- The biggest situation in Feb was the Duetch Domestic Water - our team did an excellent job responding and with the after action plan.
 - The measles outbreak in Texas and New Mexico right now remains our largest concern, highlighting the need for continued vaccination efforts and public education. (Discussed during IMM)
 - Mind Springs, the inpatient behavioral health facility closed its doors on March 10th - Vale BH is to open by the end of May.
- Financial Outlook & Strategic Planning:
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 - From CALPHO: **Economic & Revenue Forecast** Yesterday Joint Budget Committee (JBC) received the March Economic & Revenue Forecast from Legislative Council Staff (LCS) and the Office of State Planning and Budgeting (OSPB). The economic outlook is becoming increasingly concerning. At this point, the JBC still faces a **\$1.16 billion budget gap**, and progress on closing this gap has been slow. Major funding cuts are expected in the coming days, as the JBC works toward finalizing the FY 2025-26 budget. We continue to closely monitor the financial landscape for public health. As of yesterday, state-level budget cuts to public health funding appear imminent.

Adjournment

- With no further updates, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 PM.