



# DELTA COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

**Board of Health**  
Delta, Colorado 81416  
Phone: (970) 874-2165  
Fax: (970) 874-2175

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## Delta County Board of Health Meeting Minutes November 15th, 2022

| Board Members                                                                          | Staff                                                                                            | Guests/Public |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Don Suppes<br>Jeri Roberts<br>Wendell Koontz<br>Jo Rosenquist (Excused)<br>Don Chapman | Greg Rajnowski<br>Karen O'Brien<br>Leone Anderson<br>Robbie LeValley<br>Tamara Greninger (Award) |               |

### Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order by Chairman Suppes at **3:30 PM**.
- Karen requested an addition to the agenda - under the Public Health Director's Report: to acknowledge the receipt of the Shirley Hass Schuett Award to Pat Sullivan and Tamara Greninger. Chairman Suppes approved the addition.
- Action on the minutes:
  - October 18 monthly meeting minutes - Don Chapman moved to accept the minutes, Jeri Roberts second, Unanimous.

### Public Health Director's Report

- Financial Report
  - The updated Grant sheet was distributed. Leone pointed out that we are in the second quarter of many fiscal state grants. Grant funding, ELC1, ending 11/19/2022. The budget projections are looking very good into 2023.
  - Leone said the County is putting the public version of the 2023 budget on the website. This will include the Health Department's website.
  - Income statement. Operating within our budget (will likely be slightly underspent).
    - A question on invoice to Honk-Key Lock & Safe. This was a purchase for gun locks under the suicide prevention grant that ended in September.
  - Don Chapman motioned to accept the financials and Jeri Roberts second. Unanimous.
- Department Updates

- Karen congratulated nurses Pat Sullivan and Tamara Greninger for receiving the award (the only county in the state to achieve this status) for consistently achieving high standards and being a top performer from 2018 to 2022. The award “5-year Shirley Hass Schuett Quality Award” is for achieving superior health navigation and clinical services in the Women’s Wellness Connection in 4 program performance indicators: 1) screening mammograms, 2) time from screening to diagnosis for abnormal breast screening results, 3) abnormal cervical screenings with complete follow-up and 4) severe abnormal cervical screening with complete follow-up.
- Karen said there is a new term to describe diseases right now, “Triple-demic”. There are record hospitalizations for children for RSV. Children’s Hospital Denver has recorded their highest admissions and CDC is also reporting high admissions nationally.
- COVID-19 cases, positivity and hospitalizations are rising. Our 7-day (10/4-11/11) case count was 30 with 3 hospitalizations and two additional deaths that occurred in the last 2 weeks. Our 7-day positivity rate is 8.2%, the state’s at 11.7% (ending 11/11). BA5 is dropping and now represents 64% of all cases statewide. BQ1.1 is inching up rapidly.
- Delta County has moved up to medium risk according to the CDC community level for the first time since tracking this way and “high” community transmission. Our department, since we have clinic settings, is now back in masks.
- The state’s vaccine bus was at Delta’s Centennial Park for Día de los Muertos (110 vaccines), St. Michael’s Bazaar (57 vaccines) and a young girl was so happy to get her vaccine, she went home baked some cookies and presented the bus crew with the cookies as a thank you. The bus will also be at Don’s Market in Paonia and Walmart this month. Our nurses continue to be booked solid with administering boosters but can usually accommodate any walk-ins.
- The number of COVID tests kits distributed curbside has increased dramatically. We also saw an increase at our Tuesday PCR testing site. The weather is getting colder and our heater is now broken, any help in accelerating the awning expansion for our front entryway would be greatly appreciated. (Other testing sites - If sick, they should call their Provider or go to Delta Health clinic in Delta or Hotchkiss or the convenient care clinic. Testing in Mesa County is also an option: CMU M-F 8-4: Sat 8-12.)
- Influenza is rising - The state reported 92 hospitalizations for influenza on 11/10. (The majority of cases have been Influenza A.) So far this is trending to 2018 levels and 2018 was a bad flu season. We continue to administer flu vaccines at the department and can usually accommodate any walk-ins.
- RSV (Respiratory Syncytial (sin say shal) Virus) season is here and exceeding previous years’ levels. The virus usually causes mild, cold-like symptoms (runny nose, decrease in appetite, coughing, sneezing, fever and wheezing) however it can be serious, especially for infants to children

below age two, and to older adults. 544 hospitalizations on 11/10. 144 outbreaks in schools and childcare facilities. Delta Health had 1 hospitalization, an 11-month-old.

- The Monkeypox Virus rate is slowing. There have been 354 cases of Monkeypox in Colorado as of 11/10.
- We have reported 23 cases of West Nile Virus with 2 deaths for the season. Greg will have a final report in January. He has been meeting with the other mosquito districts.
- Staffing – we had several interviews for the nurse and the dietitian positions. An offer was accepted for the immunization nurse pending verification of license. Karen asked if there were any questions on the department's progress report in the board packet.

### **Environmental Health Director's Report**

Increases in our Retail Food Inspection frequency due to Matt getting trained. He will be signed off soon. Greg stated that the department has three pressing issues they are working on with community partners:

- West Nile Virus analysis,
- Floodplain Map revision planning,
- Private Burial Ordinance revision.

Each of these will be in collaboration with different stakeholder groups.

In the case of West Nile Virus, we'll be assisting Cedaredge with their plans for developing a surveillance and education program while also working with North Fork Mosquito District to identify gaps in county mitigation efforts. We are hosting a surveillance and mitigation call with Mesa County's Mosquito District for Cedaredge and the Town of Orchard City. Commissioner Suppes pointed out that this discussion has happened before; discussions were around expansion of the existing districts. There are possible funding questions but timing is a huge factor.

We will be defining the problem with data before there is a possible solution proposed. We are hoping that a better understanding of the surveillance picture and the trap data may benefit this proposal for both Cedaredge and the Town of Orchard City. Discussion during the meeting covered some of the past conversations regarding cost/benefits of expanding vs adding a new district in the future.

As Floodplain map revision progresses, we'll be outlining the county's responsibilities, identifying educational opportunities, and updating our permitting processes. Greg sent to the BOH the Homeowner Handout that will be revised for the coming revision process.

In October Greg met with Teri Stephenson and Lance Boren to look for ways to tighten up the documentation process with private burials. The goal is to have a more

descriptive process that assists family members in meeting the expectations of the private burial ordinance and support the private burial documentation requirements.

Karen stated that the process of appointing a Floodplain Administer was not clear and that the department was scouring through BOH and BOCC documents to see who was officially appointed. Greg reached out to determine who and how this designation should occur. Doug Mahan with Colorado Water Conservation Board stated that this is a county level discretionary matter. Commissioner Suppes stated that he would have the county attorney look into it.

**4:07 pm Adjourn** - The Board of Health meeting was adjourned by Commissioner Suppes.

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