

1525 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80524, 970-498-6700, www.larimer.gov/health
Director Tom Gonzales, MPH

Board of Health

Christy Bush, MHS, President
Heather Weir, MPH, RD, Vice President
Bernard Birnbaum, MD
Brian Delgrosso
Tony J. Van Goor, MD

Mission:

Working to provide everyone in Larimer County the opportunity for a healthy life.

Vision:

Larimer County is a thriving, health-aware community where everyone has access to healthy choices and a healthy environment

MINUTES

LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

April 17, 2025

The Larimer County Board of Health (BoH) convened their regular meeting at 6:00 p.m, in-person, at 1525 Blue Spruce Rd, Fort Collins, CO, 80524 and virtually through the Zoom platform.

Board of Health Members: Ms Christy Bush, MHS, President
Ms Heather Weir, MPH, RD, Vice President
Dr Tony J. Van Goor, MD
Dr Bernard Birnbaum, MD
Mr Brian DelGrosso

Executive Secretary: Mr Tom Gonzales, MPH, Public Health Director

Staff: Dr Paul Mayer, MD, Medical Officer
Ms Andrea Clement-Johnson, MS, Deputy Public Health Director
Mr John Voss, Accounting and Business Operations Manager
Ms Kori Wilford, MPH, Communications and Technology Manager
Mr Matt Bauer, Communicable Disease and Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager
Dr Jared Olson, Senior Population Epidemiologist
Ms Kimberly Baker, Health in All Policies Coordinator
Ms Liv Kraus, Senior Department Specialist (Recorder)

Call to Order - The President called the regular BoH meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment - No Public Comment was made.

Approval of March 20, 2025 Minutes



Action - Dr Birnbaum moved to approve the minutes as written. Ms Weir seconded the motion.

Motion was unanimously approved.

Financial Report

The BoH was provided with the first quarterly financial report of 2025.

Discussion points:

- There are no concerns as to whether or not LCDHE will be in compliance with the budget.
- The fund balance includes a \$55,000 carryover from 2024 from the Board of County Commissioners, intended for the construction of the air quality monitoring station in Loveland.
- The BoH expressed concerns about federal funding, particularly the ongoing court case involving COVID ELC funds. Given that 18% of LCDHE programs depend on federal resources, there is considerable worry about the next federal funding cycle starting October 1st. While the State compensated for reduced STI testing funds, some apprehension exists regarding PHEP funding via the CDC.
- The county budget office is collaborating with accounting managers across departments to gather data and assess potential federal funding impacts for each department.

Action - Dr Van Goor moved to approve the \$55,000 carryover for the Loveland ozone monitor that would increase the projected fund balance usage from \$81,369 to \$135,369. Mr DelGrosso seconded the motion.

Motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

National Infant Immunization Week Proclamation

The BoH was provided with an overview of the LCDHE immunization program.

Discussion points:

- Our immunization programming continues to serve as a vital gap-filler for individuals who are uninsured, underinsured, have Medicaid, or are of American Indian or Alaskan Native descent, ensuring equitable access to essential vaccinations.
- The clinic supports both our community and partners by offering expert guidance on immunization topics and events. One such event is National Infant Immunization Week (NIIW), observed April 21–28 this year.



- NIIW began over two decades ago to promote measles vaccination and reinforce disease prevention during a time of widespread misinformation.
- In preparation for this year's observance, Dr. Mayer provided a vaccination update to staff working with pregnant individuals, families, and community partners. This included effective messaging strategies, information on maternal immunity, and updates on measles and other vaccine-preventable diseases.
- Throughout the week, Nurse Family Partnership and Maternal Child Health teams are distributing developmental milestone booklets that include an immunization tracking tool to the families and communities they serve.
- The LCDHE Communications Team has played a crucial role in raising awareness about vaccine importance. The educational materials they developed will continue to serve as valuable resources.
- BoH members reaffirmed the importance of vaccines for disease prevention, especially in light of the current measles outbreak, which is the largest in the U.S. since 2019.

Action - Dr Van Goor moved to approve the proclamation as written. Dr Birnbaum seconded the motion.

Motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was briefly recessed for a picture.

Measles Prevention & Outbreak Response Planning

Discussion points:

- The BoH was provided with an overview of symptoms and treatment of measles. Measles is the most infectious communicable disease known.
- The measles vaccine is 93% effective after one dose and 97% effective after two doses, making it one of the most highly effective vaccines.
- The measles infection can spread to others starting four days before the rash appears and continues to be contagious for four days after the rash starts. The quarantine period is 21 days after exposure.
- 97% of measles cases are unvaccinated or have unknown vaccination status.
- Colorado currently has three confirmed cases. Each case demands a substantial amount of resources for case investigation and contact tracing. LCDHE staff are receiving just-in-time (JIT) training to assist with contact tracing efforts.
- Prevention efforts have included healthcare provider outreach and community partner outreach in high risk settings and populations.
- LCDHE has been working on isolation efforts for persons experiencing homelessness.
- Efforts are being directed toward schools with low vaccination rates, including strategies to combine resources to improve vaccination access.

- More than 40 Points of Dispensing (PODs) for vaccination have been identified throughout the county, and preparation for off-site clinics is underway.
- For vaccination PODs, we would utilize a flexible clinic flow and capacity model, enabling us to adapt our operational setup according to the specific needs of the communities we serve. This approach allows for adjustments in staffing levels, physical layout, and appointment scheduling.
- LCDHE has launched a website dedicated to providing information about measles.
- Providers received widespread email communication containing essential information. Additionally, a letter detailing Measles information was shared with schools, childcares, and camps.
- Over 60 staff members participated in JIT training.

UPDATES

Director's Update

The Director guided the Board to the Director's Update in the packet. He highlighted the following:

- Shann Holt, WIC Supervisor, received the 2025 Outstanding Preceptor Award from the Academy of Nutrition & Dietetics, based on a nomination from Colorado State University. The Academy only gives six of these awards each year across the country.
- Staff celebrated National Public Health Week from April 7-11. Events from the week included morning and afternoon walks, volunteer opportunities, a visit from an emotional support dog, an all-staff celebration with a keynote speaker, and an event with Colorado State University.

Board Member Updates

- BoH members raised questions regarding proposed legislative changes and bills at both the state and federal levels. Senate Bill 285 proposes a 60% increase in retail food license fees over three years. House Bill 1002 aims to clarify the process for medical necessity determination for mental health services and that utilization review should be based on criteria and guidelines developed by unaffiliated, nationally recognized, not for profit clinical associations. The intent of House Bill 1025 regarding the stockpile of essential materials is to distribute items nearing expiration.

Adjourn Meeting

The President moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7.13 p.m.