

LARIMER COUNTY | HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

1525 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524, 970.498.6700, Larimer.org/health

Director Tom Gonzales, MPH, REHS
BOARD OF HEALTH

Bernard Birnbaum, MD, President
Brian DelGrosso, Vice President
Jennifer Lee, MS
Janna West Kowalski, MS
Tony J. Van Goor, MD

Mission:

Provide everyone in Larimer County the opportunity for a healthy life.

Vision:

Is a thriving, health-aware community where everyone has access to healthy choices and a healthy environment.

LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH – November 18, 2021

The Larimer County Board of Health (BoH) convened their regular meeting at 6:01pm through the Zoom virtual platform due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Members Present: Dr. Bernard Birnbaum
Jennifer Lee
Dr. Tony J. Van Goor
Janna West Kowalski
Brian DelGrosso

Executive Secretary: Tom Gonzales

County Staff: Andrea Clement-Johnson, John Voss, Dr. Jared Olson, Phillip Daniel, Kelsey Lyon, Chris Manley, Kelli Curl, Kori Wilford, Laura Walker, Commissioner John Kefalas, Dr. Paul Mayer, Frank Haug

Call to Order - Dr. Bernard Birnbaum, Board President, called the regular Board of Health meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment - Jeff Aufderheide, Wellington; Nicky Galbraith, Fort Collins; Kerri Park, Fort Collins; Nancy Eason, Fort Collins; Karen Artell, Fort Collins; Suzy Rains, Fort Collins; Katie Cassis, Fort Collins; Jim Winebrener, Fort Collins; Gena Burke, Fort Collins; Heather Lahdenpera, Fort Collins; Shelley LaMastra, Fort Collins; Jessica Kraus, Fort Collins; Tracy Nelson, Fort Collins; Nolan Brown, Loveland; Rebekah Burley, Fort Collins; Meghan Downing, Timnath; Tasha (last name and location unknown); Sarah Faour (location unknown); Lisa (last name and location unknown); Tonya (last name and location unknown) all made public comment.

Approval of October 21, 2021 Minutes

Action - Janna West Kowalski motioned to approve. Jennifer Lee seconded the motion. Brian DelGrosso also seconded the motion.

Motion was unanimously approved.

Approval of November 9, 2021 Minutes

Dr. Tony J. Van Goor asked that the minutes be amended to include “with counsel” at the end of the sentence reading, “felt handicapped to make a decision and the constitutional issues were something he is not personally equipped to deal with at this stage”. Frank Haug, Assistant County Attorney II, stated that we would watch the recording to see whether or not that was said. He also stated that the Board can approve the minutes and that if that statement was made, it would be added, but cautioned that if it was not said, we couldn’t add it.



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

John Kefalas, District I

Kristin Stephens, District II

Jody Shadduck-McNally, District III

Action - Dr. Tony J. Van Goor motioned to approve, with amendment. Jennifer Lee seconded the motion.

Motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Discuss Amendments to By-Laws - Frank Haug, Assistant County Attorney II, presented the proposed amendments to the Board of Health by-laws. A discussion was held regarding section H.4.a-e. (scope of review).

Action - Janna West Kowalski motioned to approve with amendments, removing the redline from section H.4.e. Dr. Tony J. Van Goor seconded the motion.

Motion was unanimously approved.

2020-2025 Strategic Plan Objectives Report - Talia Hirsch, Program Coordinator for Strategic Planning Initiatives, updated the Board on the department's progress on the 2020-2025 Strategic Plan.

UPDATES

COVID-19 Status Update - Tom Gonzales, Public Health Director, presented on the Larimer County COVID-19 Hospital Decompression Strategies.

Dr. Jared Olson, Senior Population Epidemiologist, presented an update on current and historic hospital admissions data, vaccinations and hospitalizations by county, case rates among older adults, and case rates by vaccination status.

Dr. Paul Mayer, Medical Officer, presented an update on monoclonal antibodies and the oral antiviral, Paxlovid.

Andrea Clement-Johnson, Deputy Public Health Director, presented an update on vaccinations in Larimer County.

Director's Update-

Tom Gonzales, Public Health Director, and Kelsey Lyon, Health Planning and Partnership Supervisor, presented on the Academic Health Department Partnership with Colorado State University. Molly Gutilla, Assistant Professor at the Colorado School of Public Health, Bruce Alexander, Head of Environmental and Radiologic Health Sciences at the Colorado School of Public Health, and Tracy Nelson, Director of the Colorado School of Public Health at Colorado State University, spoke about the Academic Health Department Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and the Advisory Committee that was recently formed. This partnership allows for sharing of resources and opportunities for research and student development between the Larimer County Department of Health and Environment and Colorado State University.

Board Member Updates - Brian DelGrosso raised a question regarding ICU utilization. A discussion was held surrounding ICU utilization and mask wearing in Larimer County.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.