

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

Board of Health

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

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

January 18, 2024

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: Dr Tony J. Van Goor, MD, President
Dr Bernard Birnbaum, MD
Ms Christy Bush, MHS, Vice President
Ms Heather Weir, MPH, RD

Excused : Mr Brian DelGrosso

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

Staff: Commissioner John Kefalas
Ms Andrea Clement-Johnson, MS, Deputy Public Health Director
Ms Erika Cathey, MPH, Communicable Disease and Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager
Mr Chris Manley, Environmental Health Director
Mr John Voss, Accounting and Business Operations Manager
Ms Kori Wilford, MPH, Communications and Technology Manager
Ms Kristin Schaeffer, Clinical Services Program Manager
Ms Meg Vertovec, Senior Nurse Practitioner
Ms Talia Hirsch, Strategic Planning & Health Equity Initiatives Program Supervisor
Ms Kimberly Baker, Health in All Policies Coordinator
Ms Bron MacGregor, Executive Assistant (Recorder)
Ms Olivia Kraus, Senior Department Specialist

Call to Order - The President called the regular BoH meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Public Comment - No Public Comment was made.

Approval of December 21, 2023 Minutes

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

Motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

National Radon Action Month Proclamation

Discussion points:

- Radon is the second leading cause of lung cancer in the United States.
- Average radon test results were double what the EPA recommends at ~8.0 pCi/L.
- It is recommended that testing is redone every two-three years, even if there are mitigation systems in place.
- Five hundred radon test kits were distributed by LCDHE in 2023.
- LCDHE has partnered with CSU Extension which allowed for a greater distribution of radon kits and shared outreach.
- The type of home construction can make homes more susceptible to radon, particularly if there are cracks in the foundation, basement or crawl space.
- Messaging is distributed with the kits so the community knows what steps can be taken next and options for financial assistance with mitigation.
- Any shift in geology and soil can result in a change in radon levels.
- The accuracy of electronic radon monitoring systems is good, and another option for completing testing in your home.

The National Radon Action Month Proclamation was presented for approval by the Board.

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

Motion was unanimously approved.

The Board called a 3 minute recess for a photograph.



Health in All Policies Annual Update

Discussion points:

- Coordination and collaboration with the Larimer County Legislative Coordinator and Public Policy Director of CALPHO.
- Health in All Policies is one of the most impactful opportunities the department has, especially with implementation at the local level.
- Research conducted on the health impacts of current and proposed policy, and presentation of information to leadership and key staff.
- One of the bills being developed is the prevention of workplace violence in healthcare settings.
- Efforts to address the Opioid crisis and the need for school staff to be trained in the use of Narcan. Distribution of Narcan to schools has been recommended by the State Department of Education.
- Reducing barriers and increasing access to behavioral and primary health care within schools.
- Legislative updates in the packet will be helpful to the Board during the legislative season.
- Reception of Health in All Policies by Community Partners and the education needed.
- The value of the Health in All Policies and health equity.

UPDATES

Director's Update

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

- The LCDHE Clinical Services team was selected to participate as a subrecipient in the Title X Federal Review and is the only Local Public Health Agency selected.
- CDPHE Family Planning Program Medical Director commended the Clinical Services team on their excellent work.
- Removal of barriers and cultivation of culturally responsive efforts to provide equitable sexual and reproductive health services.
- Collaboration with the Northern Colorado Health Network.
- The rapid increase in syphilis cases is influenced by various factors and also corresponds with limited availability of necessary drugs.

Board Member Updates

- The Board Self-Evaluation will be discussed at a later meeting.
- The annual combined Board of County Commissioners and Board of Health meeting will be scheduled soon.

Adjourn Meeting

The President moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:12 p.m.