

1525 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins, CO 80524, 970-498-6700
Director Tom Gonzales, MPH

Board of Health

Christy Bush, MHS, President
Brian Delgrosso, Vice President
Bernard Birnbaum, MD
Tony J. Van Goor, MD, MMM
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

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MINUTES

LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

June 20, 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: Ms Christy Bush, MHS, President
Mr Brian DelGrosso, Vice President
Ms Heather Weir, MPH, RD (virtual)
Dr Tony J. Van Goor, MD

Excused: Dr Bernard Birnbaum, MD

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

Staff: Ms Andrea Clement-Johnson, MS, Deputy Public Health Director
Mr Chris Manley, Environmental Health Director
Ms Erika Cathey, MPH, Communicable Disease and Emergency Preparedness and Response Manager
Mr John Voss, Accounting and Business Operations Manager
Ms Kori Wilford, MPH, Communications and Technology Manager
Mr Matthew Behunin, Larimer County Senior Budget Analyst
Ms Bron MacGregor, Executive Assistant (Recorder)
Ms Olivia Kraus, Senior Department Specialist
Nina Wickens-Bhowmik, Population Epidemiologist
Ms Jennifer Wolfe-Kimbell, Communications Coordinator

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 May 16, 2024 Minutes

Action - Mr DelGrosso moved to approve the minutes as written. Dr Van Goor seconded the motion.

Motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

2025 Budget Considerations

Discussion points:

- Larimer County's Senior Budget Analyst presented an overview of the budget framework, forecasts, targets and the process timeline which runs until fall 2024.
- Discussion regarding the impact of property taxes, considering bipartisan Senate Bill SB24-233 which caps revenue growth at 5.5%, and scenarios in which Initiatives 50 and 105 are passed by ballot in the fall, which would require budget adjustments.
- The County uses incremental budgeting because it is largely statutory, resulting in most program funding remaining the same as in the prior year, with incremental changes.
- HR will discuss staff salaries at a work session with the Board of County Commissioners (BoCC). Any increases will be included in the Target Budget.
- The Board of Health is required by statute to submit the LCDHE budget to BoCC by no later than August 30th, 2024.
- Sales tax revenue is expected to drop due to a shift from retail goods to services, in spite of inflation for various reasons.
- Personnel costs are calculated at the average rate of 3.4%, to account for staff retirements and anniversary dates occurring throughout the year.
- Yearly variances and Mill Levy credits were discussed. 2024 is a non-reappraisal year.
- County internal overheads, which include various crucial services such as Human Resources, Facilities, IT, Utilities, Janitorial services, the County Attorney and the Budget offices, are covered by indirect rate from programs that receive outside revenues..
- LCDHE is applying for a three-year waiver for the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program, which falls under the federal budget year. If approved, the waiver would lower expenses but not impact the budget target.



- Review of the General Fund Reserves Forecast assumptions. These are contingency funds that would be needed for things such as disasters, recession, large lawsuits.
- Questions were raised about how the two initiatives might work in synergy, if both passed the ballot. This would require a constitutional amendment.
- The BoCC has authority to amend the county budget at any time, in the event of an emergency.

UPDATES

Director's Update

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

- The Youth Action for Health Coalition was recently awarded a \$2,000 SAMHSA Honorable Mention Award for their work on the fentanyl crisis, which will fund the production of a short film. The film will be released at a free community event, where fentanyl test strips and Narcan will also be made available to the public.
- Narcan and fentanyl test strips are being distributed through the Northern Colorado Health Network as well as by LCDHE and schools.
- A new partnership has been formed to enhance mosquito surveillance and trapping efforts within the Town of Berthoud to address the substantial swings in the vector index. Five new traps have been added to the area, and the Communicable Disease Intern is collecting data to be provided to the community, to help inform the Town's mosquito control policies.
- Larimer County tends to see the highest human West Nile Virus (WNV) cases in the nation.
- Two members of the Leadership Team have been enrolled in a year-long Leadership training program at RIHEL, beginning in August 2024.

Board Member Updates

A reminder that there will be no Board of Health meeting in July.

The president offered her apologies for her absence at the meeting in September.

Adjourn Meeting

The President moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.