

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

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

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

Staff: Commissioner John Kefalas
Ms Andrea Clement-Johnson, MS, Deputy Public Health Director
Dr Paul Mayer, MD, Medical Officer
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 Talia Hirsch, Strategic Planning, Health Equity and Partnerships Program Supervisor
Dr Jared Olson, PhD, Senior Population Epidemiologist
Ms Bron MacGregor, Executive Assistant (Recorder)

Ms Olivia Kraus, Senior Department Specialist
Ms Kimberly Baker, Health in All Policies Coordinator

Community Partners: Kelsey Baun, Larimer County Economic and Workforce Development/
NOCO Works
Terri Runyan, City of Fort Collins, Communities of Excellence
Dr. Jennifer Guthals, Youth Mental Health Task Force, Thompson
School District (virtual)

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

Public Comment - There was no public comment made.

Approval of March 21, 2024 Minutes

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

Motion was unanimously approved.

Financial Report

Discussion points:

- No concerns were raised regarding the 2024 budget.

NEW BUSINESS

2024 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) Approval

Discussion points:

- External partners and community members personally spoke in support of the CHIP and several submitted written support.
- The process of identifying the CHIP priorities in collaboration with partners representing many perspectives was discussed.
- Improve Access to Data and Evaluation, Align Strategically and Integrate Health Priorities into Policy Making strategies are included in the CHIP to effectively address the Social Environment and Community and Mental Health CHIP priorities.
- The 2024-2029 CHIP includes short-term, actionable, and measurable projects in order to assess success and return on investment of time and resources.
- Community-building spaces include virtual and physical spaces, not housing.



- The creation of a community repository of data sharing resources and intended maintenance of this information source was addressed.
- CHIP presenters were encouraged to make efforts to ensure the work is not overly urban-centric.
- The superconvenor strategy will be an important component of CHIP partnerships and progress.
- Sustainability of the CHIP to ensure it is not reliant on a small group of community champions was discussed.
- The Board expressed their enthusiasm and appreciation for the team's hard work on the creation of the CHIP framework and plan.

Action - Dr Birnbaum moved to approve the 2024-2029 Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) as written. Ms Weir seconded the motion.

Motion was unanimously approved.

The Board called a brief recess to take a picture.

National Infant Immunization Week Proclamation

Discussion points:

- A decline in MMR immunizations at the clinic and school level have recently been occurring due to such factors as vaccine hesitations and delays in wellness checks and vaccination following the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Reminder recall of overdue patients, data review, and education and outreach strategies have been prioritized by the department, and will continue to be strategies employed, to address these declines.
- Private and public healthcare providers can take actions using evidence-based strategies to ensure immunizations are administered in a timely manner and to see county-wide improvements in childhood vaccination rates.
- There are sometimes process barriers faced by parents who are required to provide vaccination records for their children to school districts.
- Vaccination champions across the entire community can play an important role in improving vaccination rates and preventing disease outbreaks.

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

Motion was unanimously approved.

Consideration of Position Letter Regarding SB24-43

Discussion points:

- The Board raised various concerns to opposing the bill, including :
 - The number of people affected over a period of time.
 - Inconsistency regarding consumption of other food that are not as heavily regulated.
 - A suggestion that the focus is shifted towards education of the risks or lobbying for language access on food labels.
 - A Board member would prefer to support a sugar-sweetened beverage tax and is concerned about the dangers of cigarettes and alcohol.
 - The Board requested that the opposing argument also be presented, in future requests for the consideration of the opposition or support of a Bill.

Annual Communicable Disease Program Report

Discussion points:

- Reviewed the scope and role of the Communicable Disease team and shared disease investigation metrics, including interview completion rates and timeliness measures.
- Highlighted notable communicable disease investigations from 2023 and shared team goals for 2024.

UPDATES

Director's Update

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

- National Public Health Week and the celebration of WIC's 50th anniversary.
- The Leadership team's attendance at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Emerging and Zoonotic Infectious Diseases (NCEZID).
- Environmental Health Director has been elected as the Regional Vice President for the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) for Region 3.

Board Member Updates

- The May 2024 Board of Health meeting will include a conversation with the Board of County Commissioners.
- Dr Van Goor will be away for the May 2024 meeting.

Action - Mr DelGrosso moved to cancel the July 18, 2024 Board of Health meeting. Dr Van Goor seconded the motion.

Motion was unanimously approved.

Adjourn Meeting

Mr DelGrosso moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.