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

March 20, 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 Dr Tony J. Van Goor, MD (virtual) Dr Bernard Birnbaum, MD Ms Heather Weir, MPH, RD
Excused:	Mr Brian DelGrosso, Vice President
Executive Secretary:	Mr Tom Gonzales, MPH, Public Health Director
Staff:	Dr Paul Mayer, MD, Medical Officer Mr John Voss, Accounting and Business Operations Manager Ms Kori Wilford, MPH, Communications and Technology Manager Dr Jared Olson, Senior Population Epidemiologist Ms Bron MacGregor, Executive Assistant (Recorder) Ms Jo Buckley, Community Health Improvement Plan Coordinator Ms Kimberley Baker, Health in All Policies Coordinator Mr Frank Haug, County Attorney Ms Liv Kraus, Senior Department Specialist

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 February 20, 2025 Minutes

Action - Dr Van Goor moved to approve the minutes as written. Ms Weir seconded the motion.
Motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Health Week Joint Proclamation

The BoH was given an overview of the activities planned for Public Health Week which will take place between April 7 and 11, 2025.

Discussion points:

- Invitations to the CSU/LCDHE event will be sent out to all BoH members.
- A BoH member emphasized that it is essential for the Board to underscore the significance of Public Health at this time.

Action - Dr Birnbaum moved to approve the joint proclamation as written. Ms Weir seconded the motion.
Motion was unanimously approved.

The meeting was briefly recessed for pictures.

Board of Health Self-Evaluation Assessment Tool

Discussion points:

- The language and questions on the BoH self-evaluation assessment have been revised and updated.
- The BoH discussed strategies to evaluate the department's impact on the community and address the needs of residents in rural areas.
- Questions will be broadened to encompass language that addresses policy guidance recommendations, with the goal of providing oversight for the entire Larimer County community.
- It remains the Executive Secretary's responsibility to send the report to the President and all results will be anonymous.

Action - Dr Birnbaum moved to approve the proposed revisions to questions 1, 5 and 8 as amended. Dr Van Goor seconded the motion.
The motion was unanimously approved.

Election of Board of Health Officers

Discussion points:

- Dr Birnbaum has only one year left of his second term of office on the BoH.

  Action - Dr Birnbaum nominated Ms Bush for appointment as President and Ms Weir for appointment as Vice President of the Board of Health. Ms Weir seconded the motion. ***The motion was unanimously approved.***

UPDATES

Director's Update

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

- The CHIP Coordinator and Senior Population Epidemiologist gave an update on the CHIP event, held at The Drake Center on February 26, 2025. The bilingual event was deemed successful, with positive feedback from attendees and the distribution of card decks, designed to initiate conversations and break the ice, was well-received.
- Nearly half of the people who attended the CHIP Event were not part of the CHIP focus groups or the Community Health Assessment (CHA). The outreach and community connection activities over the past year have demonstrated significant progress.
- A BoH member who had attended the CHIP event was very impressed with the event and the level of community participation.
- The "Smog Collectors" Art Exhibit, a collaboration with CSU and other partners, saw record attendance.
- Concerns were raised about a possible measles outbreak in the local area. This follows an initial statewide measles tabletop exercise, with a follow-up meeting to be scheduled. Additional information will be provided at the April 2025 BoH meeting.
- Engagement with the medical community will be included in the discussion at the April, 2025 work session.

Board Member Updates
The execution of the CHIP Meeting was excellent. Compliments were paid to the CHIP Coordinator and Senior Epidemiologist.

The anxiety in the healthcare community is rising due to the potential Medicaid cuts and the subsequent effect on healthcare accessibility. This concern is compounded by the fact that the

Colorado Indigent Care Program (CICP), which previously provided supplemental care for the uninsured, may no longer be sufficient to meet the needs of this population.

Due to the State deficit of over $1 billion, there have been many discussions at the State level around impacts to public health mandated programs such as vaccines, funding from the CDC, and emergency preparedness and response. Public Health's role is to help understand access challenges by providing data and convening partners.

Adjourn Meeting

The President moved to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7.02 p.m.