

FREMONT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
February 19, 2026

The Fremont County Board of Health meeting for February was held on February 19, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. in the Fremont County Administration Building, 615 Macon Avenue, Room 208, Cañon City, Colorado.

The following Board Members were in attendance:

Debbie Bell – Commissioner
Dwayne McFall – Commissioner

The following staff were in attendance:

Tony Carochi – County Administrator
Shawn Sutton – Assistant County Administrator
Eric Bellas – County Attorney
Richard Gutierrez – Public Health Director
Amy Jamison – Environmental Health Specialist
Autumn Dever – Office, Grant and Financial Administrator
Domoni A. Toler – Minutes Secretary

I) **Roll Call:**

The meeting was called to order by BOH Chairman McFall at 2:00 p.m.

II) **Approval of Minutes from January 27, 2026:**

Chairman McFall called for any changes or corrections to the January 27, 2026, Minutes. No changes or corrections were suggested.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the Minutes of January 27, 2026, as drafted; Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Fremont County Board of Health Minutes of January 27, 2026, are approved.

III) **Approval of Agenda:**

Chairman McFall called for any changes or additions to today's Agenda. No changes or additions were suggested.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the Agenda; Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Agenda is approved.

IV) **Approval of Financial Reports – Autumn Dever:**

1. **January 2026 Information:**

- The Fund Balance and Budget Reports were provided and discussed.
- Autumn advised that the November services provided but not yet reimbursed total \$12,744.77. December services provided but not yet reimbursed total \$38,681.09. The January fund balance is \$2,661,382.28, which is an increase of \$48,472.81 from December derived primarily from the quarterly OPHP payment.

2. **Grants/Funding Updates:**

- The Grant Spending Report for January 2026 was provided and discussed.
- The fiscal year 2027 grant budgeting and projections have begun. The STEPP budget was submitted this morning and the PDD information was received this afternoon so work will begin on that budget as well.
- A meeting with the auditor was held on Tuesday and that went well.
- Trash voucher disbursement will begin on March 16, 2026, and run through April 30, 2026, or until all of the vouchers are gone. There will be 280 vouchers given out, which is the same number given out last year. This year the dates correspond with the City's clean-up dates. Marketing of the program will begin next week, and a copy of the voucher was provided to the Board.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the Financial Reports; Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Financial Reports are accepted.

V) **Citizens not already scheduled on the Agenda may address the Board at this time:**

None.

VI) **Old Business:** None.

VII) **New Business:** None.

VIII) **Directors' Reports:**

1. **Environmental Health Report – Amy Jamison:**

- **New Establishments:**
 - **Brandee's Bites and Smokem All BBQ:** Plan Reviews were received, and these mobile units are now operational.

- **Inspection #'s (including re-inspections and interventions):**

- **Retail Food:** 11 routine inspections; 4 re-inspections; 1 consultative visit; and 1 complaint.
- **Child Care:** 4 routine inspections; and 4 follow-up inspections.
- **Schools:** 1 high risk routine inspection; 2 low risk routine inspections; and 2 follow-up inspections.
- **Other:** 1 body art preoperational inspection; 1 transfer station inspection; and 1 landfill site inspection.

A Completed Inspections Report was provided to the Board.

- **Complaints/Closures:**

- **Complaint - Safeway:** A moldy pre-made deli sandwich was reported. The complainant got half-way through eating it and discovered the lunch meat was moldy. Amy could not verify the moldy lunch meat, but she spoke with a deli employee who indicated that maybe the way the lettuce sat over the lunch meat it could make it appear discolored. Also, there was a complaint about a live bird in the store and Safeway had the bird removed by a bird removal company.
- **Complaint - Econo Lodge Swimming Pool:** A complaint was received regarding a strong chemical smell; that pool tiles are missing on the bottom of the pool; that there are little chunks of glitter floating around in the pool that might possibly be bits of cement and the sides of the pool are covered in a dry green mold that people have actually written their autographs in. Econo Lodge was due for their food inspection, so Amy checked out the pool as well and there was actually no chlorine in the pool at the time. The Swimming Pool and Mineral Bath Regulations state that if there is no disinfectant concentration in the pool, the pool should be closed until it is remedied, and she instructed them to close the pool. Amy could not see through the water in the pool and there were autographs on the side of the pool, however, Rick did not think it was mold but rather scum residue. Amy discussed these issues with the manager and pointed that out the Regulations require testing three times per day, one manual test and two electronic tests, and that they need to be record keeping. Econo Lodge is supposed to notify Public Health before they are ready to reopen, and it is hoped that they will get into compliance and can resume pool operations. This is only the second swimming pool complaint Amy has received in the last eight years.

- **Program Updates/Other:**

- Amy conducted a Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) exam yesterday and 11 out of the 12 participants passed. Amy is already receiving requests for another session in March.

- There have been 174 out of 200 retail food license renewals received. Second notices were sent out last week.
- The School and Childcare Program Representative with the Local Assistance Program (LAP) was here for joint inspections in the last week of January. No formal assessments were provided to Amy as written assessments have already been done for the fiscal year (received in September 2025). However, the representative did tell Amy that she is wonderful!
- The State Board of Health approved the proposed updated School Regulations, and they will go into effect on August 1, 2026.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to accept the Environmental Health Report; Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Environmental Health Report is accepted.

2. **Public Health Report – Richard Gutierrez:**

- **Clinic and Program Updates:**

- Congratulations to Amy for receiving a wonderful personal assessment from the LAP representative.
- As anticipated, there has been a slight increase in TB testing due to enrollment in the Nursing and C.N.A. programs at PCC.
- There have been four cases of TB reported this week. None of the cases have been deemed contagious and Public Health is following all necessary protocols.
- The 2026 World TB Day Symposium held by CDPHE is scheduled for March 24, 2026.
- The annual Safety Town event will be held April 14-16, 2026, at Fremont County Head Start.
- Lead screenings for one and two-year-olds at Starpoint are tentatively scheduled for late June 2026.

- **Program Highlights:**

- STEPP Program Update:
 - Brandy completed training modules required through FCDPHE and is working to complete those required by CDPHE through the STEPP Program and the Baby and Me Tobacco Free training.
 - Brandy has been meeting with various community partners such as Solvista, GOAL Academy, GTI, Kindred Kids, and Chaffee County and she has been attending ARC meetings. She also continues to collaborate with Michelle on joint groups such as the Youth Action Board and The Dish.

- Brandy is working on distributing “No Smoking” signs to reduce second-hand smoke per the Implementation Plan.
 - Work has been done on restructuring the 2026 budget to utilize underspent funds, and a draft of the 2027 budget was submitted to the State today.
- PDD Program Update:
- The third DUI Task Force meeting was held on February 11, 2026, with an average of 15-16 individuals in attendance. The Task Force will be working on a fallen officer event. Their next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2026.
 - The third Youth Action Board meeting was held on February 11, 2026. Their next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2026. The Board would like to move their meetings from the Boys and Girls Club to Garden Park due to the lighting in the loft at the Boys and Girls Club.
 - The Dish (Community Engagement Event) held its third event on February 3, 2026. Michelle and Brandy are working on ideas for future events.
 - Michelle and Emma (from El Paso County) presented at the Pikes Peak Winter Symposium on January 28, 2026.
 - Michelle was selected to present (virtually) at The Culture of Data Conference in April.
- SBLOCK Program Update:
- The SBLOCK Grant is ending at the end of June 2026 and the EPIC Grant, which could have replaced the SBLOCK Grant, was not awarded to FCDPHE. Other options are being explored to keep the program and not lose it entirely. Michelle has been looking into utilizing some of the underspent funds as she finishes out the grant cycle.
- Opioid Program Update:
- Rick attended the Region 15 Opioid Abatement Council meeting on February 17, 2026. Discussion was held regarding the need for an MOU and measurable and trackable expenditures.
- PHEP Program Update:
- COVID numbers decreased from 50 in December to 40 in January, and flu numbers decreased from 15 in December to 7 in January.

- Vital Records Department Update:
 - A new Vital Records Clerk, Sydney Danielson, has been hired and she is currently being trained by Autumn and Michelle.
 - Fremont County Vital Records received a score of 100% on the Second 2025 Application Audit performed by the Office of the State Registrar. A Perfect Performance Award was received and a copy provided to the Board. Discussion was had regarding including this on a future BOCC Agenda for recognition.

- Other:
 - Rick received notice that the Infrastructure Grant is at risk of being impacted by federal cuts. A hearing is scheduled for February 25, 2026, at which time it is hoped that more will be revealed regarding the rationale for cutting funds.
 - The public hearing for approval of the proposed Body Art Regulations will be held on March 10, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.
 - Rick provided an update on CDPHE's Financial Risk Management System (FRMS) audit. Check-ins are being done by CDPHE by email only, rather than in person, and two invoice cycles will need to be reviewed before a low-risk rating can be achieved. Staff are well aware of the importance of ensuring that policies and procedures are followed and that proper time entries are made using the time allocation spreadsheet Autumn and Rick created.
 - New applications for Medicaid and United Health recredentialing are in the works because Public Health was previously designated as a home health provider and that designation must be corrected.
 - Rick met with the Practicum and Career Services Principal Professional from the Colorado School of Public Health to discuss the potential for a graduate intern to assist with the Community Health Improvement Plan. They also discussed potential opportunities for hosting Practicum/Capstone students who are interested in working in rural communities.
 - Rick met with Susan Hill with Next50 to discuss potential grant opportunities to assist with planning and implementing aging-related programs and services given that older adults represent a significant population in Fremont County. Rick also reached out to the Director with the Area Agency on Aging as a possible partner in this endeavor and will follow up with them.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to accept the Public Health Report; Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Public Health Report is accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m.