

FREMONT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
March 31, 2026

The Fremont County Board of Health meeting for March was held on March 31, 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
Kevin J. Grantham – 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 February 19, 2026:**

Chairman McFall called for any changes or corrections to the February 19, 2026, Minutes. No changes or corrections were suggested.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the Minutes of February 19, 2026, as drafted; Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Fremont County Board of Health Minutes of February 19, 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 Grantham made a motion to approve the Agenda; Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Agenda is approved.

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

1. **February 2026 Information:**

- The Fund Balance and Budget Reports were provided and discussed.
- Autumn advised that the December services provided but not yet reimbursed total \$7,251.27, which is the ELC2.3 payment for December as everything else has been paid. January services provided but not yet reimbursed total \$19,865.76. The February fund balance is \$2,663,357.25, which is less than a \$2,000.00 difference from the January 2026 fund balance.

2. **Grants/Funding Updates:**

- The Grant Spending Report for February 2026 was provided and discussed.
- A copy of newly introduced HB26-1274 was provided to the Board and discussed. The State works off of the reimbursement model wherein the cost has to be incurred, the State is billed, and then the provider is paid. This Bill will allow for the State to pay up to 25% of the total grant amount up front. The Bill will help smaller entities who don't have the funds to advance the costs.
- Trash vouchers became available for pick-up on March 16, 2026, and there are 71 trash vouchers remaining out of the approximate 200 vouchers that were available.
- Public Health still does not know what the funding amounts will be for OPHP (operating support dollars) or Environmental Health funding (portion that funds Amy's salary) for FY27 since the State is still working on balancing their budget. The cut could be anywhere between \$1.5M and \$3.3M. It has been recommended to use the amount of cuts for this year's award, which was about \$40,000.00 between the two programs, to do projections for current budgeting purposes.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the Financial Reports; Commissioner Grantham 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:**

1. **Amended MOU with Boys & Girls Club of Fremont County – Rick Gutierrez:**

The Boys & Girls Club provides the SMART Moves (Skills Mastery and Resilience Training) education program to the Boys & Girls Club members. Public Health is

providing \$14,400.00, in monthly payments of \$1,200.00, for the cost incurred to implement the SMART Moves curriculum.

Additional available Substance Abuse Prevention Block Grant funding for FY2025-2026 in the amount of \$12,000.00 will be provided to the Boys & Girls Club in three monthly payments of \$4,000.00 each for the costs incurred to implement and enhance programming between April 1, 2026 and June 30, 2026.

Commissioner Grantham made a motion to approve the Amended MOU for Substance Abuse Prevention Block Grant Collaboration with Boys & Girls Club of Fremont County contingent upon State approval; Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Amended MOU is approved contingent upon State approval.

2. **Amended MOU with CSU Extension of Fremont County – Rick Gutierrez:**

CSU Extension facilitates HEATHROCKS! to a minimum of 50 club members. They also provide youth-focused community inclusion events and information and education to parents to increase the perception of risk. Public Health is providing \$18,000.00, in monthly payments of \$1,500.00, for the cost incurred to implement the HEATHROCKS! curriculum.

Additional available Substance Abuse Prevention Block Grant funding for FY2025-2026 in the amount of \$12,000.00 will be provided to the CSU Extension of Fremont County in three monthly payments of \$4,000.00 each for the costs incurred to implement and enhance programming between April 1, 2026 and June 30, 2026.

Commissioner Bell made a motion to approve the Amended MOU for Substance Abuse Prevention Block Grant Collaboration with CSU Extension of Fremont County contingent upon State approval; Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Amended MOU is approved contingent upon State approval.

VIII) **Directors' Reports:**

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

• **New Establishments:**

- Dollar General and Dutch Bros.: Plan reviews have been approved but neither establishment is open yet.
- Burger Shack: Plan approval has been issued for this new mobile unit.
- Express Yourself: A plan review has been submitted for this new mobile unit.
- Smith's Snack Shack: A plan review was received yesterday for this new temporary event mobile unit.

- **Kopper Kettle**: They are supposedly moving to where the French restaurant was. Amy mailed them the required paperwork for the move, but no response has been received yet.

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

- **Retail Food**: 20 routine inspections; 4 re-inspections; 2 complaint inspections; and 1 consultative visit.
- **Child Care**: 3 routine inspections; 1 follow-up inspection.
- **Schools**: 4 follow-up inspections; and 1 complaint inspection.

A Completed Inspections Report was provided to the Board.

- **Complaints/Closures:**

- **Carl's Jr.-Complaint**: A complaint was received that their vent hood was not working and the place was very smokey. Amy went out the following day and the vent hood above the charbroiler was not working so they were just using the grill until it could be fixed.
- **El Renaldo's-Complaint**: The complainant said they observed one worker come out of the restroom with full apron and gloves on. Amy went and talked with them about the complaint and advised them accordingly.
- **Days Inn-Complaint**: The complainant said they received a staph infection from using the sheets and the towels. Amy could not verify the complaint, but she did speak with management about how they clean and launder their sheets and towels, and they provided more than adequate detail about their laundry procedures.
- **Florence Jr./Sr. High School-Complaint**: Amy received an interesting complaint about the school not having adequate ventilation and followed up on same.
- **Ortegas-Closure**: This restaurant closed last Saturday.

- **Program Updates/Other:**

- Amy conducted another Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) exam and 8 out of 8 participants passed.
- Only four license renewals remain unpaid. Those unpaid include Cutty's, Happy Apple Farm (he paid last year and then was unable to open) and Ozark Dog (he came in paid for one mobile unit last week and is supposed to come in and pay for the other one); and one more that Amy could not recall.
- The School Regulations updates have been accepted and there are a ton of training dates scheduled for July. Amy has been advised that the inspection process will be completely different.

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

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

• **Clinic and Program Updates:**

- TB testing increased at the beginning of the month due to the Nursing and C.N.A. students needing to be tested, but it has tapered down now.
- As a follow up on the four positive TB cases reported last month, two of those were from Kenya and one was from the Philippines. Public Health is waiting to hear back on their chest x-rays to confirm testing accuracy. The fourth individual is in custody and is currently being treated while in custody. Since that time, Public Health received another three positive tests and is currently working on going through the process to get chest x-rays done, etc.
- Public Health is working with Loaves & Fishes to resume their quarterly onsite STI testing and has provided them with numerous resources including Narcan, Fentanyl test strips, brochures, and more.
- A meeting with the City is scheduled for tomorrow to discuss resuming flu clinics with them to coincide with the Health Fair on October 29, 2026.
- Both nurses at Public Health attended the 2026 World TB Day Symposium on 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 is working with the Youth Action Board on the Passport Project, as well as media/advertising through the Implementation Plan and working with the STEPP Technical Assistants.
 - Brandy has been meeting with various community partners and meeting regularly with Custer County.
 - Brandy will attend the Colorado Community Engagement Workshop on March 31, 2026, in Golden; she will be presenting about vaping at Solvita on April 1, 2026; and will attend the Regional Tobacco Training April 22-23, 2026 in Denver.
 - The 2027 STEPP budget has been approved by the State.

- PDD Program Update:
 - The fourth DUI Task Force meeting was held on March 11, 2026. They are still averaging 15-16 in attendance. The Task Force is currently working on a fallen officer event and has chosen to honor Officer Trevor Staszak. Their next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2026.
 - The fourth Youth Action Board meeting was held on March 11, 2026. The Board is currently working on a Passport Project where students go to different organizations in the community to get their passport stamped. Their next meeting is scheduled for April 8, 2026, back at the Boys and Girls Club.
 - The Traffic Crash Dashboard launched on March 9, 2026, and was presented at the BOCC meeting on March 24, 2026.
 - Michelle will be presenting at the Culture of Data Conference on April 16, 2026, at 12:30 p.m. (virtually); the Shared Risk and Protective Factors Conference on April 29, 2026 at 11:30 a.m.; and she will attend the Life Savers Conference April 18-22, 2026 in Baltimore.

- SBLOCK Program Update:
 - Michelle and Sarah are working on organizing a sustainability summit with SBLOCK partners sometime in June.
 - Budgeting amendments have been completed and approved by the State.

- Opioid Program Update:
 - Rick attended the Region 15 Opioid Abatement Council meeting on March 25, 2026. The majority of the discussion was focused on data collection.
 - Rick has been attending the Addiction Recovery Counsel (ARC) meetings and has completed the fentanyl test strip distribution reporting.

- PHEP Program Update:
 - COVID numbers decreased from 40 in January to 20 in February, and flu numbers decreased from 7 hospitalizations in January to 3 in February.
 - Public Health is working with Pueblo County on a system to streamline animal bite reporting and foodborne illness reporting.
 - Sarah will be attending the National Preparedness Summit through the South Regional Health Care Coalition April 13-16, 2026 (virtually).

- Vital Records Department Update:
 - Sydney's training has been going well, and she is to the point of needing minimal assistance.

- Other:
 - Rick met with the CDPHE's Financial Risk Management System (FRMS) auditor on March 18, 2026, to discuss information requests. Review of invoices has begun and because of Public Health's current risk level additional paid invoice reviews are being done.
 - The public hearing for approval of the proposed Body Art Regulations was held on March 10, 2026, and the Regulations go into effect April 13, 2026. A copy of the updated Regulations were sent out again to all licensed body art establishments.
 - On March 12, 2026, the Federal District Court issued a preliminary injunction preventing the federal government from implementing directives that would stop HHS and CDC grant payments which includes the Public Health Infrastructure Grant (PHIG).
 - The new application for Medicaid recredentialing was completed and accepted. The recredentialing process will now begin for United Health.
 - The 2026 Electronics Recycling Event will occur on April 25, 2026, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. at DHS.
 - National Public Health Week begins on April 6, 2026.
 - Planning for the 2027 Household Hazardous Waste Event has begun and space at Pathfinder Park has been reserved for May 8, 2027. Public Health is working with other community partners to share in the funding for the event.
 - Rick is meeting with the Director of the Area Agency on Aging tomorrow to discuss aging-related programs and services given that older adults represent a significant population in Fremont County.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 3:09 p.m.