

FREMONT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
September 24, 2024

The Fremont County Board of Health meeting for September was held on September 24, 2024, 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
Eric Bellas – County Attorney
Autumn Dever for Paula Buser – Public Health Director
Amy Jamison – Environmental Health Officer
Domoni A. Toler – Minutes Secretary

I) **Roll Call:**

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

II) **Approval of Minutes from August 27, 2024:**

Chair Grantham called for any changes or corrections to the August 27, 2024, Minutes. No changes or corrections were suggested.

Commissioner McFall made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 27, 2024, as drafted; Commissioner Bell seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Fremont County Board of Health Minutes of August 27, 2024, are approved.

III) **Approval of Agenda:**

Chair Grantham 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 by Autumn Dever:** (Paula is attending the Directors Summit at the state-wide Public Health of the Rockies Conference this week.)

The August 2024 Budget Reports as of August 31, 2024, were provided and discussed. Autumn advised that expenses are down, and revenue is up.

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

- V) **Citizens not already scheduled on the Agenda:** None.

- VI) **Old Business:** None.

- VII) **New Business:**

1. **BOH Member Training Reminder:** It was discussed that §25-1-508, C.R.S. includes a requirement that all local BOH members complete annual training courses from the CDPHE by December 31, 2024.

- VIII) **Directors' Reports:**

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

- **New Establishments:**

- **Homer's Gumbo Pot:** Establishment is now open. Commissioner Bell advised that she has been there, and the food was very good.
- **Greener Pastures Meats:** The establishment is wanting to open at a new location at 428 Main Street in Canon City and will be selling USDA meats.
- **Barnyard BBQ:** This is a new mobile unit.
- **Other:** Amy met with an individual last week who is contemplating opening a sandwich/bowl foods establishment in the Justice Center complex, however, no plan review has been received yet.

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

- **Retail Food:** 9 routine inspections; 3 re-inspections, 2 pre-operational inspections, 4 consultative visits and 1 complaint.
- **Childcare:** 2 routine inspections and 1 consultative visit.
- **Schools:** 2 high-risk routine inspections.

- **Complaints:**

- **Carl's Jr. #7201:** Another leaking roof complaint was received. It was discussed that the leaking roof is not affecting the food but is a hazard to

the employees Attorney Bellas advised that the leaking roof is not a Public Health non-compliance issue.

- **Program Updates:**

- Retail Food Program EDT Comparison Report for the second quarter was provided, and it was discussed how Fremont County is doing compared to the rest of the state.
- The Childcare EDT Comparison of Agencies Report (CC EDT) was provided and discussed. Amy pointed out that Public Health is in line with the State and doing well. Sanitizer at 10(e) is at 70% and Amy intends to do some outreach in an attempt to get that number down.
- The childcare regulations are being updated and should be done by early next year.
- Amy attended the Colorado Environmental Health Association (CEHA) Conference the week before last.

- **Other:**

- **Bat:** There was another bat found in a home. The concern was unknown contact with a sleeping child. The bat was tested, and the results came back negative.
- **Penrose VFW:** When the VFW's restaurant closed, Amy incorrectly closed the entire permit, so the VFW has been operating without a license. There is no restaurant operating in their kitchen, but the bar needs to be licensed. Amy advised them on July 2, 2024 that they needed to get relicensed, and she has reached out to them three times since that date. It was discussed that Commissioner Bell will contact Mr. Sheridan to get the paperwork completed and advise him that Public Health will be waiving the fee for the license in the hopes of getting this accomplished sooner rather than later.

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

2. **Public Health Report – Autumn Dever for Paula Buser:**

- **Clinic and Program Updates:**

- The BOH Program Data Report was provided and discussed.
- Public Health has 17 off-site flu clinics scheduled for the next few months and the Community Flu Clinic 2024-2025 spreadsheet was provided.
- There are two County staff walk-in flu clinics scheduled for tomorrow, September 25, 2024. COVID vaccines are also available.

- The Canon City Schools Flu Vaccine Clinic flyer was provided and will be held October 14 through October 17, 2024.
- There has been a 23% increase in vaccinations over the past year which does not include COVID vaccinations.
- The Head Start Handwashing Clinic was conducted on September 16, 2024.
- Lead testing of all students is required by Head Start and Public Health tested 34 of the 49 students on September 19, 2024, and September 20, 2024. A few families had gone to the clinic for testing instead of testing at Head Start. If a child's levels are high a copy of the test results are provided to the child's parents with instructions to have the child seen by their regular physician for additional testing and possible inspection of their home if needed.
- Head Start will be adding two new classes this Fall and Public Health will do additional lead tests in January or February, 2025 on those new students.
- There have been no new West Nile cases reported. The two West Nile cases reported in August are recovering.
- The CDC continues to monitor the outbreak of Mpox (formerly called Monkeypox) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and surrounding countries. The Clade I Mpox virus is more severe and has a higher mortality rate than the Clade II Mpox virus that has been circulating in the US since 2022. There have been no Clade I Mpox cases reported in the US.
- For the month of September 2024, there have been 97 COVID cases reported. These cases will increase in the Winter just like the flu cases will increase.

- **Grants/Funding Updates:**

- The Grant Spending Report was provided and discussed.
- Public Health was awarded a \$12,000.00 Block Grant. The request was for \$25,000.00, however, only one-half of the request was awarded. The Office of Public Health Practice received over one million dollars in requests, and they only had \$450,000.00 to distribute. The \$12,000.00 will be used for the needed strategic planning items (staff wages, supplies and contractual expenses) and those efforts will begin in early 2025.
- The Grant Salary Budget has an excess of approximately \$20,000.00.
- Every other year CDPHE conducts a Financial Risk Management System (FRMS) Assessment that assesses the financial risk factors of local public health agencies. Public Health spent February through July working on the assessment with CDPHE. In the previous assessment, Public Health was ranked "medium" and for this cycle, Public Health has been ranked

“low”, which means that staff will not have to provide as much documentation to support their financial requests.

- **Community Outreach:**

- Paula continues to attend regular monthly partnership meetings, which continues to be very productive in forming partnerships.
- Anna Carochi represented Public Health at the DEA Opioid presentation at the Penrose Library last Friday and she also attended the GTI Community Partner Appreciation Event while Paula was out on medical leave.
- Public Health provided its first annual \$15,000.00 payment to Kindred Kids (Lori Jenkins) from the opioid settlement.
- Billy Smith participated in the Loaves and Fishes DMV to Go event where vaccines and testing were provided.
- A Lunch and Learn will be held on October 9, 2024, for the A Dose of Hope Naloxone Access Project. Nearly 50 community partners have been invited and RSVPs continue to be received. The goal is to create more awareness and increase interest in hosting a kiosk. The Lunch and Learn flyer was provided to the Commissioners. Currently there are three kiosks out in the community and four more have been ordered. Also, PCC has expressed an interest in hosting a kiosk.

- **Other:**

- **H5N1:** No new updates have been received by Public Health.

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 2:53 p.m.