FREMONT COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
September 29, 2026

The Fremont County Board of Health meeting for September was held on September 29, 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:

Dwayne McFall – Commissioner
Kevin Grantham – Commissioner

The following staff were in attendance:

Tony Carochi – 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 Board of Health Chairman McFall at 2:00 p.m.

II) **Approval of Minutes from August 25, 2026**:

Chairman McFall called for any changes or corrections to the August 25, 2026, Minutes. No changes or corrections were suggested.

Commissioner Grantham made a motion to approve the Minutes of August 25, 2026, as drafted; Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Fremont County Board of Health Minutes of August 25, 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 McFall made a motion to approve the September 29, 2026, Agenda; Commissioner Grantham seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Agenda for the September 29, 2026 Fremont County Board of Health meeting is approved.

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

1. **August 2026 Information**:

- The Fund Balance and Budget Reports were provided and discussed.
- Autumn advised the following as of the end of August:
    - The June services provided but not yet reimbursed total $37,067.40. (The SBLOCK final payment was received on September 10, 2026.)
    - The July services provided but not yet reimbursed total $15,396.98.
- The August fund balance is $2,806,764.03. This is a $17,539.43 increase over July. Some large grant payments were received in August and there were not as many expenses in August since it is the beginning of the new grant year.

2. **Grants/Funding Updates**:

- The BOH Grant Spending Report was provided to the Board.
- The CDOT Impaired Driving Prevention Grant starts October 1, 2026. Autumn and Michelle submitted the pre-work plan and received the paperwork to proceed today. There are two trainings already scheduled which Autumn and Michelle plan to attend.

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

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

None.

VI) **Old Business**: None.

VII) **New Business**:

1. **Serenity Recovery Connection MOU – Signature Ratification**: The MOU with Serenity Recovery Connection was provided to the Board for ratification of the BOH Chairman's signature and any needed discussion.

Commissioner Grantham made a motion to ratify the BOH Chairman's signature on the MOU with Serenity Recovery Connection; Commissioner McFall seconded the motion. Call for vote, all Ayes. The Serenity Recovery Connection MOU is formally approved by the Board of Health.

VIII) **Directors' Reports**:

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

- **New Establishments**: None.

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

    - **Retail Food**: 17 routine inspections; 1 pre-operational inspection; 2 consultative visits and 1 Imminent Health Hazard, closure and opening inspection.
    - **Child Care**: 1 follow-up inspection and 1 pre-operational inspection. (The follow-up inspection was at Camp Trident, and they finally submitted a variance request to the State, which was approved.)
    - **Schools**: 1 routine inspection.
    - **Landfill**: 1 routine inspection.

  A Completed Inspections Report was provided to the Board.

- **Complaints/Closures**: None.

- **Program Updates/Other**:

    - There was a bat submitted for testing which came back negative, and a skunk was submitted today. Amy advised that Fourmile Veterinary Clinic has been extremely accommodating and helpful, and their cost to euthanize bats and decapitate skunks is very reasonable. She would like to recognize them for their services because it is very hard to find that type of assistance in this County.
    - Amy conducted another Certified Food Protection Manager (CFPM) exam and six out of seven participants passed.
    - Last week Amy attended the Mega Annual Education Conference with the Colorado Environmental Health Association (CEHA), Western Association of Food and Drug Officials (WAFDO), and Rocky Mountain Food Safety Conference (RMFSC). Amy said it was a great joint conference this year, very rewarding and worth the time to attend.

Commissioner McFall 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**:

    - Immunization appointments slowed down a bit which is most likely due to school resuming. An increase is anticipated with flu season approaching, and the clinic is already seeing that increase this week.
    - The community flu clinics will begin tomorrow and conclude the first part of November. The City of Canon City cancelled for unknown reasons. Rick reached out to them but received no response. Fremont Home Care cancelled due to scheduling issues, and Sangre de Cristo Community Care (Hospice) cancelled because their employer used to pay for their flu shots, but due to budgeting issues, the employer is no longer able to pay for them.
    - The Fremont County Health Fair was held on September 24, 2026, in the Garden Park Conference Room. There were 112 County employees who participated, and it was a great success.

- **Program Highlights**:

    - **STEPP Program Update**:
        - Brandy continues to work with her State Grant Monitor on the Tobacco Focused Community Assessment.
        - Brandy recently participated in the Head Start Family Night which saw approximately 80 families.
        - Brandy continues to work on educating community parters about the State's newly rebranded Strong Start Program and has now met with about fifteen community partners who have expressed an interest in assisting with the referral process.
        - Brandy has been working primarily with RE-1 and RE-2 schools to provide newly printed signage from CDPHE and evidence-based recommendations to address tobacco-free school infractions. Attempts to engage with RE-3 schools remain ongoing.

    - **PDD Program Update**:
        - The DUI Task Force meeting was held on September 9, 2026. Their next meeting is scheduled for October 14, 2026. They recently developed smaller work groups to divide certain tasks. Those work groups consist of prevention and community education; criminal justice collaboration; regional data and

information sharing; policy and systems change and recruitment and membership.

- The Youth Action Board meeting was held on September 16, 2026, at Garden Park. The Board elected a student president and vice president to start taking over their meetings and they began painting the large rock. Their next meeting is scheduled for October 21, 2026.
- Michelle is working on a Sustainability Plan as required through her Statement of Work for the PDD Grant.
- Michelle had a pre-work session with the CDOT Grant Manager for the CDOT Grant which begins on October 1, 2026.
- Michelle will be presenting on the development of the DUI Task Force and Youth Action Board at the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America Competency Webinar Series.
- Michele completed the Public Health recertification and certification as a Colorado Certified Prevention Specialist.

- **<u>Opioid Program Update</u>**:
  - Rick has been meeting with the Region 15 coordinator every couple of weeks, and they will meet again on October 6, 2026.
  - There is a Region 15 Leadership Committee meeting scheduled for October 7, 2026, and a Governance Committee meeting scheduled for October 20, 2026.
  - Rick and Tonia met earlier this month to discuss an attestation request from the Ennegram Prison Project. Given that the Ennegram Prison Project could not ensure that their work would have an impact specifically on Fremont County residents, it was denied to further promote their request. Rick informed Ennegram of the denial and encouraged them to consider working their program into the Fremont County Jail and offered to help facilitate that communication if they came up with a way to do so.
  - CSU Extension submitted a request for an additional $32,500.00 over the next two years. At the time of the request, the local opioid funds were supporting FCDPHE, GTI, Serenity Recovery Connection and Kindred Kids, and with the uncertainty of how much local funds would be received, Rick informed them that the funds were not currently available to support their request. They were encouraged to apply for an additional two-year grant through Region 15. Since then, $40,000.00 of additional funds have been received. Rick discussed with the Regional Coordinator the concern of potentially double-dipping into those

funds to make that their sustainability plan for their program, as they are already receiving the regional opioid dollars and it is unclear if it is acceptable for them to also receive local opioid dollars for the same work. This is something Rick will present to the leadership team in October and something for this Board to keep in mind as well.

- The Region 15 Leadership Committee sponsored advisory member, Tonia Sutton, to attend the Annual Colorado Opioid Abatement Counsel Conference tomorrow in Keystone.

- **PHEP Program Update**:
  - COVID numbers have decreased from eleven in July to seven in August, and flu numbers remained at zero in August.
  - Public Health has been tracking two reported E.coli cases in Fremont County. One case is a two-year-old who became ill on her birthday and no one else in her family tested positive. She was hospitalized at Children's Hospital and is doing better, but is awaiting test results so that she can return to daycare. The other case involved a one-year-old who was not hospitalized.
  - Public Health has been monitoring an E.coli outbreak at the Colorado Territorial Correctional Facility. As of today, there are twelve confirmed cases with two possible cases. The State is handling the outbreak and testing. Public Health has tested staff from the prison who have come into the clinic.

- **Vital Records Department Update**:
  - Vital Records is planning on extending its hours from 8:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. beginning on October 19, 2026, with a 1:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. lunch closure. Sydney has contacted the local funeral homes and made sure that they are aware of these changes. This information will be posted on social media and the County's website, and the State will be notified of this change as well.

- **Other**:

  - Rick is still waiting to hear back from St. Thomas More Hospital on the Rural Health Transformation Program (RHTP) Grant. However, based on information released by the State this week, it is believed that the Hospital was not awarded the Grant.

- Rick provided Attorney Bellas with the information needed to begin the legal process for compliance enforcement by Royal Gorge Custom Tattoos & Piercings.
- No additional water quality complaints have been received since last month.
- Public Health applied for a Preventive Block Grant for $20,000.00 to support the upcoming work on the Community Health Assessment and was awarded $15,000.00.

Commissioner Grantham 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 2:23 p.m.