



**Board of Health Meeting
February 11, 2021
Minutes**

At a regular meeting of the Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) Board of Health, held virtually via Zoom, there were:

Board of Health Members:

Janice Brainard, RN, Arapahoe County	Present
Thomas Fawell, MD, Arapahoe County	Present
Kaia Gallagher, PhD, President, Arapahoe County	Present
Marsha Jaroch, NP, Douglas County	Present
Paulette Joswick, RN, Douglas County	Present
Julie Mullica, MPH, Vice President, Adams County	Present
Zachary Nannestad, MPH, Secretary, Douglas County	Present
Rosanna Reyes, RN, Adams County	Present
Julie Schilz, RN, Adams County	Present

Executive Management Team Members:

Michele Askenazi, Director of Emergency Preparedness, Response and Communicable Disease Surveillance	Present
Heather Baumgartner, Director of Community Health Promotion	Present
Lisa Bolstad, Administrative Assistant	Present
Jill Bonczynski, Director of Nutrition	Present
Ronnae Brockman, Executive Assistant	Present
Monique Didier, Director of Administration and Finance	Present
John M. Douglas, Jr., MD, Executive Director	Present
Mame Fuhrman, Director of the Office of Human Resources	Present
Penny Grande, Director of Nursing	Present
Brian Hlavacek, Director of Environmental Health	Present
Jennifer Ludwig, Deputy Director	Present
Kelly Weidenbach, Director of Planning and Information Management	Present

Call to Order

Dr. Gallagher called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

Introductions

Dr. Gallagher welcomed Julie Schilz, a new Board of Health member representing Adams County, who has substantial public health experience.

Dr. Gallagher noted that this was Ms. Joswick's last Board of Health meeting. She read a Board of Health Resolution in recognition of Ms. Joswick's dedicated service from June 2007 to February 2021. She thanked Ms. Joswick and wished her the very best. Ms. Joswick, in turn, thanked the Board members for their friendship and collaboration for the past 14 years.

Dr. Gallagher read a Board of Health Resolution in recognition of Mr. Richard “RJ” Delaney’s dedicated service from February 2020 to January 2021. She thanked Mr. Delaney for serving on the Board of Health for the past year.

Approval of the Minutes of the January 14, 2021 Meeting

MOTION: Ms. Mullica moved to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2021 meeting and Ms. Jaroch seconded. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.

FY 2021 Budget Development Calendar/Determine Board Budget Subcommittee Members

Ms. Didier presented TCHD’s budget development calendar for fiscal year 2022 to the Board. The calendar contains two Board of Health Budget Subcommittee meetings: one in May 2020 to review budget dynamics and justifications for planned budget requests and one in July 2020 to review budget presentation content and approach. The following Board members volunteered to serve on the Board of Health Budget Subcommittee: Ms. Brainard, Dr. Gallagher, Ms. Mullica and Ms. Schilz.

Dr. Fawell inquired whether the 2022 budget would include all three of TCHD’s counties or only two. Ms. Ludwig explained that Douglas County has agreed to remain with TCHD through December 31, 2022; therefore, next year’s budget will include all three counties.

Communicable Disease Update

Dr. Albanese provided an update on influenza activity both statewide and nationally; summarized a statewide hepatitis A outbreak that is disproportionately affecting people experiencing homelessness, people with substance use issues, and people who have been incarcerated; and gave an update on TCHD’s Immunization Program. All TCHD Immunization Program staff have been deactivated from the COVID-19 Case Investigation Task Force and have fully transitioned to support routine immunization services and COVID-19 vaccination efforts. Dr. Albanese also stated that the COVID-19 outbreak at In and Out Burger restaurants has ended.

ACTION ITEM: Dr. Albanese to provide data on national influenza statistics and Colorado respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) to Ms. Reyes.

Public Health Improvement Plan Progress Update: Access to Mental and Physical Health Care Services

Wendy Nading, Nurse Manager, provided a progress update on TCHD’s efforts to increase access to mental and physical health care services. Topics covered include access to care in 2020 prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, impacts on access to care during the COVID-19 pandemic, and future work. Ms. Nading addressed several questions from Board members.

COVID-19 Update

Dr. Douglas provided an update on the COVID-19 pandemic and TCHD’s response efforts. He discussed case numbers and other relevant data; changes to the state’s COVID-19 Dial; COVID variant surveillance and tracking; and vaccine prioritization and allocation in Colorado.

ACTION ITEM: Dr. Douglas to provide an update to Ms. Mullica concerning efforts to make COVID-19 vaccines available in zip codes with large minority populations.

Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director's Report contained updates on improving health through poverty reduction by educating low-income households on the Earned Income Tax Credit; Cancer, Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Disease Grant awards; and Communities that Care substance abuse prevention funding. It also included updates on TCHD's Retail Food Program; video recording of TCHD staff by private individuals; the opioid lawsuit against opioid manufacturers and distributors; and drug overdose mortality data.

Set Agenda for the March 11, 2021 Meeting

Agenda items for the March 11, 2021 Board meeting will include: 1) review of quarterly financial statements, 2) a COVID-19 update, 3) an infectious disease report, 4) a legislative update, and 5) Board Governance Committee membership.

Board Member Remarks

Dr. Gallagher thanked TCHD staff for the regular e-mail updates the Board receives on the COVID-19 pandemic and vaccine rollout plans. She noted that TCHD staff have also been very responsive to questions posed by Board members.

Closing Remarks

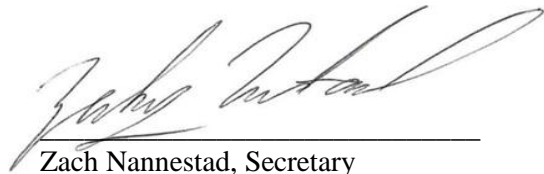
None.

Adjournment

MOTION: Ms. Joswick moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:16 p.m. Ms. Reyes seconded and the motion passed with a unanimous vote.



Kaia Gallagher, PhD, President



Zach Nannestad, Secretary