The El Paso County Board of Health met at 1675 West Garden of the Gods Road, Colorado Springs, Colorado, December 18, 2019. Dr. James Terbush, President, called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**Board of Health Members:**
Dr. James Terbush, President
Yolanda Avila
Cami Bremer
Dr. Robert Bux
Sam Gieck
Longinos Gonzalez, Jr.
Kari Kilroy
Doris Ralston
Not present: Victoria Broerman, Vice President

**Directors Present:**
Susan Wheelan, Director
DeAnn Ryberg, Deputy Director
Dr. Susan Anthony, Development and Strategic Initiatives Officer
Dr. Robin Johnson, Medical Director
Aaron Termain, Environmental Health Services Division Director

**Others Present at Regular Session:**
Taryn Bailey  Vicki Bennett  Laura Brinegar  Sarah Elliott  Brian Erly
Stephen Goodwin  Michelle Hewitt  Elaine Johnsen  Sammi Jo Kist  Betsy Lehman
Paula Linhares  Emily Maney  Kimberly Pattison  Jamie Pfahl  Victoria Ramirez
Jacob Rogers  Lori Seago  Nikki Simmons  Adrian Stanley  Jessi Summers
Nora Todd  Robin Trujillo

**Approval of Agenda**
Dr. James Terbush asked for approval of the agenda.

MOVED: by Doris Ralston seconded by Sam Gieck to approve the agenda for the December 18, 2019 meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Board of Health Comments**
Dr. James Terbush recognized Susan Wheelan for her one-year anniversary as Public Health Director, and for 20 years of employment with El Paso County Public Health (EPCPH). She has served in many roles throughout the agency and already accomplished many feats in her first year as Director.

Susan thanked the Board and staff for their acknowledgement and emphasized what a strong team EPCPH has, who all exemplify the values of EPCPH.
Cami Bremer highlighted a few things that Susan and EPCPH staff have been involved in recently: attending the Colorado Counties, Inc. (CCI) annual conference, where many counties will take example from the collaborative model on suicide prevention that Susan spearheaded; and the State of the Region address, where the entire health department was recognized for their great work.

Longinos Gonzalez said the CCI President highlighted EPCPH’s presentation on youth suicide prevention at the conference, and it was very moving.

Yolanda Avila stated that today is the new southeast Peak Vista’s ribbon cutting, and recognized the strong partnership in southeast Colorado Springs among Peak Vista, EPCPH and the Department of Human Services (DHS).

**Approval of Board of Health Minutes**

**MOVED**: by Yolanda Avila seconded by Robert Bux to ratify the minutes from the October 23, 2019 Board of Health meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Finance and Budget**

A. November 2019 Financial Report: Elaine Johnsen, Budget Optimization Manager for El Paso County, presented the monthly financial report for November 2019 to the Board. Revenues are as expected. Up to $700,000 may be added to reserves at year end. More of the fund balance will be used in 2020. Finance has no concerns.

**MOVED**: by Robert Bux seconded by Longinos Gonzalez to approve the financial report for November 2019, pending audit.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. **Resolution to Adopt and Appropriate the 2020 Public Health Budget**: Elaine Johnsen presented the original adopted balanced budget for 2020 and, following, a Resolution to Adopt and Appropriate the 2020 Public Health Budget.

**MOVED**: by Robert Bux seconded by Longinos Gonzalez to approve the Resolution to Adopt and Appropriate the 2020 Public Health Budget.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**2020 Sunshine Resolution**

The Board was presented with the 2020 Sunshine Resolution, a legal requirement that discusses where Board of Health meeting agendas will be posted.

**MOVED**: by Longinos Gonzales seconded by Cami Bremer to approve the 2020 Sunshine Resolution.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**Resolution for Board of Health Regular 2020 Meeting Schedule**
Board of Health meetings for 2020 will take place beginning at 8:00 a.m. on the fourth Wednesday of each month. November and December meeting dates will be moved to accommodate the holidays.

MOVED: by Doris Ralston seconded by Sam Gieck to approve the Resolution for Board of Health Regular 2020 Meeting Schedule.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**New Business**

A. Election of 2020 Board Officers
   1) President –
      a. Kari Kilroy nominated Dr. James Terbush. Dr. Robert Bux seconded the nomination.
      b. Dr. James Terbush accepted the nomination
      c. Board members unanimously approved Dr. James Terbush to serve as President of the Board.
   2) Vice President -
      a. Dr. Terbush stated that Vicki Broerman expressed interest in continuing to serve as Vice President of the Board.
      b. Longinos Gonzales officially nominated Vicki Broerman. Sam Gieck seconded the nomination.
      c. Board members unanimously approved Vicki Broerman to serve as Vice President of the Board.
   3) James Terbush nominated Susan Wheelan, Public Health Director, to continue to serve as Secretary of the Board. Board members unanimously approved.

**Director’s Report – Susan Wheelan**

Susan discussed a recent meeting she and other employees of EPCPH had with members of the vape industry; the industry lobbyist had contacted EPCPH and expressed concerns as they do not want to sell products to youth. They want to partner with public health agencies to protect youth and assess who is doing what in the community. They are in support of raising the legal purchase age to 21 and would like to see regulations on vape product contents and the reduction of the amount of nicotine in those products.

Cami Bremer commented that having a broad resolution to support policies and regulations that prevent youth use of tobacco and nicotine products (passed by the Board in October 2019) was the correct way to go.

**A. Environmental Health Updates**

Asbestos: Michelle Hewitt, Public Health Communication Specialist, stated EPCPH has been proactively seeking communication and guidance from the state health department (the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment – CDPHE) regarding the current situation of apartment complexes being evacuated due to asbestos mitigation. CDPHE’s role is to closely monitor the situation and ensure regulatory requirements have been met. They have been in contact with the complexes’ ownership group and ensure qualified asbestos removal standards are being met. They are asking residents to call (303) 692-3100 for information. The phone number is available on EPCPH and CDPHE’s website. CDPHE and EPCPH cannot give medical advice, and any concerns should be addressed by primary care physicians.
Per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS): The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is conducting exposure assessments in Fountain around PFAS. They are meeting with the City of Fountain and EPCPH to provide a briefing on plans going forward; the meeting is at Centennial Hall on Thursday, December 19th.

Retail food regulations: Sammi Jo Kirst, Retail Food Program Manager and Aaron Termain, Environmental Health Services Division Director, stated food establishment inspection and rating protocol are changing beginning January 1, 2020 due to HB 19-1014. This is a new statewide rating system tied to simplified and more efficient enforcement protocols. All information and inspection results will still be available on EPCPH’s website, with a color system that will indicate pass in green, reinspection needed in yellow and closure in red.

B. **Hepatitis A Update:** As of December 11, 2019, there are 131 cases in El Paso County.

C. **Influenza Update**
   Slow start to the season but now starting to see a surge in cases. The strain is Influenza B, which is atypical. It is not too late to get your flu shot. Good hygiene – washing hands, coughing into elbow – is important in prevention.

Measles: No cases in El Paso County, but there were recently three unvaccinated children who came through Denver International Airport. They are now at Denver Children’s Hospital. Tri County Health Department is leading this investigation. EPCPH is continuing active surveillance and outreach to community partners to increase awareness.

Susan Wheelan stated that earlier this year, EPCPH led a tabletop exercise with their Emergency Preparedness and Response Team, CDPHE and local law enforcement, on how to respond if there was an outbreak of measles in El Paso County. The exercise ensured plans are clear and concise so if something does happen, community partners can move quickly and efficiently.

EPCPH will be using social media to increase messaging around vaccinations on measles and influenza. Please view/follow EPCPH on social media and share posts.

**2019 Employee Recognition**
Five EPCPH employees who received Star Awards in 2019 for outstanding service and for exemplifying the mission, vision and values of EPCPH were presented to the Board. The employees are Taryn Bailey, Laura Brinegar, Sarah Elliott, Paula Linhares, and Robin Trujillo. These employees went through a detailed nomination and approval process and were presented the awards at EPCPH’s monthly all-staff town hall meeting.

**Public Comment:**
None.

**Next Board of Health meeting**
**January 22, 2020, 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.,** located in the John Snow conference room.
18 December, 2019-BOH/VBennett