

**EL PASO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**December 14, 2022**  
**BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES**

The El Paso County Board of Health met at the Citizens Service Center at 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road, Colorado Springs, Colorado, on December 14, 2022. Eight Board of Health members were present, one was absent.

Dr. James Terbush, President, called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

**Board of Health Member Roll Call:**

*Present:*

Dr. James Terbush, President  
Doris Ralston, Vice President  
Dr. Richard Vu  
Ron Stephens  
General Jack Briggs  
Ted Collas  
Commissioner Cami Bremer  
Councilmember Dave Donelson

*Absent (excused):*

Commissioner Longinos Gonzalez, Jr.

**Directors and Officers Present:**

Susan Wheelan, Public Health Director  
DeAnn Ryberg, Public Health Deputy Director  
Dr. Bernadette Albanese, Co-Medical Director  
Dawn Wesenberg, Strategic Initiatives Officer  
Michelle Beyrle, Public Health Information Officer  
Carolyn Gery, Development Officer

**Others Present at Regular Session:**

Vicki Bennett	Lori Cleaton	Kristi Durbin	Todd Evans
Xavier Frost	Jenileigh Harris	Heather Hatfield	Alicia Humlicek
Darrell Kirby	Marigny Klaber	Jordan Linder	Marla Luckey
Janel McNair	Jay Norton	Michelle Ritchie	Cara Rodriguez
Julie Siegel	Nikki Simmons	Summer South	Tom Strand
Erin Thompson	Kelsey Tillema	Nora Todd	

Four American Sign Language Interpreters from Sign Language Network

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOVED:** by Doris Ralston, seconded by Gen. Briggs to approve the agenda for the December 14, 2022 Board of Health meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **Board of Health Comments**

1. Gen. Briggs thanked the Board for its support in passing the Resolution Opposing City of Colorado Springs Ballot Initiatives 300 and 301.
2. Councilmember Donelson seconded Gen. Briggs' sentiment.
3. Doris Ralston thanked El Paso County Public Health for the quick response to the recent Club Q tragedy.
4. Ted Collas commented on the families impacted by the Club Q incident and asked that we hold them in our thoughts and prayers.
5. Ron Stephens announced he did not win his re-election campaign in Monument. As such his term with Board of Health will end this year and this will be his last meeting.
6. Dr. Terbush commented that he and Doris attended the National Association of Local Boards of Health (NALBOH) Webinar on December 5: Self-Assessment of Board Performance in a Post-COVID Public Health System.
7. Director Wheelan presented Ron Stephens with a certificate of appreciation to thank him for his service.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Dr. Terbush entertained a motion to approve the October 26, 2022 Board of Health Meeting minutes.

**MOVED:** by Commissioner Bremer, seconded by Councilmember Donelson to ratify the minutes from the October 26, 2022 Board of Health meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## **Public Comment on Items not Scheduled on the Agenda**

1. Public comment received from Steven Walsh.
2. Public comment received from Todd Evans, Deputy City Manager from the City of Fountain.

## **Finance and Budget**

1. Lori Cleaton, Budget Manager, presented the November 2022 financial summary. Public Health is currently under budget in terms of expenditures. This is attributed to vacant staff positions and delays on capital spending. These expenditures would be paid for by reimbursement grants. However, since we have not incurred these expenses, we are not billing for reimbursement.
2. Summer South, Reproductive Health Program Manager, presented on the annual renewal of a previously approved grant contract: Sexually Transmitted Infections Screening and Treatment.
  - a) The purpose of the grant is to improve reproductive health and help prevent infertility by screening, diagnosis and treatment of sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

**MOVED:** by Ted Collas seconded by Doris Ralston to renew Sexually Transmitted Infections Screening and Treatment contract.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

3. Carolyn Gery, Development Officer presented on a new grant contract: Future of Public Health: Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce and Data Systems.

- a) A1 component provides an award amount of \$7,378,657 to expand capacity through workforce readiness and wellness.
- b) A2 component provides an award amount of \$452,199 to strengthen community partnerships.

**MOVED:** by Dr. Terbush, seconded by Doris Ralston to adopt and appropriate the Future of Public Health: Strengthening U.S. Public Health Infrastructure, Workforce and Data Systems contract.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- 4. Carolyn Gery, Development Officer, presented on a new grant contract: United States Department of Agriculture Regional Food System Partnership.
  - a) \$147,084 of this grant has been allocated to address food insecurity through community partnerships.
  - b) The funding is for planning, and the data gathered as part of the grant activities will provide an outline for implementation. At the end of the grant period, Public Health will be eligible to apply for USDA implementation funds.

**MOVED:** by Commissioner Bremer, seconded by Gen. Briggs to approve the United States Department of Agriculture Regional Food System Partnership contract.

Dr. Terbush- aye  
 Dr. Vu- aye  
 Doris Ralston- aye  
 Ron Stephens- aye  
 Gen. Briggs- aye  
 Ted Collas- aye  
 Commissioner Bremer-aye  
 Councilmember Donelson- nay  
 Votes in favor: 7  
 Votes against: 1

**MOTION PASSED WITH MAJORITY VOTE**

- 5. Lori Cleaton, Budget Manager, presented the Original Adopted 2023 Budget
  - a) Total revenue \$31,131,180
    - El Paso County/EPA ARPA \$7,811,142
    - State LPHA Funding/State ARPA \$1,697,348
    - Revenues from Program Specific grants \$9,091,161
    - Federal Reimbursements/COVID Grants/ELC \$8,381,718
    - Revenues from Licenses, Fees, and Permits \$4,077,536
    - Revenues from Miscellaneous Contributions \$72,275
  - b) Total expenditures \$31,356,925
    - Personnel Expense \$15,880,228
    - Personnel and Operating Expense COVID grants \$8,381,718
    - Operating expense \$6,079,979
    - Capital Expense \$1,015,000
  - c) Net change in fund balance (225,745)

**MOVED:** by Commissioner Bremer seconded by Doris Ralston to Adopt and Appropriate the 2023 El Paso County Public Health Budget.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Resolutions**

1. 2023 Sunshine Resolution
  - a) Schedule will be published on the El Paso County Board of Health website.

**MOVED:** by Councilmember Donelson, seconded by Gen. Briggs to approve the 2023 Sunshine Resolution.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

2. Resolution for Board of Health 2023 Regular Meeting Schedule

Wednesday January 25,2023  
Wednesday February 22, 2023  
Wednesday March 22, 2023  
Wednesday April 26, 2023  
Wednesday May 24, 2023  
Wednesday June 28, 2023  
Wednesday August 23, 2023  
Wednesday September 27, 2023  
Wednesday October 25, 2023  
Wednesday December 13, 2023

**MOVED:** by Doris Ralston, seconded by Gen. Briggs to approve the Board of Health 2023 Regular Meeting Schedule

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**New Business**

1. Election of 2023 Board Officers
  - a) Ted Collas was nominated as President
  - b) Doris Ralston was nominated as Vice President
  - c) Susan Wheelan was nominated as SecretaryAll Board members accepted the nominations. None opposed.

**MOVED:** by Dr. Terbush, seconded by Commissioner Bremer to approve the appointment of a president, vice president and secretary for a new term to the Board of Health.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

2. Approval of lease renewal for City of Fountain occupancy at Public Health South
  - a) The lease will be written for automatic renewal for next three years. The tenant must provide written confirmation of renewal.
  - b) Dr. Vu requested the addition of a clause for automatic termination if the tenant does not provide written confirmation of renewal.

**MOVED:** by Commissioner Bremer, seconded by Ron Stephens to approve the lease renewal for City of Fountain occupancy at Public Health South with the addition of a clause for automatic termination if the tenant does not provide written confirmation of renewal.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

3. Approval of Citizens Service Center Sublease Agreement Renewal

**MOVED:** by Commissioner Bremer, seconded by Ted Collas to approve the sublease renewal for the Citizens Service Center.

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Director's Report**

1. Darrell Kirby, Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) Coordinator, presented on El Paso County Public Health's response to the Club Q tragedy.
  - a) EPR was activated to provide Emergency Support Function 8 and continues to work with community partners to provide support.
2. Dr. Bernadette Albanese provided an update on respiratory illness season:
  - a) Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) circulates annually in fall and winter. It can be severe in young children, infants, and older adults. El Paso County has had 50 cases since October.
  - b) Flu season has started earlier than usual this year. It is uncertain if we have reached our peak yet.
  - c) El Paso County and the State are experiencing a modest sustained increase in COVID-19 cases.

**Executive Session**

1. Motion to go into Executive Session

**MOVED:** by Commissioner Bremer, seconded by Ron Stephens to go into Executive Session

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

2. Executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(f) regarding personnel matters pertaining to the annual performance review for Executive Public Health Director Susan Wheelan
3. Motion to come out of Executive Session

**MOVED:** by Commissioner Bremer, seconded by Doris Ralston to come out of Executive Session

**MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**Motion to Adjourn**

Dr. Terbush adjourned the meeting at 12:05 PM.

**Next Board of Health meeting**

The next Board of Health meeting will be:  
**Wednesday, January 25, 2023**  
**8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**  
at The Citizens Service Center  
1675 W. Garden of the Gods Rd. in Colorado Springs.

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