

LARIMER COUNTY | HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

1525 Blue Spruce Drive, Fort Collins, Colorado 80524, 970.498.6700, Larimer.org/health

Director Tom Gonzales, MPH

BOARD OF HEALTH

Jennifer Lee, President
Bernard Birnbaum, MD
Janna West Kowalski, MS
Teri Olson, RN, MSN
Brian DeGrosso

Department of Health and Environment Mission:

Our mission is to promote a healthy community and reduce unnecessary suffering caused by preventable disease, disability, or death.

This mission is accomplished by providing community health and environmental health services, communicable disease control, health education, vital records management, health data assessment, development of policies that advance the public's health, and advocacy for community-based services that provide needed health care.

LARIMER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH – October 10, 2019

The Larimer County Board of Health (BOH) convened its regular meeting at 6:06 p.m. at the Larimer County Courthouse, 200 W. Oak, in the Carter Lake Conference Room.

Members Present:

Jennifer Lee
Dr. Bernard Birnbaum (by telephone)
Janna West Kowalski
Brian DeGrosso
Teri Olson

Executive Secretary: Tom Gonzales

County Staff: Andrea Clement-Johnson, Kelli Curl, Jim Devore, Kelsey Lyon, Chris Manley, Shaun May, Kim Meyer-Lee, Dr. Chris Nevin-Woods, Katie O'Donnell, Bruce Peters, Sara Rhoten, Lea Schneider, Kate Whitman, Kori Wilford, and Averil Strand

Community Members: MJ Jorgensen, Amy Gooch, Mike Calhoon, Chantelle Daniels, Elizabeth Trinklein, Andrew Kimmel, Dawn Nottingham, Toni Orlean, Colin Milne

Call to Order - Jennifer Lee, board president, called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Public Comment - There was no public comment.

Approval of the Minutes

ACTION: Janna West Kowalski made a motion to approve the September 2019 minutes, Teri Olson seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Financial Report – The department has been working with county finance to align the department budget process with the county budget process. Financial reports are now pulled directly from the county's financial system. Brian DeGrosso asked that financial reports include past trends and based on these trends, the reports can be an overview of any red flag areas, or anything out of the ordinary.

The department attended a budget hearing with County Manager Linda Hoffman and the budget office. The Commissioners have until December 15 to decide on approving the \$216,000 in requested payouts for 2019 retirements.



Medical Director Update - Dr. Christine Nevin-Woods, Shaun May, and Kim Meyer-Lee, gave an update on the department's response to three possible outbreaks, two food-borne and one childcare setting in the last month. Dr. Nevin-Woods presented on Colorado's communicable and environmental reportable conditions.

Northern Colorado Health Network (NCHN) Annual Update on the Syringe Exchange Program and Request to Renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for 2019-2020

Elizabeth Trinklein and Chantelle Daniel, prevention coordinators with NCHN, presented an annual update on the syringe exchange program and other programs offered at NCHN.

Public comment followed the presentation. Two people provided public comment, MJ Jorgensen and Mike Calhoun. One comment was in support of renewing the MOU and one comment was in support of adding additional provisions to the MOU.

Following public comment, the BOH had a discussion around renewing the MOU. The BOH agreed the work of NCHN was making a difference in the community and improving and saving lives. Suggestions for revising the MOU to include a higher goal for returned syringes could be reviewed in the future but it was decided not to update the MOU for this year.

ACTION: Dr. Birnbaum made a motion to continue to support the Northern Colorado Health Network syringe exchange program as written, it was seconded by Ms. West Kowalski.

Discussion: Ms. West Kowalski asked for NCHN to report in six months on how their pilot program to collect sharps with the City of Fort Collins is working.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Director's Update - Kate Whitman, reproductive health program supervisor, provided an update on a partnership between the department and NCHN that involves screening clients at NCHN for bacterial STIs. Any positives that are identified by NCHN are treated through the Health Department.

Lea Schneider, environmental health planner, updated the BOH on the department's involvement in the County's work on the oil and gas taskforce and the climate action plan committee. The update contained information on the contributions to those committees as well as general information about the programmatic work EH routinely does related to those initiatives such as air and water quality.

Mr. Gonzales invited the BOH to a public health legislative breakfast on Wednesday, Nov. 13. Larimer County elected officials (county commissioners, mayors, state senators and representatives) were invited.

Board Member Updates – The commissioner's recognition dinner for volunteers on boards and commissions is Wednesday, Oct. 23, from 5 to 7 p.m. at The Ranch Bar.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.