



**Board of Health Meeting  
October 15, 2019  
Minutes**

At a public meeting of the Board of Health, held at Tri-County Health Department (TCHD), 6162 S. Willow Dr., Suite 100, Greenwood Village, CO 80111, there were:

**Board of Health Members:**

Janice Brainard, RN, Arapahoe County	Present
Thomas Fawell, MD, President, Arapahoe County	Present
Kaia Gallagher, PhD, Arapahoe County	Present
Marsha Jaroch, NP, Douglas County	Present
Paulette Joswick, RN, Secretary, Douglas County	Absent – Excused
Julie Mullica, MPH, Adams County	Present
Zachary Nannestad, MPH, Vice President, Douglas County	Present
Rosanna Reyes, RN, Adams County	Present
Naomi Steenson, RD, Secretary, 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
Jill Bonczynski, RD, Director of Nutrition	Present
Ronnae Brockman, Executive Assistant	Present
John M. Douglas, Jr., MD, Executive Director	Present
Penny Grande, RN, Director of Nursing	Present
Theresa Fox, Director of Administration and Finance	Absent – Excused
Mame Fuhrman, Director of the Office of Human Resources	Present
Brian Hlavacek, Director of Environmental Health	Present
Jennifer Ludwig, Deputy Director	Present
Kelly Weidenbach, DrPH, Director of Planning and Information Management	Absent – Excused

**Call to Order**

Dr. Fawell called the meeting to order at 4:32 p.m.

**Introductions**

Dr. Douglas introduced Patty Buckle, Controller, and Dr. Bernadette Albanese, Medical Epidemiologist, who attended the meeting on behalf of Ms. Fox and Ms. Weidenbach respectively. Dr. Albanese introduced Douglas Glenn, TCHD's new Informatics Project Manager. Ms. Bonczynski introduced Judy Fowler, Nutrition Manager, and Allie LaMonica, a CDC Public Health Associate assigned to TCHD's Nutrition Division. Mr. Hlavacek introduced Lisa Oliveto, Solid and Hazardous Waste Specialist, and Lynn Robbio Wagner, Environmental Health Supervisor. Ms. Buckle introduced Ann Wisniewski, Senior Budget Analyst. Ms. Baumgartner introduced Faire Holliday, Chronic Disease Prevention Specialist; Jessie Reeder, Chronic Disease Prevention Specialist; Kathy Staats, Prevention and Policy Specialist; Hailey Foster, Substance

Abuse Prevention Coordinator; Taylor Roberts, Chronic Disease Prevention Coordinator; and Matt Jackson, Public Health Planning Initiatives Coordinator. Dr. Douglas introduced Mellissa Sager, Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs Manager, and Ms. Askenazi introduced Leslee Warren, Communicable Disease Epidemiologist.

**Approval of the Minutes of the August 13, 2019 Meeting**

The minutes of the August 13, 2019 meeting were presented to the Board for review.

**MOTION: Ms. Reyes moved to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2019 meeting as written and Ms. Jaroch seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**Approval of the Financial Statements Dated July 31, 2019**

Ms. Buckle presented the financial statements dated July 31, 2019 to the Board for review. She stated that revenue totaled \$25.2 million through July, which is greater than budgeted by \$103,000. Expenditures through July totaled \$23.6 million, which was slightly lower than budgeted by \$932,000. Overall, the actual net operating surplus through the month of July was \$1.57 million. Additionally, TCHD invests a portion of its fund balance with Chandler Asset Management in a \$6 million dollar bond portfolio, with JPMorgan Chase with \$5 million in a laddered CD portfolio, and has approximately \$4 million invested with CSafe.

**MOTION: Mr. Nannestad moved to accept the financial statements dated July 31, 2019 as presented and Ms. Brainard seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**Public Hearing: Adoption of Supplemental Budget Appropriation**

Dr. Fawell opened the public hearing at 4:45 p.m. regarding the adoption of a supplemental budget appropriation for 2019. The public hearing was duly advertised in *The Denver Post* on October 1, 2019. Ms. Buckle explained that the supplemental budget appropriation resolution would amend TCHD's 2019 budget to reflect unanticipated revenue received since the 2019 budget was adopted in December 2018. TCHD cannot spend additional funding received during the year unless it is identified by the Board of Health and the supplemental budget appropriation resolution is approved. The net result is a \$1,015,137 increase over our adopted 2019 budget. Dr. Fawell noted that no one from the public was present to speak on this issue and closed the public hearing at 4:55 p.m.

**MOTION: Ms. Jaroch moved to approve the proposed 2019 Supplemental Budget Appropriation and Resolution as presented. Mr. Nannestad seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.**

**Public Hearing Request: Adoption of Updated Methamphetamine Regulation**

Pursuant to CRS § 25-18.5-105(2) and 25-1-508(5)g, TCHD's Board of Health is authorized and empowered to adopt rules and regulations for the cleanup of illegal drug laboratories. An update to TCHD's current regulation is being proposed to align with language in the state regulation and add reporting requirements for all sampling conducted by state-approved consultants. Ms. Oliveto and Mr. Hlavacek recommended that the Board conduct a public hearing at their December 10, 2019 meeting to review proposed changes and adopt the updated *Regulation IDL-19, For The Decontamination of Methamphetamine-Affected Properties*.

**MOTION: Dr. Gallagher moved to hold a Public Hearing at the Board's February 2020 meeting to consider adopting the updated TCHD Regulation IDL-19 For The Decontamination of Methamphetamine-Affected Properties. Ms. Mullica seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.**

#### **Determine Annual Board of Health Dinner Meeting Location**

The Board members agreed to hold their annual dinner meeting on December 10, 2019 at the Comedy Works / Lucy Restaurant, 5345 Landmark Place, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

#### **Appoint Board of Health Nominating Committee Members**

Dr. Fawell appointed Dr. Gallagher, Ms. Reyes and Ms. Jaroch to the Board of Health Nominating Committee.

***ACTION ITEM: The Nominating Committee is to propose a slate of Board of Health Officers for 2019 at the December 10, 2019 Board meeting.***

#### **Update on Pulmonary Illness Related to Vaping and Adoption of a Board Resolution on the Youth Vaping Epidemic**

Dr. Albanese provided an interim summary of the multistate outbreak of severe respiratory illness associated with vaping. As of September 24, 2019, 805 cases of lung injury potentially related to use of vape or e-cigarette products have been reported to CDC from 46 states and one territory. In Colorado, as of September 25, 2019, eight cases have been reported. To date, no single e-cigarette or vaping product or chemical exposure related to use of these products has been linked to all lung injury cases.

Ms. Baumgartner presented a proposed resolution to the Board that declares youth vaping a public health crisis and encourages action by a variety of stakeholders including school districts and schools, local governments, health care providers, retailers, parents and guardians, and youth. TCHD is committed to dedicating resources to assist stakeholders and can provide technical assistance, model policy language, training, and selected material and financial resources.

**MOTION: Ms. Brainard moved to adopt the Resolution Declaring Youth Vaping a Public Health Crisis and Ms. Jaroch seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.**

***ACTION ITEM: Ms. Baumgartner to draft a communication plan for the vaping resolution and solicit input from the Board members.***

#### **Current Infectious Disease Events**

Ms. Warren provided updates on influenza activity, TCHD's MMR (measles, mumps and rubella) campaign in response to low vaccination rates, and the hepatitis A outbreak among the homeless population. She also provided updates on rabies, West Nile virus and plague.

Dr. Gallagher requested an update on the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility in Aurora. Per Ms. Warren, facility staff continue to be proactive and consistently offer MMR and varicella vaccinations to the incoming population and contact TCHD early when new cases enter the facility.

**Report on Budget Study Sessions with County Commissioners and County Budget Staff**

Dr. Douglas reported that TCHD met with the Arapahoe and Douglas County Commissioners at the end of August. Commissioner Partridge suggested that TCHD report back on new positions that have been granted and look for opportunities for collaboration between us and our three counties. TCHD met with the Adams County Commissioners at the end of September and then had a follow-up study session on October 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss the top ten health needs in their county. We proposed two positions, Air Quality and Food Security, for Adams County-specific support and are currently awaiting their decision. Dr. Douglas thanked the Board Members who attended these sessions.

**TCHD High-Profile Public Communications: 2019 Legislative Session**

Ms. Sager presented a detailed list of TCHD's high-profile engagement activities during the 2019 legislative session. Ms. Mullica inquired whether TCHD was also active during the legislative interim. Dr. Douglas answered affirmatively. Ms. Mullica stated that it would be helpful for TCHD to also report on TCHD's high-profile policy engagement during the legislative interim. Ms. Sager agreed to keep a running tally beginning May 8<sup>th</sup>, the day after the 2020 legislative session ends.

***ACTION ITEM: Beginning in 2020, Ms. Sager to monitor and report annually on high-profile policy engagement during the legislative interim. High-profile engagement may include communications with state policy makers and participation in Interim Committees, task forces and studies.***

**Program Update: Substance Use Prevention**

Steve Martinez, Substance Abuse Prevention Coordinator, provided an update on TCHD's Substance Abuse Prevention Program to the Board members. He detailed major accomplishments in the past one to three years as well as future program goals.

**Program Update: Tobacco/Vaping**

Taylor Roberts, Chronic Disease Prevention Coordinator, provided an update on TCHD's Tobacco Prevention and Control Program. He detailed major accomplishments in the past one to three years as well as future program goals.

**Executive Director's Report**

**TCHD Program Achieves American Heart Association Gold Level Status**

TCHD's internal Employee Health and Wellness Program just received Gold Level Recognition from the American Heart Association for having healthy workplace practices. The Workplace Health Achievement index scores organizations on 55 individual best practices including leadership, engagement, programs, policies and environment, partnerships, communications and reporting outcomes, and overall workplace heart health.

**TCHD Earns the USDA's Loving Support Award of Excellence**

TCHD was one of only nine WIC agencies in the nation to receive the USDA's Gold Premiere Loving Support Award of Excellence for superior support of breastfeeding. In an effort to increase breastfeeding initiation and duration rates, the TCHD WIC program started the first

Breastfeeding Peer Counselor Program in Colorado in 1997. The program has grown over time and currently supports WIC families at all ten TCHD WIC office locations, two rural area WIC clinics and three WIC co-location sites.

#### **NACCHO Stories from the Field - Local Response to Mumps Outbreak**

TCHD prepared a *Stories from the Field* article for the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) that highlighted the successful use of universal measles, mumps and rubella (MMR) vaccination to control the mumps outbreak at the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) facility in Aurora, CO. The [article](#) was presented in conjunction with NACCHO's webinar on August 28, 2019, that discussed the status of ongoing mumps transmission in ICE facilities across the country.

#### **TCHD Welcomes New CDC Epidemic Intelligence Service Officer**

TCHD is happy to welcome our new CDC Epidemic Intelligence Officer (EISO), Kristen Marshall, PhD, MPH. Kristen comes to us from the University of Rochester, NY where she recently completed her PhD in Translational Biomedical Science and she also has an MPH from Texas A&M. CDC's EIS program is a two-year fellowship program in applied epidemiology. Officers are based either at a CDC location or a state or local health department. For the first time, TCHD and CDPHE are sharing the position, which allows our Officer to learn about the important work of public health from both the state and local perspectives.

#### **TCHD Matched with a Public Health Associate**

The Public Health Associate Program (PHAP) is a competitive, two-year, paid training program with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). PHAP associates are assigned, via a match process, to public health agencies and nongovernmental organizations in the United States and US territories, and work alongside other professionals across a variety of public health settings. Allie LaMonica will be joining TCHD on October 15<sup>th</sup> and will be supporting food access through farmer's markets and gardens and also supporting the Public Health Improvement Plan in many activities.

#### **TCHD Hires Informatics Project Manager**

The Planning and Information Management Division has hired TCHD's first ever Informatics Project Manager. Douglas Glenn was hired July 29, 2019 and will be working to bring formal project management to our information system projects.

#### **Increased Capacity to Reduce Older Adult Falls**

This quarter, nine new coaches were certified by TCHD to lead *A Matter of Balance* trainings. TCHD is the regional coordinating agency for [A Matter of Balance](#) and, in partnership with the Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG), engages with community organizations to offer this evidence-based training, at no charge, to adults age 60 and over.

#### **National Preparedness Month Activities**

September was National Preparedness Month, a nationwide effort to encourage individuals and communities to plan and prepare for emergencies. The national theme this year is [Prepared, Not Scared](#). During September, TCHD's Emergency Preparedness and Response staff engaged in a variety of activities to increase the preparedness and resiliency of our staff and communities.

#### **Announcement of Opioid Prevention Funding from State Legislature**

Passage of Senate Bill 19-228 included funding for local public health agencies to address the burden of opioids. TCHD will receive \$413,318.07 to implement efforts for the fiscal year ending

June 30, 2020. Work plans and budgets are being determined, with initial efforts beginning upon receipt of funding on approximately November 1, 2019.

#### **TCHD Awarded Competitive Federal Substance Abuse Grant**

TCHD was selected to receive a competitive grant from the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). This project, which began September 30, 2019, will support the Douglas County Youth Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition and the Douglas County Youth Leader Board. This grant will fund the next phase of the coalition's work with \$168,881 per year for five years, approximately two-thirds of which will be subcontracted to Douglas County School District to serve as the coalition lead with a full-time coordinator.

#### **Syndromic Surveillance Program Grant Update**

The direct CDC funding that TCHD had been receiving to support the [National Syndromic Surveillance Program](#) sunset on August 30, 2019. TCHD now receives funding through the CDC Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity grant to support sustainability of ongoing syndromic surveillance efforts. Additionally, TCHD receives funding from the CDC Overdose Data to Action grant and the Syndromic Surveillance Suicide and Violence Prevention grant and will work closely with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) and local public health partners to expand syndromic surveillance efforts across the state and enhance current surveillance efforts related to substance overdose, suicide and violence.

#### **TCHD Receives Grant for Localized Air Quality Monitoring**

TCHD will receive \$45,000 from CDPHE's Public Health Tracking Program to enhance local air quality monitoring in Adams County and the City of Sheridan. Air quality-monitoring sensors will gather real-time data that can be used to guide strategies to reduce exposure to harmful pollutants in populations disproportionately impacted by asthma and respiratory disease. Local air quality data will be immediately available to residents, schools, and public health professionals, enabling informed decision-making on outreach, programmatic changes, and education.

#### **Healthy Kids Meals Aurora**

TCHD is a key partner in the regional Healthy Beverage Partnership (HBP), funded through CDPHE's Cancer, Cardiovascular, and Chronic Pulmonary Disease (CCPD) grant program. This grant cycle, the HBP will prioritize the establishment of policies and environmental changes to shift offerings in community settings to healthy choices, such as establishing healthy beverage standards for bundled kids' restaurant meals (drink included in the price) in Aurora. Visit [Healthy Beverages](#) for more information.

#### **Cancer, Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Disease Grant Programs**

Highlights were provided for the first year of grants funded through the state CCPD Program: Advancing Breastfeeding in Colorado, Diabetes Education Program, and Workplace Health and Wellbeing.

#### **New Partnership with Skaggs School of Pharmacy**

TCHD is expanding its partnership with the Skaggs School of Pharmacy and will provide grant funds to the University to train pharmacy students and community pharmacists in tobacco cessation counseling and medication best practices. They will be placed in pharmacies in high-burden communities and will provide tobacco cessation counseling and medications to clients.

#### **Local Tobacco Control Policy Efforts**

TCHD actively provides resources, expertise, and assistance to communities considering expanded policies to reduce use and exposure related to tobacco and vaping products.

On 9/23, the Northglenn City Council voted unanimously to prohibit smoking and the use of electronic smoking devices in public parks and recreational areas. In other parts of the state, communities have taken action by raising the minimum legal sales age to 21, passing ordinances regulating the sales of flavored tobacco and nicotine products, and requiring a license to operate a retail tobacco store.

#### **Elected Officials Workshop and Luncheon**

TCHD will hold its 2019 Elected Officials Workshop and Luncheon on December 13, 2019. The event will include an address from the Governor's Office, state policy updates from DRCOG and CALPHO, an overview of TCHD's 2020 legislative priorities, highlights of local approaches to public health issues, and updates from state representatives on anticipated legislation for the 2020 legislative session. The goal of this event is to enhance relationships with policy makers in TCHD's jurisdiction and to encourage policy makers to use TCHD as a resource as they navigate public health issues in their communities.

#### **Elected Officials Newsletter**

On October 7, 2019, TCHD will distribute its first issue of the *TCHD Public Health Policy Connection*, a policy newsletter directed toward policy makers in TCHD's jurisdiction. The goal of this publication is to enhance relationships with policy makers at the federal, state, and local levels through policy updates and connections to TCHD expertise. Newsletter updates will include recent policy changes, potential policy changes, local highlights, newly available public health data, and other updates relevant to policy makers. The newsletter will be distributed three times a year with breaking news announcements distributed as needed.

#### **TCHD 2020 Legislative Priority Setting**

Prior to the December Board of Health meeting, the Policy and Intergovernmental Affairs Manager will work with key staff to identify three to five public health policy priority areas for the 2020 legislative session. Because legislation for the 2020 session is not yet available, TCHD will identify priority areas based on the 2019 legislative session, partner discussions and priorities, the current public health landscape, and TCHD's mission, goals, and PHIP/Strategic Plan priorities.

#### **Strategic Plan Progress Update**

Nearly 90 staff have opted to participate in the implementation phase of TCHD's new Strategic Plan. Work groups for each goal area are being formed and will begin meeting in the last quarter of 2019. An employee survey will be released in mid-October to capture baseline levels of important indicators related to the strategic plan.

#### **Public Health Improvement Plan (PHIP) Progress Update**

The four PHIP priority area work groups continue to meet to enhance collaboration across divisions. Staff are working to align program performance measures with the larger PHIP performance measures where needed. We plan to host two external partner meetings annually to ensure alignment with work happening in our communities and to identify areas of need going forward.

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### **TCHD All-Staff Meeting**

TCHD's Annual 2019 All-Staff Meeting will be held on Thursday, October 17, 2019 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Double Tree Hotel, Denver Tech Center, I-25 and Orchard, 7801 E. Orchard Rd., Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

### **CABO! Update**

TCHD's Administration and Finance Division continues working with consultant BerryDunn to analyze requirements for a complete Financial Management System replacement, referred to as CABO! (Contracts, Accounting, Budget and Operations). Next steps include a site visit with BerryDunn in October 2019 to develop the Request for Proposals (RFP) for our future integrated Financial System.

### **TCHD Staff Influenza Vaccination Clinics**

TCHD's Employee Health and Wellness Program, in coordination with our Immunization Program, has arranged for multiple influenza vaccination opportunities for our employees, their family members and Board of Health members. TCHD will host Family Flu Shot Clinics on Monday, October 14<sup>th</sup> from 3pm-6pm at the Administration, Aurora East, Englewood and Westminster TCHD offices. We will use our Kaiser Wellness dollars to pay for the cost of these clinics.

### **International Overdose Awareness Day**

The third annual Tri-County Overdose Prevention Partnership's (TCOPP) Overdose Awareness Day event was held 8/28 at Centura's 84<sup>th</sup> Ave Neighborhood Health Center. Attendees heard from local elected officials and law enforcement on current prevention efforts, and guest speakers shared personal stories of recovery and overcoming addiction. Prevention methods were shared along with 15 resource tables hosted by TCOPP partners.

### **Update on Opiate Lawsuit**

Dr. Douglas provided an update on the Multi-Jurisdictional Lawsuit TCHD joined last December.

### **Update on Kratom-related Legislation in TCHD's Jurisdiction.**

TCHD has worked with a number of municipalities regarding kratom. To date, the Town of Castle Rock has banned sales to persons under 18 years of age and the City of Greenwood Village and the Town of Parker have banned all sales regardless of age. Additionally, TCHD was contacted by State Representative Caraveo (District 31, Adams County) who might be considering a bill related to an age restriction on kratom sales or other production regulations during the 2020 legislative session.

### **Update for Permanent Household Chemical Roundup Facility**

On September 5, 2019, representatives from Arapahoe County, Douglas County, Parker Water and Sanitation District, and Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority toured a potential permanent household chemical roundup facility located at 1281 W. Dartmouth Ave. in Englewood. All agreed the facility could work for our purposes. Next steps include discussing logistics and developing a strategy to move forward with the governing bodies in each jurisdiction.

***ACTION ITEM: Mr. Hlavacek to convene a conference call with Arapahoe and Douglas County-appointed Board of Health members to determine how they can best engage their Commissioners on this issue.***



**Update on PFC Groundwater Contamination Issue**

TCHD continues to work with various agencies to identify the source of Perfluorinated Compounds (PFCs) in groundwater in South Adams County. Additionally, PFCs have been detected at high levels at multiple locations on Buckley Air Force Base (AFB) in Aurora. In 2020, Buckley AFB, in addition to their onsite investigation, will be conducting a door-to-door campaign to sample offsite private wells to the north of the base in an effort to determine the extent of the contamination.

**Other Items**

None.

**Set Agenda for the December 10, 2019 Meeting**

The December 10, 2019 meeting agenda will include: 1) a public hearing to adopt TCHD's 2020 budget, 2) consideration of the proposed expansion of TCHD's Syringe Access Program, and 3) a report from the Board Nominating Committee on the proposed slate of Board officers for 2020.

**Board Member Remarks**

None.

**Closing Remarks**

None.

**Adjournment**

Dr. Fawell announced that a closed Executive Session of the Board of Health would follow the public meeting to discuss the Executive Director's performance evaluation.

**MOTION: Dr. Gallagher moved to adjourn the public meeting at 6:40 p.m. and move to a closed executive session. Ms. Jaroch seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.**

  
Thomas Fawell, MD.

  
Naomi Steenson, Secretary