

Tri-County Board of Health Meeting
April 8, 2014
Minutes

The Board of Health was officially called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Thomas Fawell, M.D., Board President, at Tri-County Health Department, 6162 S. Willow Drive, Suite 100, Greenwood Village, CO 80111. Other members comprising a quorum included Carole Adducci; Joseph Anderson, M.D.; Janice Brainard (via phone); Kaia Gallagher, Ph.D.; Rick Hale; Paulette Joswick; Don Parrot; and Naomi Steenson. John M. Douglas, Jr., M.D., Executive Director, and several Tri-County Health Department (TCHD) employees were also in attendance.

Introductions

Stacy Weinberg, Director of Epidemiology, Planning and Communication, introduced Christine Demont-Heinrich, Health Planner.

Brian Hlavacek, Acting Director of Environmental Health, introduced Keith Homersham, Environmental Health Manager; Warren Brown, Public Health Engineer; and Caitlin Gappa and Candace Spice, Environmental Health Specialists.

Mark Harkleroad, Director of Administration and Information Technology, introduced Mike Belieu, Controller

Dr. Douglas announced that Tom Butts, formerly Acting Deputy Director, has officially been selected as TCHD's new Deputy Director.

Current Infectious Disease Events

Dr. Douglas discussed the continuing pertussis epidemic, a norovirus outbreak linked to a restaurant in TCHD's jurisdiction, and a salmonellosis outbreak associated with feeder rodents. He also announced that TCHD and Denver Public Health were planning to submit a joint application for a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) grant to form a coalition of providers to test for and treat hepatitis C in high-risk populations in Denver and Adams Counties.

Strategic Planning Update

Gurudev Khalsa, a management consultant with whom TCHD has contracted to facilitate/coordinate its strategic planning process, discussed the timeline and key elements of strategic plan development. Next, Mr. Khalsa summarized results of the internal staff survey and external stakeholder interviews and compared internal and external priorities. Dr. Douglas announced that there was one more phase of staff data collection to complete: division discussions.

Mr. Butts noted that the next Board meeting was scheduled for June 10, 2014 and inquired whether e-mail updates with opportunity for Board member input between meetings was appropriate. The Board members agreed with this approach.

Public Health Improvement Plan Update

Ms. Weinberg announced that the state Board of Health approved TCHD's Public Health Improvement Plan (PHIP) at their February 2014 meeting. Mr. Parrot inquired whether Denver Public Health and Jefferson County Department of Public Health and Environment chose mental health as their focus. Ms. Weinberg responded that, although they did not choose mental health

directly, psychosocial factors are interwoven throughout their priority areas. Dr. Douglas stated that Boulder County Health Department selected substance abuse as their area of focus.

Ms. Weinberg distributed a list of community partner organizations of which the PHIP Leadership Team is comprised. Ms. Joswick volunteered to be the TCHD Board representative on the Leadership Team, which will convene for the first time on April 30, 2014. Working groups will also be appointed to develop action plans for each PHIP goal.

Legislative Update

Mr. Butts provided an update on several bills that were passed or defeated by the state legislature. Additional bills are awaiting funding decisions by the Governor.

TCHD Facilities Update

Mr. Butts announced that the second floor renovation at Altura Plaza has been completed and the staff has moved in. Demolition will begin on one-half of the third floor next week. Also, TCHD has requested a firm offer from the landlord for a one-year lease extension at its Northglenn office. A second facility may become available in the Northglenn area in 12 to 18 months, which could provide us with a viable option for relocation. Our current lease ends in November 2014.

Approval of the Minutes of the February 11, 2014 Meeting

The minutes of the February 11, 2014 meeting were presented to the Board for review.

MOTION: Mr. Hale moved to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2014 meeting as presented and Dr. Anderson seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of the 2013 Year-End Financial Statements

Mr. Harkleroad presented the 2013 year-end financial statements to the Board for review. He informed the Board that TCHD completed the year with \$1,352,569 in excess revenue. This amount was placed in TCHD's fund balance. Mr. Harkleroad explained that the year-end fund balance contribution was higher than estimated at the February 2014 Board meeting due to a revenue accounting recommendation made by our auditors.

MOTION: Ms. Adducci moved to accept the 2013 year-end financial statements as presented and Mr. Hale seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Approval of the Financial Statements Dated January 31, 2014

Mr. Harkleroad presented the financial statements dated January 31, 2014 to the Board for review. Dr. Fawell inquired on the \$37,957 for construction costs at the Englewood office. Mr. Harkleroad explained that the costs were incurred to complete the remodeling project that began last fall.

MOTION: Mr. Parrot moved to accept the financial statements dated January 31, 2014 as presented and Ms. Steenson seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Hearing: Adoption of O-14, New Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) Regulation

Dr. Fawell opened the public hearing at 5:45 p.m. regarding the proposed adoption of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) Regulation O-14. The public hearing was duly advertised in *The Denver Post* on March 9, 2014 and was posted on TCHD's website 30 days prior to tonight's meeting.

Mr. Hlavacek informed the Board that the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) Water Quality Control Commission Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Regulation #43 became effective June 30, 2013. To conform with Regulation #43, TCHD must adopt its OWTS regulation, which will be designated as O-14, by June 30, 2014. Warren Brown, Public Health Engineer, summarized the primary changes in regulatory requirements and discussed the "opt-ins" and TCHD's recommendations for each.

Jojo La, a representative from the Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority, presented and read a letter supporting the adoption of Regulation O-14. No other individuals from the public were present to speak.

Dr. Fawell closed the public hearing at 5:55 p.m.

MOTION: Dr. Gallagher moved to adopt TCHD's proposed Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems Regulation O-14 as presented effective June 30, 2014 and Ms. Joswick seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Hearing Request: Proposed Environmental Health Fee Changes

Mr. Hlavacek explained that, pursuant to C.R.S. 25-1-508(5)(j) and C.R.S. 25-10-107(1), the TCHD Board of Health may assess fees equal to actual and direct costs. A fee calculation formula previously adopted by the Board of Health was used in 2014 to review the majority of program fees (some are set by state statute). This year, Environmental Health has eliminated indirect costs and incorporated general costs into the fee formula. Mr. Hlavacek presented the proposed fees to the Board and summarized the major changes.

Mr. Parrot inquired on the status of the planned restaurant license fee increase. Mr. Hlavacek stated that it was defeated before it ever went in front of the state legislature. He believes Colorado Counties, Inc. is committed to working with the Colorado Restaurant Association over the summer on regulation changes; therefore, a proposed fee increase could be presented to state legislators next year.

Dr. Anderson inquired whether tattoo artists were required to be tested for blood borne pathogens. Keith Homersham, Environmental Health Manager, stated that blood borne pathogen (BBP) testing is not addressed in the regulation. Additionally, BBP training is not required, but is encouraged. Dr. Douglas asked whether body art facility clients are given risk information. Mr. Homersham stated that this is not required by the regulation.

CONSENSUS: The Board members unanimously agreed to hold a Public Hearing to consider the adoption of proposed Environmental Health fee changes on June 10, 2014.

Executive Director's Report

TCHD to Receive Two NACCHO Model Practice Awards

This year, TCHD will receive two National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Model Practice Awards. The Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response will receive an award for its Public Health Incident Management Team (PHIMT) and the Nutrition Division will receive an award for its Worksite Wellness Collaborative Outreach Model. This is the eleventh consecutive year one or more TCHD programs have received this distinction.

TCHD Employee Receives "Women Making a Difference" Nomination

Michele Haugh, TCHD's Worksite Wellness Coordinator, received a "Women Making a Difference" nomination at the annual award event sponsored by the Aurora Chamber of Commerce Women In Business Committee for the leadership role she played in the Thrive for Life Aurora worksite wellness project.

TCHD Receives Mental Health Award

Mental Health America Colorado (MHAC) named TCHD "Community Advocate of the Year" for leading the public health improvement planning process for Adams, Arapahoe and Douglas Counties, which resulted in a five-year plan focused on Mental Health Promotion. Moe Keller, Vice President of Policy for MHAC, presented the award at their Legislative Advocacy Day held on February 21, 2014.

TCHD Staff Member Named "Outstanding Affiliate Faculty"

The Regis University School of Nursing selected Bryce Andersen, TCHD Nurse Manager, as its "Outstanding Affiliate Faculty" member. In 2013, Mr. Andersen provided sixteen four-hour classes on the role of a Public Health Nurse during a disaster or disease outbreak. He also teaches immunizations and vaccine classes to Regis nurse practitioner students twice a year.

Vital Records Office Opens in Commerce City

On March 3, 2014, TCHD opened a second Vital Records office in Commerce City to better serve residents in the northern tier of our jurisdiction, primarily those residing Adams County. Weekly business volume and revenue at our new office has been steadily increasing.

Emergency Preparedness and Response Local Technical Assistance Review

On February 12, 2014, CDPHE conducted its annual Local Technical Assistance Review (LTAR) to assess TCHD's readiness for Mass Prophylaxis response. The assessment included review and scoring of Elbert County's Health and Human Services plan, which is now included in TCHD's plan as a Field Operating Guide. TCHD's score increased from 97% to 99% and Elbert County Health and Human Service's score increased from 65% to 95%.

Colorado Integrated Emergency Management Conference Presentation

In February 2014, TCHD's Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response (EPR) served on a panel at the 2014 Colorado Integrated Emergency Management Conference. Michele Askenazi, EPR Director, along with colleagues from CDPHE and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, shared information from the local, state and federal perspectives on the role of Emergency Support Function #8 (ESF #8), which coordinates public health and medical functions and how they are integrated into the overall response structure during any incident.

A Matter of Balance Program Audit Results

TCHD received full approval with no outstanding issues or improvement areas following a Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) audit of its a Matter of Balance Program. TCHD was also randomly selected for an on-site evaluation by the State Unit on Aging. Feedback during the evaluation was positive; however, audit results are pending.

TCHD Receives GIS Grant

TCHD, in partnership with Denver Public Health, has been accepted to participate in a program called “Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Training for Surveillance of Heart Disease, Stroke, and Other Chronic Diseases.” This capacity-building project is a joint undertaking of the CDC, the National Association of Chronic Disease Directors (NACDD), and the University of Michigan. Four TCHD staff members will receive training in the use of GIS for chronic disease surveillance, an ESRI software grant to cover the cost of needed GIS software, and access to expert GIS consultation from staff at the University of Michigan.

Kick Butts Day

On March 19, 2014, TCHD’s Tobacco Prevention program sub-grantees, including the YMCA of Aurora, the Arapahoe County/CSU Extension Program, the Community College of Aurora, the Glendale Sports Center YMCA, the Commerce City Boys and Girls Club, Douglas County School District and Brighton School district, participated in several annual Kick Butts Day activities.

TCHD Benefits Renewal

TCHD will continue to contract with CIGNA Healthcare, Delta Dental of Colorado, and Vision Service Plan. Due to favorable loss ratios, benefits renewed with minimal change.

County Health Rankings

Every year, the University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute and Robert Wood Johnson Foundation publish the *County Health Rankings*, which are intended to raise awareness about many factors that affect health and how they differ from place to place. The *Rankings* are not intended to produce a list of the ten healthiest counties in the nation, which is why counties are ranked within each state and not nationwide.

This year, each county received two rankings: one for Health Outcomes and one for Health Factors. Health Outcome measures include: mortality (50%) and morbidity (50%). Adams County received a Health Outcomes rank of 35 out of 59 counties ranked in Colorado. Five counties were not ranked due to insufficient data. Arapahoe County ranked 20th and Douglas County ranked first. Health Factors include health behaviors (30%), clinical care (20%), social and economic factors (40%), and physical environment (10%). Adams County received a Health Factors rank of 50 out of 59. Arapahoe County ranked 26th and Douglas County ranked first.

Public Health and Marijuana Symposium

The Center for Public Health Practice at the Colorado School of Public Health sponsored a Public Health and Marijuana symposium on March 7, 2014. Several TCHD staff and individuals from other public health agencies, hospitals, the university, and nonprofit organizations attended this large community event. Many speakers shared current information about marijuana and its health effects, including possible links to chronic diseases, connections to substance abuse and mental illness (especially in youth), and the risk of accidental child poisonings. Dr. Larry Wolk, CDPHE’s Executive Director, spoke about the state’s current and planned activities, including a statewide website and prevention funds that will be released to local substance abuse coalitions.

Currently, no funding for local public health agency marijuana education and prevention activities is available; however, TCHD will continue to work with CDPHE and community partners to determine how to best meet our communities' needs with existing resources.

Summary of Foodborne Illness Outbreak Linked to Hacienda Colorado

TCHD recently investigated a foodborne illness outbreak affecting three separate groups of individuals who dined at Hacienda Colorado on January 23, 2014. Overall, 23 of 47 (49%) people became ill with vomiting or diarrhea. Three of these patrons tested positive for norovirus. TCHD's Environmental Health staff and Disease Intervention staff are working closely with Hacienda Colorado to implement policy change and to ensure compliance with the Colorado Retail Food Establishment Rules and Regulations can be maintained.

Statewide Oil and Gas Regulatory Changes and Legislative Initiative

On February 23, 2014, Colorado's Air Quality Control Commission fully adopted the Environmental Protection Agency's Standards of Performance for Crude Oil and Natural Gas Production, Transmission, and Distribution; adopted corresponding revisions to its emissions reporting and permitting framework; and adopted complimentary oil and gas control measures.

Additionally, during the 2014 legislative session, HB 14-1297 was introduced which directs CDPHE to conduct an analysis of human health and quality of life within the counties of Larimer, Weld, Boulder, and Adams with the intent of understanding any possible effects of oil and gas operations on communities within these counties. If passed, a scientific oversight committee would be created to oversee the design and implementation of the analysis.

Chatfield Watershed Authority Update

In 2013, the Chatfield Watershed Authority received a grant from CDPHE to complete a Watershed Plan aimed at achieving water quality goals within the reservoir. TCHD was present at the majority of the stakeholder meetings and led discussions on OWTS requirements including system placement, treatment and maintenance to protect water quality. The final draft of the Watershed Plan contains a section on OWTS to address pollutants from existing systems through repair, replacement, incorporation of advanced or alternative pre-treatment components, and conversion to sewer or centralized treatment. The Watershed Plan was presented to and adopted by the Authority's Board on March 26, 2014. TCHD will continue to work with the Authority to improve water quality and bring the Watershed Plan to fruition.

Denver Smart Growth Conference

In February 2014, Sheila Lynch, Land Use Program Coordinator, and Brian Hlavacek, Acting Environmental Health Director, attended the 13th Annual New Partners in Smart Growth Conference during which individuals from a broad spectrum of disciplines come together to discuss innovative strategies for developing healthy, sustainable, and equitable communities. Ms. Lynch presented at a session entitled "Beyond Silos: Public Health Planners Working Together to Create Healthy Communities for All," which highlighted four examples of successful partnerships between public health and planning professionals. Ms. Lynch also discussed TCHD's work with DRCOG on the Boomer Bond Assessment Tool.

Set Agenda for the June 10, 2014 Meeting

The June 10, 2014 agenda will include: 1) a public hearing to consider adoption of proposed Environmental Health fee changes; 2) 2015 budgetary dynamics; 3) the final 2013 audit report; 4) a strategic planning update; 5) a report on Dr. Douglas' meeting with the Boards of County

Commissioners; and 6) the annual Public Health Hero of the Year reception and awards ceremony.

Other Items

Dr. Douglas wished everyone a happy National Public Health Week.

Board Member Remarks

Dr. Anderson commended TCHD for establishing a Vital Records office in Adams County.

Closing Remarks

Dr. Fawell announced that a closed Executive Session of the Board would follow the meeting.

Adjournment

MOTION: Dr. Gallagher moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 p.m. Ms. Adducci seconded and the motion was approved unanimously.

Paulette Joswick, Vice President

Carole Adducci, Secretary