

**Health District**  
OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**May 24, 2022**

**Health District Office Building**  
120 Bristlecone Drive, Fort Collins

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Molly Gutilla, MS DrPH, Board Vice President  
Joseph Prows, MD MPH, Board Treasurer  
Celeste Kling, JD, Liaison to UCH-North/PVH  
Ann K. Yanagi, MD  
Julie Kunce Field, JD

**Staff Present:**

Robert Williams, Executive Director  
Chris Sheafor, Support Services Director  
James Stewart, Medical Director  
Karen Spink, Assistant Director  
Laura Mai, Finance Director  
Mike Ruttenberg, Connections Director

**Staff Present:**

Julie Abramoff, Clinical Nurse Manager  
Maggie Mueller, Community Health Nurse  
MJ Jorgensen, MHSUA Manager  
Xochitl Fragoso, Assistant Finance Director  
Anita Benavidez, Executive Assistant

**Public Present:**

Beth DeHaven

**CALL TO ORDER; INTRODUCTIONS & APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice President and Director Molly Gutilla called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

**MOTION: To approve the agenda as Presented**  
**Moved/Seconded/Carried Unanimously**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- Approval of April 26, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Financials
- Amend Position on SB22-238: 2023 and 2024 Property Tax

**MOTION: To approve the consent agenda as presented**  
**Moved by Celeste Kling / Seconded by Joseph Prows / Carried Unanimously**

**DISCUSSION & ACTIONS**

***Board Member Oaths of Office***

Each new Board member took the Oath of Office, committing to faithfully perform the duties of their office and to support the constitution of the United States, the constitution of the state of Colorado, and the laws made pursuant thereto, as required by §32-1-901 of the Colorado Revised Statutes.

***Setting a Board Retreat***

After brief discussion it was agreed that the Board would meet for a mini-retreat in June or July and a full-day retreat in September. The initial focus will be on programs with the mission, vision, and strategies priorities for the full-day retreat. Two of the Board members noted that they would not be available in June so the mini-retreat will be scheduled for a date in July agreeable to all board members.

### ***Board Officer Elections***

Director Gutilla noted that there are five officer positions: president, vice-president, secretary, treasurer, and liaison to UCHHealth. Position descriptions from the Bylaws were included in the Board packet. It was noted that the treasurer has responsibility for overseeing the annual audit as well as financial reports. The Liaison position requires two years as an active Board member.

**MOTION: To elect Board officers as follows:**

**Molly Gutilla, President; Julie Kunce Field, Vice President; Ann Yanagi, Secretary; Joseph Prows, Treasurer, and Celeste Holder Kling, Liaison to UCHHealth North/PVH**

***Moved by Joseph Prows / Seconded by Celeste Holder Kling / Carried Unanimously***

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

### **PRESENTATIONS**

#### ***Opening***

Robert Williams opened this portion of the meeting, informing Board members that they will have a Legislative Update as well as an update on Health Promotions activity related to the pandemic. Next month will focus on specific programs.

#### ***Legislation Update***

The Legislative Session ended at midnight of the 120<sup>th</sup> day. 513 of 657 bills passed (78%); the State budget was set at \$35B; federal pandemic relief budget of \$2B; and \$2B (15%) in the State Revenue Reserve Funding. There were considerable negotiations on the fentanyl bill, which passed, with amendments, at 11:30 pm. All policies that the Health District supported passed except the flavored tobacco bill. It is expected that all bills will be signed by the Governor. Lisa Ward noted three significant amendments to the fentanyl bill: (1) The bill now allows defendants the opportunity to prove they did not knowingly possess fentanyl during a jury trial; (2) the 2025 repeal was struck; and (3) county jails will now be required to offer Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT). The fiscal note was not significantly increased to accommodate the MAT requirements. A comprehensive written wrap-up will be in next month's Board packet.

#### ***Health Promotion***

Dr. James Stewart provided a brief overview on the Health District COVID-19 vaccine clinics. A great team of staff sacrificed a lot – working weekends, taking on additional duties, etc. They stepped up to the plate and those vaccinations have made a huge difference in hospitalizations and deaths. A bit of history: At the end of 2020, the State asked the Health District to apply to be a vaccine provider. A planning committee was formed to make it happen. Equipment was ordered to meet standards and sufficient staffing was ensured. They were able to build from historical experience with H1N1 and meningitis. The process early on was complicated. Bilingual staff created materials. Dr. Yanagi volunteered as a vaccinator. Priority populations (the elderly, BIPOC, LatinX, etc.) and those hard to reach were targeted.

The Health District partnered with 17 different community organizations. As of the end of April 2022, nearly 3,500 doses were delivered with about half in mobile clinics and 24% in rural settings. Over 400 doses were delivered to people experiencing homelessness. Outreach included messaging to people in their own language in safe places by trusted messengers. Mobile clinics included the Murphy Center, Catholic Charities, the Abyssinian Church, and the Holiday Twin Drive-In. Staff is returning to routine services with vaccine clinics ending at the Health District Bristlecone Offices. The mobile clinic will continue and there will be additional clinics at the Murphy Center and rural sites (Red Feather Lakes

which was combined with heart health). Approximately 73% of Larimer County residents have received at least one dose. Sadly, 91% of deaths were in the 55+ age group.

Partnerships and existing relationships were very helpful. Community leaders rallied to work with the BIPOC population. The LatinX population was already identified as a target and staff leveraged existing relationships (County Public Health, Salud, and UCH) to coordinate efforts. Over time, redundancies were ironed out. A written process is currently being developed. Kudos to the team for outreach, filling in gaps and getting to those at most risk. There were a lot of lessons learned about phasing and missed opportunities. Kudos from staff to Dr. Stewart for his quick and effective response despite being new to the Health District.. The Board was impressed with staff successes in this arena.

## ***OTHER UPDATES & REPORTS***

### ***Liaison to PVHS/UCHealth North Report***

The last meeting of the UCH North/PVH Board was May 18. The joint board meeting is still on hold although they recognize the need to get that scheduled. PVH is ready whenever the Health District is ready. PVH is open to having the program be whatever is appropriate and they are willing to share the results of their community survey. It was reported that they are getting back on track financially. A legislative report was presented at the last PVH Board meeting and Director Kling found it interesting to hear legislative news from the PVH perspective compared to the Health District perspective. Activities include starting with a new security provider at PVH; strategic planning; Mountain Crest move into the hospital; and working with SummitStone on the detox center. Staffing is going better. UCHealth shared their community survey with Robert Williams. It was noted that it would be worthwhile to determine from which populations it is hard to get information. The hospital's non-profit status requires a community survey to reflect where they are giving back. UCHealth does their survey every three years; Larimer County Health Department every five years; and the Health District every three years. There is hope that these surveys can be coordinated better going forward. Director Celeste Holder Kling noted that she will not be in attendance for the June Board meeting.

### ***Executive Director Updates***

Mr. Williams noted that the first quarter report is being revisited to make it more useful for the Board and the public. Performance measures are being defined to roll into a strategic plan. Work is progressing on a Board "portal" for sharing Board materials. The Health District is pulling back on some pandemic activities including closing the IRQ. Data and summaries will be provided at the next meeting.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT (2<sup>nd</sup> opportunity)**

A Board member expressed their sadness about the big school shooting in Texas. It is disheartening.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- June 28, 4:00 pm – Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- July 26, 4:00 pm – Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- August 23, 4:00 pm – Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- September 27, 4:00 pm – Board of Directors Regular Meeting

## **ADJOURN**

**MOTION: To adjourn the Meeting**

***Motion by Joseph Prows / Second by Julie Field / Carried Unanimously***

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm.