

**Health District**  
OF NORTHERN LARIMER COUNTY  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**March 14, 2023**

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

**MINUTES**

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

**Staff Present:**

Lorraine Haywood, Deputy Director  
Dana Turner, Health Services Director  
Laura Mai, Finance Director  
Paul Mayer, Medical Director  
Chris Roth, IT/Network Manager  
Alyson Williams, Director, Planning, Policy,  
Research & Evaluation

**Staff Present:**

Colton Frady, Assistant Finance Director

**Public Present:**

Dan Cummings, EFL Associates  
Michele Christensen, Housing Catalyst  
Lisa Ward, Frontline Public Affairs  
Beth Thurston, LWV  
Erin Hottenstein

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

Director Molly Gutilla called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. It was noted that the March 22 Special Board Meeting is not in Announcements. That meeting was added with a start time of 5:15 pm.

**MOTION:** **To approve the agenda as amended**  
*Motion by Celeste Holder Kling / Second by Julie Kunce Field / Carried*  
*Unanimously*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS**

***Brief Overview of Other Relevant Bills***

Alyson Williams reviewed two proposed letters supporting budget items for lifting the adult Medicaid Dental Cap and Community Health Center Funding. The Medicaid Adult Dental Cap bill is in Budget and was approved by the Joint Budget Committee. The team recommends a support or strongly support position with internal staff communicating the HD position, and the impact to HD clients, to legislators, asking them to support the budget item when it is heard on the Senate floor. With an estimated cost of \$900K, the bill will be supported by unclaimed property tax funds. This does not impact our allotted positions with Frontline.

**MOTION:** **To strongly support the adult dental benefits cap, supported by internal staff**  
*Motion by Celeste Holder Kling / Second by Joseph Prows / Carried*  
*Unanimously*

The Community Health Center Funding is one-time funding, with a Federal match, as ARPA expires this spring and the Public Health Emergency ends. The request is for a support position with internal staff conveying the importance of this funding for our community.

**MOTION: To support the Community Health Center Funding in the State’s budgetary process.**

*Motion by Celeste Holder Kling / Second by Ann Yanagi / Carried Unanimously*

### **Legislative Policy**

Any bills currently on the HD priority list that have a fiscal note are still in Appropriations and will remain there until mid- to late-March.

**HB23-1003: School Mental Health Assessment. Position: Actively Monitor.** The bill requires the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment to administer a mental health screening program available to public schools serving grades 6 – 12. It was amended to strike “assessment” and insert “screening; and “qualified provider” becomes a “screener.” CDPHE must utilize an evidence-based screening tool and includes a notification to parents, within 48 hours after completion of the screening, with information and resources provided through IMatter. The bill passed House, as amended, and is in Appropriations. The Fiscal Notes are: 2023/24 at \$475,278 and 2024/25 at \$16,965,736.

**HB23-1009: Secondary School Student Substance Use. Position: Support.** The bill creates the Secondary School Student Substance Use Committee in the Department of Education to determine practices to identify substance abuse in secondary schools and then connect students to resources. “State-licensed or state-certified mental health professionals that provide mental health counseling” will be substituted for “school counselors”. The Advisory Committee will include representatives from rural areas. The terms “secondary school” and “substance use” were defined in an amendment. It passed House 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and will be moving to Senate. Fiscal Note: \$54,445 GF for one year.

**HB23-1023: Special District Construction Contracts** increases the threshold for the public notice requirement for special district construction contracts from \$60K to \$120K with an inflation adjustment every five years. The bill passed Legislature on March 9 and has been sent to the Governor.

**HB23-1070: Mental Health Professionals Practice Requirements. Position: Support.** The bill died in committee.

**HB23-1071: Licensed Psychologist Prescriptive Authority. Position: Actively Monitor** The bill allows licensed psychologists to prescribe psychotropic medications once they have completed training and obtained certification issued by the State Board of Psychologist Examiners. It also requires one of the seven members of the Board to be a prescribing psychologist. The bill passed the Legislature and has been signed by the Governor. The bill does include requirements for rulemaking for the State Board of Psychologists. It was enacted with the Governor’s signature but it will likely be a couple of years before any Colorado psychologists can begin prescribing.

**HB23-1130: Drug Coverage for Serious Mental Illness. Position: Actively Monitor.** The bill would prohibit step therapy for “serious mental illness”, prohibiting the requirement for a person to try more than one prescription drug prior to receiving coverage for the drug recommended by the person’s health care provider. “Serious Mental Illness” has been defined in the bill. It passed the House floor and is on its way to Senate. The Fiscal Note is \$106,234 to HCPF.

**HB23-1209: Analyze Statewide Publicly Financed Healthcare. Position: None.** The bill requires the Colorado School of Public Health, with assistance from a task force, to create a report on model legislation for a universal single-payer health care system by December 1, 2023. There are several amendments coming, including coverage for HIV and STI services, additional members to the task force

(including nurses and rural health care providers), moving the study from CDPHE to HCPF, and pushes implementation out by a year. The study and its recommendations will be public. Passed First House Committee, moving to Appropriations. The Fiscal Note: \$317,768 FY 2023/24 to multiple state agencies. The Board has previously supported a similar bill.

**MOTION:** To actively monitor the analysis of the statewide publicly financed health-care modeling

*Motion by Celeste Holder Kling / Second by Julie Kunce Field / Molly Gutilla abstaining / Carried Unanimously*

**HB23-1215: Limits on Hospital Facility Fees. Position: None.** The bill places limitations on hospital facility fees and requires the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to update information and restrictions and report on facility fees. The bill has not yet had its first hearing on March 24 and amendments are anticipated.

**SB23-002: Medicaid Reimbursement for Community Health Services. Position: Support.** The bill requires the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing to seek federal authorization for Medicaid to pay services provided by community health workers and to implement new coverage once federal approval is granted. The bill was delayed in Committee and no new date is set. CDPHE currently maintain a voluntary registry of health navigators supported by term-limited federal grant funding, scheduled to end September 2023. The bill passed Senate Health and Human Services and is now going to Appropriations. Amendments to reduce the fiscal note are anticipated.

**SB23-004: Employment of School Mental Health Professionals. Position: Active Support.** The bill authorizes school districts to employ licensed mental health professionals who are not licensed by the Department of Education. Lisa and Alyson will work together to gather information on the CAYAC program that can be provided to the bill sponsor and legislators in support of the bill. The bill passed Senate and is now in the House with no fiscal note.

**SB23-091: Access to Behavioral Health Services** The bill was killed in committee.

**SB23-170: Extreme Risk Protection Order Petitions. Position: Support.** The bill allows community members, educators, licensed health care professionals, mental health professionals, and district attorneys to petition for an extreme risk protection order. Following much debate, the Bill passed Senate and is on its way to the House. Fiscal Note: \$140,462 to the Judicial Department for FY 2023-24.

**SB23-174: Access to Certain Behavioral Health Services. Position: None. Former bill SB23-091.** The requires the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing (HCPF) to provide certain behavioral health services for Medicaid recipients under 21 years of age without requiring a diagnosis. There is a lot of confusion in the policy world on this bill. It requires HCPF to begin to provide the services no later than July 1, 2024. Introduced in Senate with a hearing date of March 23.

**SB23-179: Dental Plans Medical Loss Ratio. Position: None.** The bill requires a health insurance carrier that issues, sells, renews, or offers a dental coverage plan to file, beginning in 2024, dental loss ratio forms with the Division of Insurance for the preceding calendar year in which dental coverage was provided. There is discussion around Community Benefit Dollars being part of Dental Loss Ratio. The HD, in the past, has received funding from the Delta Dental Foundation to provide services. If Community Benefit comes into question, the Foundation may lose funding and not be able to allocate funding to community partners. The recommendation is to watch the bill for any unintended consequences that may impact the HD.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- March 14, 5:00 pm – Board of Directors Special Meeting
- **March 22, 5:15 pm – Board of Directors Special Meeting**
- March 28, 5:00 pm – Board of Directors Regular Meeting
- April 11, 5:00 pm – Board of Directors Special Meeting

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**MOTION: To enter Executive Session for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations, develop a strategy for negotiations, and/or instruct negotiators, pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e), regarding the appointment of a new Executive Director.**

*Motion by Molly Gutilla / Second by Joseph Prows / Carried Unanimously*

The Board entered Executive Session at 5:42 pm

**ADJOURN OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION AND THE REGULAR MEETING**

**MOTION: To adjourn the Executive Session and Regular Meeting**

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

The Executive Session and Regular Board Meeting were adjourned at 6:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted:

*Anita K. Benavidez*

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Anita Benavidez, Assistant to the Board of Directors

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Molly Gutilla, MS, DrPH, Board President

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Julie Kunce Field, JD, Board Vice President

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Celeste Holder Kling, JD, Liaison to UCH-North and PVHS Board

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Joseph Prows, MD MPH, Board Treasurer

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