Health District

Board of Directors Meeting
6.17.2026
MINUTES

Location:	120 Bristlecone Dr., Fort Collins, CO 80524 or Zoom
Date:	Wednesday, June 17, 2026
Time:	6:00 PM

Board Members Present:	**Also Present:**
Erin Hottenstein, Board President	Brian Ferrans – Executive Director
Lee Thielen, Board Vice President	Jacque Ferrero – Executive Assistant/Board Clerk
Sarah Hathcock, Secretary	Courtney Green – Chief Administrative Officer
John McKay, PVH/UC Health Liaison	Dana Turner – VP of Client Experience
Julie Field-Treasurer	Jessica Holmes – Controller/Finance Officer
	Alyson Williams – VP of Strategy & Impact
	Michael Oliver– Information Systems Specialist
	Mike Lynch – Director of Infrastructure (Remote)
	Elizabeth Lebuhn– Legal Counsel (Remote)
	Juan Gonzales – ICC

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM by Board President Erin Hottenstein, with a quorum present. Guests and attendees were welcomed.

Pursuant to the bylaws, the conflict-of-interest statement was read. All board members confirmed no known or perceived conflicts of interest related to any agenda item. Directors Field and McKay, who joined after the statement was initially read, each confirmed no conflicts in the interest of transparency.

The agenda was approved unanimously upon motion by Director Thielen, seconded by Director Hathcock.

II. Public Comment

No public comment was received, either online or in person.

III. Presentations

a. Legislative Session Presentation-Alyson Williams

Alyson Williams presented a wrap-up of the 2026 Colorado legislative session. Of 626 bills introduced, only 449 passed — a 72% passage rate, the lowest since the legislature was split between parties. Governor Polis vetoed 12 bills, a personal record. The state is projecting another $1 billion budget shortfall heading into FY2027, and the legislature referred a ballot measure to voters to expand the TABOR cap, which would retain roughly $184 million in refunds as a partial offset.

The Health District supported several bills that passed, including Senate Bill 178, which restored one year of funding for the Health Insurance Affordability Enterprise — supporting the reinsurance program, Omnia Salud coverage for undocumented individuals, and wraparound premium subsidies for marketplace enrollees. The senior dental program was reduced by $1.5 million but preserved, which Williams characterized as the best achievable outcome given that full elimination had been on the table. Two AI-related bills also passed with the district's support: one restricting the use of AI by licensed behavioral health professionals in therapeutic settings, and another requiring human oversight in AI-driven insurance utilization management decisions.

On the failed side, House Bill 1300 — which would have allowed health service district boards to add housing services via simple majority vote — did not advance in the Senate. House Bill 1271, which would have created fees on alcohol manufacturers to fund addiction recovery programming, failed for the second consecutive year due to enterprise model debates and industry opposition. A bill to authorize mobile phone voting and a modification to the Colorado Open Records Act also failed, with both of the latter two considered very likely to be reintroduced in 2027.

Other notable budget impacts included a 2% Medicaid reimbursement cut across most providers, reduced Area Agencies on Aging funding, a doubling of the IDT services wait list, and new caps on paid family caregiver hours. A permanent Medicaid Commission was established to guide long-term system oversight and respond to federal HR 1 developments. House Bill 1069 on EMS services was highlighted as a significant but underreported win, allowing Medicaid reimbursement for community paramedics, treat-in-place services, and transport to urgent care in lieu of emergency departments.

Board members expressed interest in prioritizing prevention, suicide prevention, behavioral health services, and special district election accessibility in the district's 2027 legislative focus. The board discussed advocacy strategy at length, including interest in scheduling a board visit to the Capitol during session, inviting legislators to visit the Health District to hear directly from program staff, and exploring ways to engage staff in advocacy through the district's intranet and pre-written template communications. Williams noted the complexity of joining coalition days at the Capitol given the district's unique position, and described existing coordination with Larimer County, the health department, the city, and United Way during session. The board was encouraged to share any specific policy priorities with staff ahead of July, when bill development activity is expected to resume.

IV. Consent Agenda

The consent agenda included approval of the draft meeting minutes from the May 20, 2026 regular board meeting and the executive session on June 5, 2026.

The motion to approve the consent agenda was made by Director Thielen, seconded by Director Hathcock, and passed unanimously.

V. Reports & Discussions

a. Investment Report-Courtney Green

Courtney Green presented the annual investment portfolio performance report for the year ending December 31, 2025. The portfolio performed as expected, maintaining the district's core priorities of safety, liquidity, and yield, and remains fully compliant with Colorado statutes governing public funds.

At year-end 2025, the total portfolio value was $13.78 million, with annual earnings just over $612,000 and an overall yield of 4.44%, down from 5.13% in 2024 due to three external events in the fall. The portfolio is intentionally conservative: approximately 90% in ColoTrust, 8% in CDs, and 2% in a flexible savings account, with all funds FDIC-insured or fully collateralized.

Green recommended reassessing ColoTrust allocations to move excess funds into higher-yield instruments, expanding into a laddered CD strategy, reevaluating the flexible savings account (currently yielding ~1.87%), and moving to quarterly reporting to allow more timely adjustments. In discussion, the board confirmed no policy barriers prevent acting on these recommendations and noted that operational transitions had delayed implementation in 2025. Board President Hottenstein indicated interest in including investment policy in the upcoming board policy update discussions planned for July.

b. Board Member Reports

Director Hottenstein: Reported that Larimer County Commissioner John Kefalas presented to the Workforce Development Board on the county's budget challenges — having absorbed $20 million in costs, cut $4 million this year, and anticipating more cuts ahead. The Board of County Commissioners is seeking public input at chooselarimersfuture.com and may bring revenue measures to the November ballot. Hottenstein noted the direct parallel to state-level pressures and the downstream effects on the Health District.

Director Thielen: Congratulated staff on two new grants referenced in the board packet and noted meeting with numerous elected officials, including a former congresswoman who had inquired about the Health District. Thielen affirmed Brian Ferrans selection and the organization's strong trajectory with a focus on behavioral health.

Director Hathcock: Thanked staff and expressed appreciation for the smooth leadership transition underway under Executive Director Brian Ferrans, noting the strength of the team and Brian's open and innovative approach.

Director McKay: Reported that he recognized Pride events in Fort Collins and Loveland, highlighted the Juneteenth celebration at the mall on Saturday, June 20th, and noted recent meetings with Representative Boesenecker, Senator Kipp, and Senator Marchman focused on behavioral health challenges and the district's new payor mix.

c. Executive Director Report – Brian Ferrans

Brian Ferrans reported that the transition is going well and staff are actively engaged in organizational discussions. Leadership team conversations on culture, communication, and norms have been productive. An executive team retreat was held at Sylvandale Ranch in late May focused on culture and mission/vision/values, and an all-staff meeting the prior week featured HR One updates and a mission/vision/values activity. These conversations are building toward the board retreat on September 9th, which will focus on reviewing the district's mission, vision, and values.

On behavioral health, the district has been gathering community input on service gaps through stakeholder conversations and a work session with the Mental Health and Substance Use Alliance. The RFP for a new data system has closed and vendor demonstrations are being scheduled; Ferrans described the system as a potential game changer for the organization.

Two grants were confirmed: the senior dental grant for FY 2026-27, and a Connect for Health Colorado award of $223,000 for year one of a three-year agreement — described as critical given pending HR 1 changes and the need to maintain community insurance enrollment support. Annual performance reviews launch in July. The Health District will have a table at the Juneteenth celebration on Saturday. Ferrans flagged the all-staff picnic on July 29th and Bike to Work Day on June 24th for board awareness, and reminded those interested in the Special District Association Conference in Keystone (mid-September) or the APHA conference to reach out.

VI. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Director Hathcock and seconded by Director Thielen. Passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM.