BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Celeste Holder Kling, President (via phone)
Bernard J. Birnbaum, MD, Vice President
Timothy S. O’Neill, Secretary
Steven J. Thorson, MD, Treasurer
Joe D. Hendrickson, Liaison to PVHS Board

STAFF PRESENT: Carol Ploch, Executive Director
Bruce Cooper, M.D., Medical Director
Lorraine Haywood, Finance Director
Nancy Stirling, Assistant to Executive Director

OTHERS PRESENT: Marty Janssen, Contracted Policy Researcher

CALL TO ORDER: APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Vice President Bernie Birnbaum called the meeting to order at 7:15 a.m. No changes were made to the meeting agenda.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as presented.
Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously

BOARD DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL ACTIONS
Legislation Being Proposed in 2012 Colorado Session
In the absence of Ms. Lin Wilder, who was not able to be at the meeting this morning due to a scheduling conflict, Dr. Cooper, Mr. Janssen and Ms. Ploch reviewed certain bills with the Board for their comments. No formal analyses of bills have been drafted. However, the Health District has contracted with Jennifer Miles of Miles Consulting to forward bill information to us as well as convey Board opinions to legislators.

Bills on which the Board had comments or took positions include (note that the requests for analyses are made with the understanding that staff currently have limited time for analysis):

- **HB-1122: Medication Take-back Divert from Water Disposal** – This bill would charge public health departments to make grants available to local public and private entities to take-back unused medications and thereby divert having such medications being dumped into water supplies. Participation would be optional. Dr. Cooper provided some information from a brief
review of literature; there are no human trials to indicate the exact impact of medications in the water, so evidence is limited. It was noted that there are local pharmacies who currently take in prescription medications for free and which dispose of them safely. Unused medications can also be taken to the Larimer County landfill where once a year they sponsor a drug take-back day to raise public awareness on how to dispose of medications safely. The bill is likely to be amended. The Board directed staff to MONITOR this bill at this time.

- **SB-108: Medicaid Dental Services for Pregnant Women** – Mr. Janssen provided an overview of the issue. It is currently quite difficult to sort out which women qualify for what dental services, if any, based on income levels, age, and program, and many pregnant women on Medicaid cannot get the dental services they need, yet dental health is deemed to be an important health protector for both the mother and the baby. This bill would assure appropriate dental benefits for all pregnant women eligible for Medicaid. (See handout for details.)

  **MOTION:** To STRONGLY SUPPORT Senate Bill 12-108.
  **Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously**

- **SB-130: Governance of Child Development Programs** – Staff informed the Board that this bill is in the midst of a “strike-below,” where most of the language of this bill will be stricken and new language is yet to be announced. In essence, the bill attempts to bring all early child and child development programs under one department/authority, with the intent of having a more organized, comprehensive approach to children’s services. While specifics are not yet known, board members expressed concern about moving certain programs that are currently working well (particularly the Part C program and programs for people with disabilities), and questioned whether the changes could do more harm than good in certain cases. The Board asked staff to develop an ANALYSIS once new language is obtained (paying particular attention to changes to Part C).

- **HB-1103: Exclude Clean Counties from Enhanced Emission Area** – The bill would allow a board of county commissioners for a particular county to exclude any or all parts of the county from the enhanced motor vehicle emissions program if the excluded part of the county does not violate air quality standards as established by the environmental protection agency. This seems to only apply to Weld and Larimer counties at this time. Staff does not have information at this time about the potential environmental impact on public health, whether the move might threaten federal highway funding, nor the economic impacts. After some discussion, the Board requested that staff ANALYZE possible impacts.

- **HB-1052: Health Care Work Force Data Collection** – Would require specific data from the health care work force. In view of health care changes, it will be important for Colorado to understand the adequacy of health care provider capacity throughout the state. However, it is not clear whether physicians or physical therapists (and other health care professionals not specifically identified in the bill) would be included. The Board asked staff to complete an ANALYSIS to learn what professions the bill covers, and why it is needed.

- **SB-37: Electronic Prescription for Controlled Substances** – Under current law, a pharmacy is prohibited from dispensing certain controlled substances without a written prescription from the prescribing physician. This bill would allow dispensing of controlled substances with
electronically signed/generated prescriptions, if the practitioner electronically creates and transmits the prescription drug order in conformance with federal law. While it would seem to make it an easier process for both the physician (not have to take time to write out a prescription if can be done via computer instead) and the patient (having to take time to drive to the doctor’s office to pick up the prescription and then take it to a pharmacy to be filled), and may increase security of prescription orders, some concern for diversion and subsequent sale of narcotics was expressed. The Board asked staff to ANALYZE further as to the risk of diversion and the DEA’s stance on this issue.

- HB-1060: Sunrise Dietician Regulation – Bill has died.

- HB-1170: Limit Minors’ Access to Artificial Tanning Devices – The Board was in agreement that artificial tanning has been proven to have a negative impact on health, and that this bill should be supported.

  **MOTION:** To ACTIVELY SUPPORT House Bill 12-1170.
  *Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

- HB-1165: Disclose Radon Hazards Information – This bill would require the seller of residential real property to conduct a radon test for hazards prior to sale and to disclose the results of testing to potential buyers. While 70% of homes in Fort Collins have excessive radon, the City of Fort Collins currently does not require radon testing when selling a home. The Board asked staff to MONITOR this bill and, if possible, provide them with information about the health risks related to radon.

- HB-1140: Suicide Prevention for Minors Family Education – This bill would require hospitals to give information to families about suicide awareness when releasing a minor. Hospitals have voiced some concern on how this might be accomplished or measured, and there are other questions about the bill as currently written. The Public Health Department is working on some amendments to this bill. The Board asked staff to MONITOR this bill and perhaps analyze the issue when additional language is obtained.

- HB-1097: Food Protection Act Civil Penalties – Health departments have expressed concerns with this bill, because it limits quick action when needed to protect the public.

  **MOTION:** To OPPOSE House Bill 12-1097.
  *Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

- HB-1210: Recognition of Out-of-State Professionals to Practice – The bill would allow a person with a currently valid license, certificate, or registration in good standing from another state to practice his or her profession in this state for up to one year before the person has to meet the licensing, certification or registration requirements in Colorado. Major concerns are that different states may have different qualifications, and that a year is a long time to have an unqualified person practicing. The Board mentioned that it was “surprisingly broad” and could be “devastatingly dangerous,” and asked staff to ANALYZE this bill further.

*(Note: Dr. Thorson excused himself from the meeting at this point, in order to meet patient care responsibilities.)*
• SB-98: CPR Training for High School Students – In general, the Board understands the intent of the bill because of the potential of saving lives, however, by mandating training it could create an added hardship for schools that already have so many other mandates, and there are questions about the appropriateness of such training for high school students. The Board asked staff to MONITOR at this time, but to start looking for more information, and to keep the discussion active and bring it up for discussion at the next meeting.

• SB-134: Hospital Payment Assistance Program – Board and staff agreed that much more information is needed to understand this bill and its impact to hospitals and consumers. The Board asked staff to MONITOR and collect more information.

(Note: Dr. Birnbaum excused himself at this time in order to meet patient care responsibilities. Meeting conducting responsibilities were turned over to Mr. O’Neill.)

• HB-1177: Developmental Disability Home Care Allowance Grant Program – This bill would create a new grant program that would provide “…certain individuals with developmental disabilities … a home care allowance benefit consistent with benefits received by persons under the home care allowance program.” It essential rescinds a previous legislative action that caused hardship to people with disabilities and allows clients to access more resources.

  **MOTION:**  To STRONGLY SUPPORT House Bill 12-1177.  
  Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously  
  (minus Drs. Thorson and Birnbaum)

• HB-1257: Concerning Transparency in the Delivery of Health Care Services – Board requested that staff MONITOR this bill and gather further information concerning the exact issues and potential impacts.

• HB-1046: Concerning requiring drug testing as a condition of eligibility for the Colorado Works Program – The bill would essentially apply to TANF participants and require drug testing to be able to participate in the program. If they do not pass the testing, participants would be required to pay the fee for the testing and can reapply in 6 months if enrolled in a drug rehab program.

  **MOTION:**  To STRONGLY OPPOSE House Bill 12-1046.  
  Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously  
  (minus Drs. Thorson and Birnbaum)

The Board also instructed staff to collect more information on SB-20 and SB-78 in order to better understand the issues.

**UPDATES**

**February 16 Public Hearing**
Ms. Plock reported that as of this date, no comments have been received concerning the Health District’s initial approval of the Operating Lease Amendments and Consent Agreement. The meeting has been publicized in the Coloradoan once thus far, and will be again prior to the hearing. PVHS leadership has also notified employees of the hearing and encouraged attendance.
ANNOUNCEMENTS
- February 16, 7:00 pm – Public Hearing concerning the Operating Lease Amendment and Consent Agreement between the Health District, PVHC, Inc., and UCH; at the Hilton
- February 28, 5:30 pm – Regular Board of Directors Meeting
- March 9, 7:00 am – Board Special Meeting

ADJOURN

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting.
Moved/Seconded/Carried Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy L. Stirling, Assistant Secretary

Celeste Holder Kling, President

Bernard J. Birnbaum, MD, Vice President

Timothy S. O’Neill, Secretary

Steven J. Thorson, MD, Treasurer

Joe D. Hendrickson, PVHS Board Liaison