



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SPECIAL MEETING  
March 11, 2013**

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

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Celeste Holder Kling, President  
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 Plock, Executive Director  
Lorraine Haywood, Finance Director  
Dan Sapienza, Policy Coordinator  
Thea Sapienza, Health Care Matters Coordinator  
Karen Spink, Special Projects Director  
Nancy Stirling, Assistant to Executive Director

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Kyle Richards, Policy Intern

**CALL TO ORDER; APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

President Celeste Kling called the meeting to order at 5:51p.m. There were no changes to the meeting agenda.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS**

**Policy Issues**

***State Legislative Proposals:***

**SB13-111: Mandatory Reporting of Elder Abuse** – SB-111 would require certain professionals to report the abuse or exploitation or discovery of abuse or exploitation of at-risk elderly individuals, as well as require a new training curriculum for peace officers to learn to recognize and address at-risk elder abuse. A similar bill was presented in last year's session which the Board supported at that time. At the previous board meeting, the Board had taken a position to strongly support this bill and requested a full bill analysis, which was presented to the Board this evening. Staff noted that while the concept of the bill seems to make sense, there is limited

research or evidence on the issue, so it is not easy to determine whether it would have the intended impact. It was noted that the only way it can work is if the State devotes adequate funding and staffing to be able to adequately investigate and address issues. Although the bill itself does not provide funds to county adult protective services to accommodate the anticipated increased workload, the Governor's budget includes additional funding in order to reduce adult protective service workloads to 25:1. [See bill analysis for full details.] After review of the bill analysis and discussion, the Board decided to maintain their position to "strongly support" this bill and asked staff to also include a comment about adequate funding when communicating with legislators concerning this bill.

HB13-1015: Disclose Mental Health Claims to All-payer Database – This bill passed the Senate on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading. It has moved on to the Governor's desk for signature.

SB13-008: Eliminate Waiting Period Under CHP+ - This bill is currently sitting in the House committee after having passed the Senate.

Gun Laws - The Senate took up a number of the firearms legislation. Two of the 7 bills presented were delayed until May 10 (the day after the legislative session ends, and therefore killed). The two bills that were delayed concerned the proposal to prohibit concealed carry on college campuses, and the bill that would assign liability to sellers and manufacturers of assault weapons if harm should occur from a weapon they manufactured or sold.

The other five bills have passed the Senate, including: background check fees, universal background checks, magazine limits, no online courses for concealed carry, and taking away guns from individuals who have protective ordinances against them for domestic violence. One is moving on to the Governor's desk for signature, and the others are returning to the House to work out differences due to amendments. Staff will continue to monitor these bills.

SB13-200 to Expand Medicaid Eligibility was finally introduced on March 1 and does not yet have a fiscal note. The bill is scheduled to be heard in Senate committee on Thursday. A motion was made to strongly support this bill.

Discussion: One of the biggest questions concerning Medicaid expansion is how much is it going to cost. Various studies have been done to estimate costs, using different methods and assumptions, and the results vary but cannot really be compared to each other due to the differences in methodology. The Governor, the Kaiser Foundation, and the Colorado Health Institute have all done estimates; some do not include offset savings, which must be considered to determine the net impact of the change. One important anticipated economic impact of all of the features of the ACA together is the expectation that, combined, they will alter the "cost shift equation." Currently, health insurance premiums are high in part because hospitals must serve all, whether insured or not (so people are already paying for others' health care) – and there are also anticipated savings from being able to treat people (currently uninsured, who would then have insurance) in the doctor's office rather than the emergency department. It was noted that this bill relates directly to the mission of the Health District and is critically important, and that when communicating with legislators, these points are appropriate to make. This bill would have a big impact on a significant number of people; these are real lives.

**MOTION: To take a position of “STRONGLY SUPPORT” on SB13-200.  
*Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously***

Mental Health in the State Budget – The Joint Budget Committee was scheduled to have a figure setting hearing today. Unfortunately time ran out and it had to be rescheduled to tomorrow.

On Wednesday, the JBC is scheduled for figure setting for HCPF in regard to the dental benefit for adults in Medicaid.

K-12 Breakfast After the Bell – At the previous board meeting, Mr. Hendrickson had inquired about the reasoning behind providing breakfast after the bell. The proposed bill requires that every school with 70% or more kids who qualify for free lunches offer breakfast to all students after the bell. The reason for providing it after the bell, instead of before, is that in existing programs, a lot of the kids who could benefit either don't get to school in time, or don't go into the school when they get there. Schools that have implemented after the bell breakfasts have shown improvements in attendance, decrease in tardiness, and improved focus in the classroom. The bill has moved to the Senate floor and is scheduled to be heard later this week. Staff will continue to monitor.

***Other:***

HB13-1144: Eliminate Cigarette Sales & Use Tax Exemption – This bill has flown through the legislature, having just passed the Senate on 3<sup>rd</sup> reading.

HB13-1215: Restrict Minors Access to Artificial Tanning Devices – A similar bill was presented last year which the board supported, although this bill is slightly different. The bill was moved to the House's Health Insurance and Environment committee and is scheduled to be heard on Thursday.

**MOTION: To take a position of “SUPPORT” on HB13-1215.  
*Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously***

HB13-1081: Comprehensive Human Sexuality K-12 Education – This bill has been promoted out of committee and going to the Senate floor. Ms. Plock noted that statistics indicate that 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of all pregnancies in Larimer County are considered unintended (less than indicated at a previous meeting). It was noted that in addition to unintended pregnancies, there is also the issue of sexually transmitted diseases, Dr. Birnbaum noted that in his experience, ignorance about STDs amongst youth is a big issue. The Board has already taken a position in support of this bill, and since the bill is flying right along, no further action is needed at this time.

***State and Local***

**Fracking**

The City of Fort Collins recently passed its ordinance to ban hydraulic fracturing within city limits. Mr. Sapienza did contact the City's Policy person to learn why they decided on a complete ban, rather than a long term moratorium that would allow time to study the health impacts. The reply was that a moratorium was not considered for two reasons: 1) if the City implements a moratorium for longer than one year (and a meaningful study would take at least 3 to 5 years), it would be subject to the exact same lawsuit from the state as imposing the full ban; and 2) since

they put it in as an ordinance, it can be reversed by a later city council should evidence indicate that it should be reversed.

Staff also reported that Rep. Ginal is planning to introduce a bill that would look at the health impacts of fracking (and would be different from the state's focus on air or water quality). The bill would be an epidemiological study that looks at existing data about the health impacts of fracking in the Front Range (including Larimer and Weld counties). No detail or language has been presented yet; staff hopes to talk with her further about this issue and to obtain and review the actual bill language.

Another bill under consideration concerns physician access to confidential information about proprietary materials used in fracking by oil and gas companies. When a patient comes in and says they've been harmed by the fracking, a physician needs to know what chemicals they were exposed to. One option is to establish a process where the doctor would request information from the COGCC, sign confidentiality agreements that would strictly limit who the physician could discuss the material with, and then the GOCCC would go to the company and get the list of chemicals used. Currently, physicians don't know what elements a person is exposed to.

SB13-01, concerning Civil Unions passed on 2<sup>nd</sup> reading in the House.

HB13-1044, concerning authorization of graywater use, is one of the bills being proposed by one of our local legislators, Rep. Fischer. The Board wants to show support to our local legislators when they propose legislation that is in line with the Health District mission and values, and graywater use appears to have no negative public health impacts.

**MOTION:** To "SUPPORT" HB13-1044.  
*Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously*

## UPDATES

### **Health Coverage Assistance Sites**

The Health District has been working on creating a proposal in response to the State's recently published RFP for grants for Health Coverage Guides to assist people Assistance Sites. The Assistance Sites will be responsible for hiring Health Coverage Guides in either the individual or small business markets, or both. The Health District, the Larimer County Department of Human Services, and the Health Department have agreed to work together to create a proposal for the people living in Larimer County that would create a service that can help a family whether they end up needing help accessing financial assistance through the exchange, help enrolling, help as an employee of a small business, or to apply for Medicaid. The current thinking is to propose the creation of a storefront assistance site in northern Larimer County (within the District boundaries,) and site in the Loveland area to be run by the Health Department, and assistance within the DHS Fort Collins office, as well as possibly utilizing the Health Van as a mobile office to reach other communities. Other entities that have expressed interest in applying themselves include: Salud Family Health Centers (would only serve Salud patients); the local health system; the Women's Resource Center; and the early childhood community. At this time, it looks likely that the Health District will work just with the Department of Human Services and the Health Department, in order to be able to meet the deadline and devise a solution that can work for all families (which means that we need to partner with organizations already certified to

do Medicaid assistance). The Health District has been asked to be the lead and fiscal agent for the grant.

**Emergency Health Care Coalitions**

There is an expectation from the state (and the feds to the states) that communities are to develop coalitions able to provide a coordinated community response to significant disasters and emergencies involving health and mental health needs. Ms. Plock attended a quality, intense training last week, which was effective in forcing communities to really think about how they might handle major issues. Ms. Plock is representing the Health District as a member of the local coalition and has been asked to facilitate the Leaders and Coordinators group of the coalition.

**Other**

Mr. Hendrickson announced that Poudre Valley Hospital was recertified as a Level 3 Trauma hospital – and the only local hospital that has the American College of Surgeons recognition.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

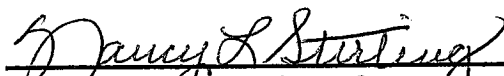
- March 28, 5:30 pm (THURSDAY) – Regular Board of Director’s Meeting
- April 3, 12:00 to 1:30 pm – Employee Appreciation Luncheon at Aztlan Community Center
- April 11, 6:00 pm – Board of Director’s Special Meeting


**ADJOURN**

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


The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.


Respectfully submitted:

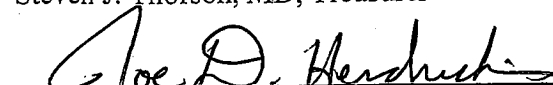
  
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Nancy L. Stirling, Assistant Secretary

  
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Celeste Holder Kling, President

*(Absent for approval vote)*  
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Bernard J. Birnbaum, MD, Vice President

  
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Timothy S. O'Neil, Secretary

  
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Steven J. Thorson, MD, Treasurer

  
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Joe D. Hendrickson, PVHS Board Liaison