



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING
April 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 (via phone)
Steven J. Thorson, MD, Treasurer
Joe D. Hendrickson, Liaison to PVHS Board

STAFF PRESENT: Carol Plock, Executive Director
Bruce Cooper, M.D., Medical Director
Richard Cox, Communications Director
Lorraine Haywood, Finance Director
Dan Sapienza, Policy Coordinator
Chris Sheafor, Support Services Director
Karen Spink, Special Projects Director
Nancy Stirling, Assistant to Executive Director

CALL TO ORDER; APPROVAL OF AGENDA

President Celeste Kling called the meeting to order at 6:24 p.m.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTIONS

Policy

SB13-242: Adult Dental Benefit in Medicaid – Recently passed the Senate Health Committee and will move on Senate Appropriations; current plans are to fund this from the unclaimed benefits trust fund. Miles Consulting reports that this bill's chances are looking very good.

A side comment was that new information is that the benefits for those in the new Medicaid expansion population may be different from those that current Medicaid clients receive, due to a technicality in how the Affordable Care Act was written. It is unknown whether the same issue would impact dental benefits.

Health Care Cooperative – While there has been much interest concerning this issue, it turned out that the bill was subsequently taken out of consideration by Senator Aguilar for this term due to the need for further discussions and analysis. There remains, however, some talk of a citizen initiative to get this issue on the ballot. Staff intend to continue to research the issue and develop a proper analysis.

SJR 13-021 – This Senate Joint Resolution would create an interim committee to study ways to create a comprehensive health care system, has passed out of the Health Committee, and will be considered in the full Senate. The committee would include broad representation of 18 members (including Senate and House members, consumers, representatives of rural community, employers, health insurance, direct care providers who accept Medicaid, a mental health provider, an ACO, and hospitals) and would be tasked with finding innovative options to provide health care to citizens of Colorado.

MOTION: To SUPPORT SJR13-021 for an interim study.
Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously

HB13-1275 – This bill, “Front Range Oil and Gas Human Health Study” concerns the collection of human health data regarding oil and gas operations in counties near the Front Range. The bill would create a one year health impact study. Other studies are ongoing, however they are longer-term studies. This study would look at existing data for some correlation between health and oil and gas operations. The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (in addition to oil and gas companies) has spoken out in opposition of this bill, noting that the study being proposed has design flaws, and that other, more long-term research is being conducted (though it has limitations). Concerns are that due to the design of the study as proposed, results could be inconclusive or provide false-negative or false-positive results.

MOTION: While the Health District supports the concept of measuring the health impact to Colorado communities from oil and gas operations, because of concerns about the study as presently outlined in the bill, the Health District is taking a neutral position on HB13-1275.
Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously

SB13-222: Improving Access to Childhood Immunizations – This bill would create a task force to consider a state-wide vaccine purchasing system and remove legislative barriers to creating such a system. The Department of Health Care Policy & Financing would purchase vaccines for CHP+ and Medicaid children and providers would have the option of purchasing vaccines from the state. Dr. Cooper commented that the idea of “universal purchase” was discussed at the state level years ago, and is considered an important strategy to improve immunization rates.

MOTION: To STRONGLY SUPPORT Senate Bill 13-222.
Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously

Amendment 64 Select Joint Committee – The Joint Committee has just finished their consideration of Task Force recommendations. Legislation has not yet been introduced, but is expected to appear soon. At this point, it looks like there will be 3 bills. One will be a tax bill, which is likely to propose a 15% excise tax, as well as a 15% sales tax, on marijuana sales. There will need to be a clear regulation system; it has been clear in recent news reports that the current medical marijuana system has not been adequately regulated. The second bill includes items that received nearly unanimous support on the task force, with topics such as consumer safety,

marketing, potency labeling and other labeling requirements, and prohibiting adulterance of nicotine and alcohol with marijuana. The third bill is likely to include some of the more controversial items, yet to be revealed. If for some reason these bills do not pass during this session, retail establishments would still exist, but the state would not license or regulate them. Although specifics of the bill are still forthcoming, the board had a general discussion about whether they might want to consider potential principles from which any future Health District comment could be compared. Since the Health District's key interest is the health of the community, issues such as the impact of taxing, the safety of edibles, potency, child-proof packaging, adulteration, the combination of alcohol and marijuana-impaired driving, may all be of concern. No final positions were taken by the Board at this time.

Updates

Budget – Budget amendments are currently in the House in conference committee. Amendments from the House, as related to health, include \$230,000 to circumcision of males in Medicaid, and \$1.4 million for the oil and gas conservation commission to support 14 additional field inspectors. **Legislative Updates** – Mr. Sapienza distributed a “Legislative Update” sheet for a quick way to show what is happening to bills.

Bills of interest to Board:

- SB13-197: No Firearms for domestic violence offenders.

MOTION: To SUPPORT SB13-197, prohibiting domestic violence offenders from having firearms.
Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously

- HB13-1271: Child Abuse reporting hotline & Child Welfare Rules.

MOTION: To STRONGLY SUPPORT development of a statewide child abuse hotline per HB13-1271 (no position on the remainder of the bill, since we have not had time to study it closely).
Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously

COHBE Assistance Sites Joint Application

Ms. Plock and Ms. Spink are in the midst of preparing the application for being a health benefit exchange “Assistance Site.” The application is a partnership between the Health District, and the Larimer County’s Department of Health & Environment and Department of Human Services. If successful, the Health Department would oversee efforts in the southern part of the county and send staff to Estes Park on a regular schedule, and Human Services would offer new services to help those people who usually come through their doors in enrolling into the new marketplace, and would also place a person at Salud. The Health District would operate a storefront in Fort Collins, and place a person at the Family Medicine Center. The goal for our project is to ensure that no matter where a person goes, they will be able to receive qualified assistance with either Medicaid or marketplace enrollment, depending on which one is right for their family.

In the process of developing the budget for the project, staff have been analyzing the need for Health District funding, and anticipate utilizing both funds specifically set aside for this project, and unspent care coordination funds for 2013. At this point, it looks like about \$500,000 will be requested from COHBE for the Health District’s portion of the project, while about \$250,000 would be funded by the Health District. In addition to funds already available in that department,

it is possible that we may need up to \$12,500 additional funding in 2013. Board approval is required in order to use the funds currently under "New Health District project implementation" reserve dollars.

The board inquired about annual costs beyond start-up and whether services will be sustainable. At this point, the state is working on a two year timeframe, with a lot of dollars anticipated to be needed up front, then less in future years. Exact amounts are unknown at this time. It was noted that it would be interesting to see if we can estimate how the increase in the number of people who newly gain insurance would equate to a health impact (for example, a reduction in disability-adjusted life years, or DALYs), and if there is a way to determine the cost of our time in helping people connect to insurance compared to the value of the health improved (DALY gained).

MOTION: To approve up to \$12,500 from reserves under the line item of "new Health District project implementation," should it be needed to support the Assistance Site project.
Motion/Seconded/Carried Unanimously

The reallocation of care coordination money to this project would only be for this one year. Next year we might need approximately \$73,000, which would be completed covered in our anticipated 2014 budget.

UPDATES, REPORTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS

Great news! While the Health District had already applied for and received Old Age Pension (OAP) dollars, the state recently informed us that we would have access to additional dollars in this project year, and soon after, we received news that the program was extended to a 4-year program that will continue to fund existing effective programs. They are proposing a 4-year allotment of \$200,000! Carol credits Karen Spink, Lorraine Haywood, and John Newman for their hard work in developing this program and getting a significant number of patients served in a very short time.

Eric Sutherland happened to be at a recent community forum in which Ms. Plock was presenting, and afterwards discussed the issue of Tax Increment Funding (TIF) with her. He raised the issue of how much funding special districts are losing due to TIF. He promised to send information about the amount, and his information indicated that our loss could be in the area of \$140,000 (for all TIF projects combined). The county, which is hit harder by this issue, is also concerned, and the City is considering a TIF project for the redevelopment of the Foothills Mall. Ms. Plock has been invited to a meeting about the issue that will include both the city and the county, and staff will bring more information back to the board. In board discussion, it was noted that although TIF may be a short-term diversion of funding, its intent is the long-term adequate economic development of the community, and may result in much higher property values for the long term. The board agreed that it was important for us to learn more in order to understand the impact on our revenues.

Ms. Plock reported that the answer to the board's prior question of whether PVHS had their 501C3 designation is that they do not yet have it. In other information, UCH is concerned about the placement of a new Banner Hospital on Harmony, and staff asked whether the board would

like more information or to take a position on the issue; after a brief discussion, the board decided to have a limited discussion on the issue at the upcoming retreat.

Mr. Hendrickson complimented staff concerning the Employee Appreciation Luncheon which he attended. He particularly enjoyed the slide show and the accompanying music which exhibited music performed by our own employees. He also complimented Ms. Plock's presentation to staff.

Noted upcoming calendar items: Board meeting on April 30; Board Retreat on May 7 at the Tapestry House; and a board meeting on May 28.

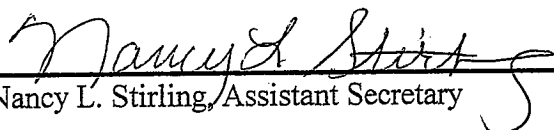
Ms. Kling mentioned she may have a conflict with the June 25 board meeting and may not be able to attend.

ADJOURN

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.


Respectfully submitted:



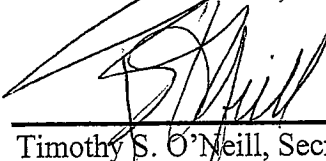
Nancy L. Stirling, Assistant Secretary



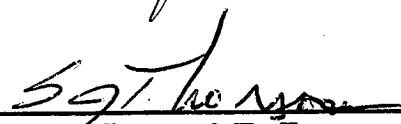
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Joe D. Hendrickson, PVHS Board Liaison