Rio Grande County Board of Health

Wednesday, May 12, 2021.

The meeting of the Rio Grande County Board of Health was called to order at 9:09 AM.

Members present were Chairman Gene Glover, Commissioner John Noffsker, Commissioner Scott Deacon, Dr. Kolawole Bankole, Rio Grande County Public Health Department Director, County Attorney Nancy Lake, and Clerk of the Board Aubrey Pargin.

Actions as the Board of Health

Dr. Kolawole Bankole was present to give an update on the Public Health Department. He stated that many grants are up for renewal as his department starts to plan for the next fiscal year starting July 1, 2021. There are many current grants and projects that are needing renewal or to accomplish the required grant deliverables for grants that are closing, and also planning for new grant agreements. Dr. Bankole discussed Child Fatality Prevention Services and Inter-Governmental Agencies (IGA) role in Child Fatality Prevention Services. He also said that Rio Grande County will continue to be the fiscal agent and/or host agent for some grants and foundation funds. On a specific grant, Child Fatality Prevention Services/Reviews (CFPS), there is an intergovernmental agreement (IGA) among the six San Luis Valley Counties, to provide personnel and financial support to this effort by Rio Grande County as the fiscal agency. Each county will have a contribution to the IGA. Each county will be invoiced to help cover the review costs. The Board of County Commissioners and Board of Health of the respective Counties have agreed that it is in the public interest of the citizens of the respective counties to cooperate in this effort to aid in identifying and implementing public health-based child death prevention efforts within our respective jurisdictions. There was discussion on the CFPS Reviews and how unintentional injury, homicide, motor vehicle incidents, child abuse and neglect, SUID, suicide, and undetermined causes of deaths data is accessed and reviewed. Dr. Bankole stated that each county in the SLV has less than one percent child fatality rate, and Alamosa County is right at one percent child fatality rate, in the last five years. Commissioner Noffsker moved to approve signing the Local Public Health Agency Child Fatality Review and Prevention's SOW/contract and the Intergovernmental Agreement (San Luis Valley Public Health Partnership Child Fatality Review Team.). Commissioner Deacon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Dr. Bankole discussed the Regional Health Connector (RHC) grant. He stated that it involves education and outreach activities funded through the University of Colorado, and it involves monoclonal antibodies (Mab) research in regards to COVID-19. This grant will involve reaching out to potential high-risk outpatients with COVID-19, for Mab therapy. This Mab grant starts April 1, 2021 and ends in January 2022. Additionally, the current traditional RHC grant is up for renewal and Dr. Bankole has worked with Debbie Phillips, Chief Financial Officer, on invoicing, invoice amounts, and how the indirect cost is to be allocated to the County to ensure it is appropriated accordingly. He showed the breakdown of the invoicing amount list. Commissioner Noffsker moved to approve RHC services. Commissioner Deacon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Dr. Bankole discussed Communities That Care (CTC) Positive Youth Development (PYD) Trainings. He stated that PYD’s purpose is to train providers to be able to treat youth and provide an inclusive space for youth to engage and build lifelong skills that will translate into the workforce. He also said there will be several training sessions that will take place, two in person, and two either in-person/virtual trainings. Commissioner Noffsker stated that there was money in the budget for this. There was a comment from the audience from Mr. Turner. He stated “there are too many people influencing our youth, so parents have less influence on their children at home.” There was a brief discussion about this. Commissioner Noffsker made the motion to approve the CTC deliverables of PYD trainings. Commissioner Deacon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Dr. Bankole stated he had a fourth grant in the amount of $1,500 to go towards youth activities. Commissioner Noffsker moved to accept the grant from the Community Foundation of the San Luis Valley to go towards youth. Commissioner Deacon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Dr. Bankole also brought forward a renewal contract for Public Health Care Services & Maternal Child Health. Ms. Lake recommended deferring it until the next meeting because she needs to review it. He also discussed the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) grant which he stated could possibly cover two COVID-19 coordinator positions – Health Equity Community Health Promotion and Operations Manager positions. He will bring that to the Board at the next BOH meeting.
At 10:03 AM the Board exited the Board of Health and resumed as the Board of County Commissioners.

Attest:

[Signature]
Gene Glover, Chairman
Chairman of the Board

[Signature]
Kolawole Bankole, Director
Public Health Department

[Signature]
Aubrey Pargin
Clerk of the Board

7/14/21

Rio Grande County Board of Health
Wednesday, May 26, 2021.

The meeting of the Rio Grande County Board of Health was called to order at 10:53 AM.

Members present were Chairman Gene Glover, Commissioner John Noffske, Commissioner Scott Deacon, Dr. Kolawole Bankole, Rio Grande County Public Health Department Director, Rio Grande County Attorney Nancy Lake, and Clerk of the Board Aubrey Pargin.

Actions as the Board of Health
At 10:53 AM Commissioner Glover made a motion to move into the Board of Health.

Clerks Note: The following discussion was held in the regular Board of County Commissioner’s meeting but required action of Board of Health.

At 9:03 AM Randy Kern, Building Department, was present to ask for the Boards approval for the installation of a vault for wastewater disposal on Eric and Suzanne Bothell’s property. Mr. Kern stated that he doesn’t see a problem with it as proposed, as long as it does not become permanent. He stated that this is not a variance request, but that this needs the Board of Health’s approval. This is not a common request and this vault is going to be used for temporary housing for seasonal agriculture workers (two to three RV’s). Mr. Kern said it will be a sand filter type system, not meant to be used in the winter. Commissioner Noffske asked if conditional language could be put into the written approval limiting size and time. Commissioner Noffske also asked if the RV’s will be out there year around and if that will be a land use violation. Mr. Kern talked to Dixie Diltz, Land Use, and it should not be a violation because it is related to agriculture.

Ms. Lake stated that a letter of approval with conditional permit is all that is needed, not a resolution. Commissioner Noffske moved to approve request for a vault on Bothell Farms for RV’s used for migrant housing for spring planting and autumn harvesting, not to exceed ninety days. Commissioner Deacon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

At 9:19 AM Dr. Kolawole Bankole, Public Health Director, was present to give a report on his department. He asked the Board’s approval to start the hiring process for a Public Health Position, Health Equity Program Specialist. He stated that in 2017 the County started getting State funding and it is just over $39,000 this year. This money funds salaries for core Public Health workers, and this is part of the Tuberculosis funding. Commissioner Noffske made the motion to approve Contract Amendment 20190871 Amendment #5, and for Dr. Bankole to start the hiring process for a Public Health Position, Health Equity Program Specialist. Commissioner Deacon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

At 9:27 AM Dr. Bankole stated that Colorado provides seven core Public Health services and the local Public Health departments decide what services are needed. There is a national request to ensure Public Health Services are equitably provided to all persons. There is no cost to the County and counties are not obligated to keep this position when the funding ends. There
was a discussion on pay rate. Commissioner Noffsger asked if the pay was in line with other department employees. Dr. Bankole stated the hourly rate is mid-line compared to other rural counties across the state. Jody Kern, Director of Social Services, stated that the pay in each county department affects pay equity in all departments. Ms. Kern also stated that department heads cannot look at what is being paid in other rural counties across the state, because there is such a difference between counties and what is being paid for each position. Dr. Bankole stated he sent this to Deborah Entz, Human Resources, and she looked at pay rate for this position. Ms. Lake stated that Dr. Bankole is working with the HR Department and the Finance Department and getting her a packet of information. She also stated she is working on pay parity across the County. Ms. Kern stated that the Board and Dr. Bankole should have pay scale documents in front of them before a decision is made in regards to this position. Commissioner Deacon recommended the Board table this discussion for today and the Board meet with all department heads to discuss the pay rate/cause. Dr. Bankole stated that this position is supposed to begin in July, so approval is time sensitive. Ms. Kern recommended a work session with department heads and the Board, and also recommended that an outside consultant look at the County’s pay scale. Commissioner Glover stated that the Board will have a Special Session on Friday, May 28, 2021 with a work session to discuss job descriptions and pay rate/cause. He also stated that the position packet looked good, except for the question on pay rate. Dr. Bankole stated that there are many pay disparities in his department.

At 10:11 AM Dr. Bankole discussed the expansion of the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) grant. This grant will alleviate salary funding from the County for Public Health, and increase ability for services for two years. This is for COVID-19 prevention and management, and is Employee Retention Credit (ERC) funded. Dr. Bankole stated that today is information only, there is no action required yet.

At 10:11 AM the Board adjourned as the Board of Health, and reconvened as the Board of County Commissioners.

Attest:

Gene Glover, Chairman
Chairman of the Board

Kolawole Bankole, Director
Public Health Department

Aubrey Pargin
Clerk of the Board

7/14/21

Rio Grande County Board of Health
Friday, May 28, 2021

The meeting of the Rio Grande County Board of Health was called to order at 1:36 PM.

Members present were Chairman Gene Glover, Commissioner John Noffsger, Commissioner Scott Deacon, Dr. Kolawole Bankole, Rio Grande County Public Health Department Director, Jody Kern, Director of Department of Social Services, Rio Grande County Attorney Nancy Lake, and Clerk of the Board Aubrey Pargin.

Actions as the Board of Health

Commissioner Noffsger moved that the Board approve of Dr. Bankole, Public Health Director, hiring an Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) temporary grant position for two years at the grade and pay level proposed 1240 step 5 at $19.27 per hour. Commissioner Deacon seconded the motion, and the motion carried.
At 1:41 PM Commissioner Deacon moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Noffsger seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

Gene Glover, Chairman
Chairman of the Board

Dr. Bankole, Director
Public Health Department

Aubrey Pargin
Clerk of the Board

Date

7/14/21