

Rio Grande County Board of Health

Wednesday, October 13, 2021.

The meeting of the Rio Grande County Board of Health was called to order at 9:19 AM.

Members present were Chairman Gene Glover, Commissioner John Noffske, Commissioner Scott Deacon, Dr. Kolawole Bankole (via Zoom), Rio Grande County Public Health Department Director, County Administrator Craig Barraclough, and Clerk of the Board Aubrey Pargin.

Actions as the Board of Health

Dr. Kolawole Bankole joined the meeting via Zoom. He reported Rio Grande County COVID-19 week two data and surge rates to the Board. He reported that there are currently 106 active cases in the County. There are currently five outbreaks that include The Legacy, the local jail, and Monte Vista Coop. He also reported that in the past week COVID-19 has been everywhere, not just at schools. It has been happening in families of three to five people, many of whom have been vaccinated. Dr. Bankole reported that the numbers are currently trending down. At one point there were 156 cases, and now there are 106 cases. Commissioner Noffske stated that they need to make sure the public stays informed. Dr. Bankole said he is relaying the information to the website. Commissioner Glover also reiterated that the public needs to know the current numbers, and they need to read the public comments. Carol Riggerbach, community member involved with the geriatric population, asked to speak. She said there will be an increase in flu cases as the winter season begins. She says she has no doubt they will tag it as COVID-19. Ms. Riggerbach said she sees a lot of noroviruses in care centers and they also tag that as COVID-19. Dr. Bankole said that they are not putting cases of flu as COVID-19. He said only if there is a positive COVID-19 test will they say it is COVID-19. He stated that he is trying to clarify any misinformation that is out there. Ms. Riggerbach asked Dr. Bankole if he can also report the number of flu cases on the website. Dr. Bankole said that he could do that. Trish Slater, community member, told Dr. Bankole that she recommends and encourages him to not believe the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's (CDPHE) information. Dr. Bankole stated that he is listening to other resources, not just the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the CDPHE. He stated that he is bringing all the information together and viewing information from all sources and trying to do the best for Rio Grande County.

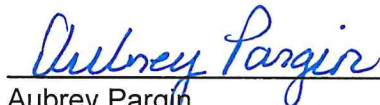
At 9:51 AM the Board of Health adjourned.

Attest:



Gene Glover, Chairman
Chairman of the Board

Kolawole Bankole, Director
Public Health Department



Aubrey Pargin
Clerk of the Board

Date