BOARD OF HEALTH PROCEEDINGS

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County of Rio Grande   
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The Rio Grande County Board of Health conducted the regular session on Wednesday, August 30, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Gene Glover at 2:00 PM. A prayer was led by Commissioner Tyler Ratzlaff, and the Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Present were County Commissioner Scott Decan, County Commissioner Gene Glover, County Commissioner Tyler Ratzlaff, County Attorney Nancy Lake, Public Health Department Director, Dr. Kolawole Bankole, and Ida White Public Health Response Program Coordinator.

Adoption of the Agenda

At 2:00 pm, Dr. Kolawole Bankole requested a motion to approve the agenda and the approval of the August 2, 2023 minutes. Motion was moved by Commissioner Glover and seconded by Commissioner Scott Deacon. The motion was carried.

Public Comment

At 2:05 PM: There were no comments.

Actions as the Board of Health (BOH)

Directors Report- Action Needed - Region 18 Opioid Settlement Governance Council Facilitation:

At 2:05 PM: Dr. Bankole presented two Professional Service Agreements (PSAs) for Board approval and signatures. At this time, there are two part-time independent contractual persons to be serving in two different positions. The SLV Regional Opioid Prevention Coordinator and the Region 18 Administrative Coordinator. This former will report directly to Dr. Bankole and the Prevention Committee; while the latter reports to Alamosa Commissioner Lori Laske and the Administrative Council. Commissioner Ratzlaff wanted to know how big region 18 is and stated by Dr. Bankole to include the entire San Luis Valley six counties. Commissioner Ratzlaff moved to approve the PSA for Region 18 Opioid Prevention Coordinator, Cherise Minnick. Commissioner Scott Deacon seconded the motion and the motion was carried. Commissioner Ratzlaff moved to approve the PSA for Alex McDonald as the Region 18 Administrative Coordinator, Commissioner Scott Deacon seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

Directors Report - Informational/ Discussions Required- PH Community Health Needs Assessment (Annual Survey 2023 Summary-Rio Grande; SanLuis Valley TMS 2022-2023- PROSPER:

At 2:10 PM: Dr. Bankole, provided a state survey report that shows the improvement of the public health department over the last 3 years. The department has risen from below average to moderate in its foundational capacity to provide foundational services to the Rio Grande County
community, with a total of 21.5 cumulative FTE staff members; this includes full-time, part-time and contractual staffing.

Similarly, Dr. Bankole presented a Team Survey Report on a grant “PROSPER” conducted by the Iowa State University for the RGCPHD to serve as baseline for the functionality, resource capacity and skills possessed by the team. RGCPH currently implementing a grant we received from the Division of Criminal Justice, DCJ. The grant is to help families and youth within our communities to build protective factors and reduce risk factors for healthy youth and families. This involves developing an implementation team across the SLV region and coordinate trainings on Life Skill Training (LST) and Strengthening Families Program (SFP10-14). A team was formed and Ida White, Response Coordinator is assigned as the team leader. This team meets monthly to deliberate and coordinate the project work. Iowa State University and Colorado State University are partnering with us to provide technical and expertise support on different distinct capacities. Iowa State University will be evaluating our work.

Directors Report - Informational/ Discussions Required- PH Community Health Needs Assessment (PH CHNA -2023)

At 2:20 PM: Dr. Bankole explained that there is a requirement by the state for all public health agencies to conduct community health needs assessments (CHNA) and community health improvement plans (CHIP) every five (5) years. The last CHNA was conducted in 2018 and we are now due for another CHNA implementation. We are working in partnership with the Colorado Health Institute to conduct the series-based community health needs assessment and also, a specific county-specific community evidence assessment. Dr. Bankole explained the implementation phases; Phase 1 involves the collection of quantitative data and literature reviews (completed); Phase 2 involves Key Informant Interviews (KII) with identified persons and community members in the Rio Grande County. These KII’s include one with the county commissioners representing their respective districts (1-3) (completed), the second with the RG hospitals and clinics (completed); and the third one with identified community section – school district, Spanish community, LTCF, Business community (completed). Dr. Bankole informed the board that the first and second phases have been completed. For the Phase 3, there is going to be a larger community meeting on October 6, 2023 at five (5pm) O’clock Pm to provide another avenue for community members to contribute to the CHNA. This is also in partnership with the Colorado Health Institute. All this information gathered will not only meet the CDPHE’s requirement but also contribute to the first/inaugural Health of Rio Grande County report that is forthcoming.

National Fitness Campaign (NFC) updates and next steps: RGC Adoption Resolution.

At 2:30 PM: Dr. Bankole, provided an update on the National Fitness Campaign (NFC). The plan is to go full studio, thus a need for more funds. Dr. Bankole will be presenting to the Del Norte Town Council on September 13, 2023 for funding. A meeting with Del Norte Hospital will be held tonight and Dr. Bankole will also be asking for more funding (August 30, 2023). The remaining balance of $62,500 will be the amount presented at both meetings. There was a meeting with SLVGO on Monday August 28, 2023 in which Rio Grande Public Health and SLVGO became partners. There are concerns from the Board of County Commissioners regarding the new partnership with SLVGO and what they were willing to offer in the partnership. There was also talk about the Conservation funds in Rio Grande County and the possibility to use them for the shortfall. Commissioner Gene Glover asked if this was on the
calendar or did it need to wait for the full funding. Dr. Bankole stated that there was an updated process timeline that is needed by NFC that the full funding be sourced and committed by September 20, 2023 for the project. Commissioner Glover stated that bids should be requested with release of RFPs for the concrete and the court installation per the purchasing policy. Dr. Bankole agree and was planning to issue out the RFPs for the two items in the project.


At 2:45 PM: Ida White, Public Health Response Coordinator, reviewed with the Board the FY 23 Performance Management Scorecard metrics for the Response Program. Ida provided an overview of the deliverables in the ELC grants, Immunization, tobacco, naloxone, fentanyl, and PROSPER projects, which have target metrics per quarter. Many of these projects required monthly reporting and those were met, along with making sure that the work plans, test plans, implementation plans, and all deliverables are met with these grants. Ida being the designated PH PIO (Public Health Information Officer), gives out updates and information to the community. Metrics include, communication planning, stakeholder engagement, county outreach communication, meetings with the town hall regarding COVID, schools, superintendents and youth groups. The Response Program is also reconnecting with High Valley Community Center and Kids Connection and rebuilding Rio Grande Prevention Program. Ida was assigned to be the PROSPER Team with 12 members.

COVID testing has gone down, people still come by to get home test kits, but not all tests get reported. As of now the counties numbers are very. On Health Equity, there are two health equity specialists. Community work started in May, building community partners, relationships, and seeing what the community needs regarding different programs and resources, are actively in progress to meet the needs of community members. Such accomplishment highlights include, over 244 cases of diapers were handed out to Rio Grande County families within 3 months. Similarly, baby car seats were given out to needed families. Commissioner Gene Glover asked who the two Health Equity persons were. Their names were stated as Do'ores Atencio and Roberta Marquez. On Tobacco prevention coordination, RGCHP was the fiscal agent and regional coordinator for the implementation regionally until Juen 30, 2023. From July, RGCH will only focus on the RGCH community. Currently the are quarterly meetings with our TOB-STEPP, EPR and environmental health teams.

CI/CT- Contact Tracer/Contact Investigator is working well with the community on COVID-19 follow up, vaccination events and administrations. The mobile vaccine bus is no longer available from the state, so both Ida and Dianne are working together to outreach to different agencies for partnership to provide vaccinations and testing. Ida briefly mentioned PROSPER as a recap from Brandi Hazard's presentation at the last BOH meeting. Ida is working with Dee Kessler and Gibbs Salazar on different ways to educate kids in the school system. Rio Grande County Health Fair is now scheduled for September 30,2023, with various vendors, health screening and family fun activities.

Dr. Bankole presented for Situational Awareness (SA), the rising cases of West Nile virus identifies in Alamosa, with a human cased identified. Similar case also identified in Saguache County but non identified in Rio Grande County. The type of mosquito that's causing this is the Culex mosquito and not the Anopheles. The RGC Public Health is encouraging everyone to
adopt preventive measures to avoid breeding places for mosquitoes, swamps, empty stagnant waters and use mosquito repellants when going into the woods, etc.

Comments, Announcements, and Other Business

At 3:10 PM, County Commissioner Gene Glover made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Scott Deacon seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned.

Attest:

[Signatures]

Gene Glover
Chairman
Board of Health | Board of County Commissioners

Dr. Kolawole Bankole
Health Department Director