

**Rio Grande County Board of Health
Thursday, December 4, 2014**

Rio Grande County: Pam Bricker (vice-president)
Doug Davie
Karla Shriver (president)
Emily Brown (secretary)
Marty Asplin

Del Norte:
Monte Vista:
South Fork:
Also present: Suzanne Benton
Kimberly Bryant

A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 4:08 PM.

Approval of Minutes

There were no additions to the agenda.

The minutes from the September 11, 2014 Board of Health meeting were approved with no corrections (Asplin/Bricker/carried).

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Action Item Review

- **Emily will remind Suzanne to request a South Fork representative at her Dec 15th 7:30 a.m. meeting with South Fork.**
- **Emily will contact Lynnea about sending information on inspections in Denver, related to botulism growing in edible marijuana products & explosions.**
- **Emily will keep sending marijuana information, especially to Marty.**
- Commissioners are aware of the benefits of increasing the Retail Food Establishment fee, and CCI has taken this on as a lobbying priority.
- Emily picked up education folders from Lynnea for the Del Norte Annex and the South Fork Community Center, and **will be distributing these.**
- **Emily still needs to run statue 1607 by county attorney.**
- **Emily will follow up with Rio Grande/Mineral Health District on the proposal to help fund the Environmental Health program.**

Environmental Health Program

Kimberly Bryant, SLV Public Health Partnership coordinator, was present to answer any questions about the regional Environmental Health Program plan or intergovernmental agreement (IGA).

Several questions were asked and answered. RGCPHA's in-kind was annotated on Exhibit C of IGA since this kind of payment often gets forgotten about. Payment dates are okay. **Emily will ask Lynnea what "HACCP" stands for (in exhibit B).**

License renewals are due at the beginning of each year and these have been sent out to all SLV establishments through Alamosa County. We would have liked to have done this after the regional program was finalized, but timing did not work out for this, so these are just coming from Alamosa County this time, with a bit of information about the upcoming program.

It would be good to do a regular check it to see how the program is going. The SLV Commissioners meeting could be a good spot for this, but they can sometimes be shy to talk. It could be good to do a survey from restaurants in a regular surveys by email after inspection.

The Board of Health can approve the IGA today, **contingent on review by attorney**, then sign. **Then this could be signed at a regular commissioners meeting** since that will meet sooner than the next BoH. Public Health's next commissioner update would be December 22nd, and it would be good to do this before the 2nd Tuesday of January because new chairs may be sworn in.

Asplin moves/Davie seconds for the BoH to recommend to BoCC to sign the IGA, pending changes and attorney review. All approved.

Other Update from Kimberly:

A Public Health celebration party will be January 12 from 2-4 p.m. at the Alamosa BoCC room to celebrate the end of the two-year Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) grant. **Emily will make sure to email information to all board members.**

RWJF asked all grantees a question on "what is a benefit or valuable" for any cross-jurisdictional arrangements. We haven't seen efficiencies yet, but can see the potential and the concept is heading in the right direction. There is opportunity for a broadened discussion by having that many more people in room, especially with more regular updates to commissioners group. The Board can see this for being a model for other rural counties.

CDPHE is paying 100% of Kimberly's 2-day a week schedule for the next year. This will be a discussion in the future on how to sustain this position, as it is a key piece of keeping the SLV PHP moving forward.

Mary Ann Dunn, Alamosa County Commissioners, has agreed to be the commissioner liaison to the SLV PHP.

Kimberly has been looking at the marijuana issue, and it is really complex. Edibles and keeping kids safe from these are the major issues that CDPHE has been coming up with and they are looking at possibly coming up with some kind of labeling. Kimberly & Lynnea aren't sure how much we have been doing locally and are investigating this link with the environmental health program. CDHPE has given \$18,000 this year and hopefully for 2016, but we will have to make up this money soon. Marijuana taxes could a source for this.

Burn permits are a possible area the environmental health program could look at. There is probably no farmer out there getting a burn permit for fields or ditches, and RGC probably doesn't want to approach this. A tire shredder is sitting down in Alamosa and was shredding tires all over the state, (20,000 at a time), but funding is not currently available to pay for operation. (This machine doesn't pull out metal, so you can't use shred on playgrounds, and it

doesn't take rimmed tires.) Alamosa County Commissioners, Darius Allen, knows more about this.

Emily asked the BoH to keep thinking of what our EH program should look like and continuing to provide feedback.

Updates from Director

Ebola: There are up to 15,935 cases and 5,689 deaths and with the addition of Mali, travelers returning from four West African countries are now being monitored. Public Health and regional preparedness partners continue to prepare for the possibility of a 21-day monitoring situation, as well as a possible Ebola case.

IZ update: As of a 12/4/14 Healthy Advisory notice, 52% of influenza A (H3N2) cases tested so far this year are antigenically different than the vaccine. This means vaccine effectiveness may be decreased, but vaccination is still recommended to provide some protection and reduction of severe outcomes.

Marijuana Education Campaign: The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment is launching a new educational campaign 1/5/15 to educate on the new marijuana laws. The website will be GoodtoKnowColorado.com. Public health will be receiving pre-information during at 12/18 webinar.

Harm Reduction Meetings: The Neonatal Task Force and Saguache County are bringing down representatives from the Denver-based Harm Reduction Action Center on 12/10 & 11 for presentations at the Alamosa Valley-Wide Health Systems office. The group will be sharing information about state laws and their programs related to needle exchanges and disposal programs and narcotic prescriptions and use by hospitals, law enforcement and family/friends.

Pandemic Flu Exercise: The SLV Joint Health Care Coalitions are hosting a tabletop exercise on 1/29/14. This is a valuable opportunity for partners to meet and think through collaborative efforts that would be needed in a public health emergency situation.

Updates from Municipalities & County

Monte Vista: *no rep*

Del Norte: Working on sewers and are now at the 'go find funding' stage, most like through the USDA and DOLA (through CDPHE). They would probably go through USDA if possible based on grant/loan proportion. Emily relayed a housing complaint they received and Marty will pass this along to Town Council. DN has doesn't have any ordinances that can make people clean property unless a nuisance complaint is filed.

South Fork: *no rep*

County: At Colorado Counties Inc. (CCI), RGC met with Mineral & Archuleta Counties. There is a discussion starting around the Village at Wolf Creek (e.g. water quality, public health impact). This would be in Mineral, but RG & Archuleta will be impacted from the watershed, but also from travel, accidents, trash. The land exchange with the Forest Service went through and they are expecting if construction happens, it might occur within 1-2 years. Impact fees or a plan with options was something that was considered. **Kimberly will look for information she has seen on impact fees for localities and send to Emily.**

Other Business

Emily clarified the process for confirming any office closure.

Next Meeting

Set 2015 meeting dates: SF work sessions would be at 7pm on 2nd Thursdays, so a SF rep could still get back to their meeting in time. They could also appoint someone else if a council member is unable to attend. Dates for 2015 were set for March 12, June 11, September 10, and December 10.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 PM. Bricker/Shriver moved.

Submitted by

Emily Brown Secretary