

Rio Grande County Board of Health
Thursday, June 14, 2018

Rio Grande County: Suzanne Bothell
Gene Glover

Del Norte: Marty Asplin
Monte Vista: Carol Schroeder
South Fork: Shannon Goldsberry

Also present: Emily Brown (secretary)
Lynnea Rappold
Dixie Diltz

A quorum was present. The meeting was called to order at 3:32 p.m.

Approval of Agenda & Minutes

Bothell moved/Asplin seconded to approve agenda. Motion carried.

Public comment

There was no public comment.

Discussion on Regional Environmental Health Program with Lynnea Rappold

Emily introduced Lynnea and reviewed the San Luis Valley Regional Environmental Health Program (EH). A major element of discussion was the expansion of temporary events permitting. Lynnea has been focusing her time this spring and summer on doing outreach with towns, chambers, local food coalition, land use, etc. Temporary events permitting is not standardized across state. Two years ago EH applied for a \$13,000 FDA grant to buy hand sinks. They next year they did outreach to temporary events. This year they applied for a \$20,000 FDA grant to hire temp employee, but that position was not approved by the Alamosa Board of County Commissioners. This year EH is also plan reviewing events. The last week of May they did free food safety trainings. About 175 people were trained; 100 of them in South Fork due to seasonality. Lynnea is sending packets to event coordinator three weeks before event. Currently EH is waiving the \$45/day fee for event coordinators.

There were several questions asked. Food trucks are licensed as food vendors, so they don't have to apply for a temp events permit. Non-profits don't have to be inspected, although it is recommended volunteers still go through a food safety training, and food should still be prepared and stored in the same manner as other vendors.

There was also good clarifications and communications around specifically how the process worked for Rio Grande County. A recent complaint seemed to come from duplication of paperwork. Dixie Diltz noted that the Land Use office already has a packet special events have to complete. In looking at the EH packet, it looked like one specific page (food vendor list) would be completed new information from what Land Use already asks for. LYNNEA and DIXIE will work together to share packet information. DIXIE will forward needed information to Lynnea once she receives a completed packet.

It was noted that there are regularly events that get missed that should be completing special events permitting. LYNNEA and DIXIE will communicate with each other if they know of an event, to make sure the

other is also aware. While Lynnea did share information out, it was realized that information might not have gotten to the exact person who actually does this paperwork. CAROL, MARTY, and SHANNON will figure out who the direct person is at the cities that does events and will send their contact information to Emily. EMILY & LYNNEA will do a direct call to each town person to outreach on temporary events.

To finalize the discussion, EMILY will make sure licensing and events complaints get to the BoH in case they get approached. EMILY will also forward “special event” registration with attached packets and Lynnea’s contact info.

Lynnea also briefly discussion the tire clean-up program she has been assisting with. State public health supports tire collections around the state. These have to be staggered every 30 months. These have been done by towns, which allows us to have 3 in a Rio Grande County.

Updates from Director

Needle disposal – We have our contract set up with the disposal company. We are working through some details on location and process, and will promote this once these details are finalized. EMILY will continue to look into incinerator options. (i.e. rent one at old hospital). EMILY will talk to SALIDA about the pilot project they are doing to see how they are disposing of them.

Harm Reduction Program/SHARPP – This program has been running in Alamosa since February and they have been serving around 40 individuals. We continue to discuss bringing the program to Rio Grande County. EMILY will ask Charlotte about the possibility of running the program from a mobile unit in other locations.

MAT posters – Emily shared posters that came from the IT MATTTTRs project she was a part of. The goal of the project was to raise communication and awareness around Opioid Use Disorder, and to promote Medication Assisted Treatment as an option for recovery. Per a suggestion, EMILY will post these in the waiting room at the jail.

Updates

Del Norte – The town finally got approval so they will be able to start on the sewage project by the end of July.

Monte Vista – Work has begun anew on the Veterans Park for tables, covered tops, and lighting for flags. There is motorcycle event this weekend partially to fund the Veterans Park. There is a new electronic sign at Ski Hi to see events at night. Several new shops are opening in town.

South Fork – No fireworks will be allowed for July 4th due to fire restrictions. The town is starting work on a municipal water system and will be putting in hydrants in town.

County – The County will have a Stage 1 fire restriction in place for District 18 to align with South Fork. Currently Ski Hi stampede grounds can be used for all events. A decision for next steps will happen right after next year’s Stampede. The County has officially begun the search for a jail nurse, ideally with some trauma experience. Dr. Pat Thompson will be contracted with to be the jail medical officer.

Other business

Next Meeting

Thursday, September 13 at 3:30 p.m. at the RGC BoCC room

Meeting was adjourned at 5:13. (Schroeder/Asplin moved)

Submitted by
Emily Brown, Secretary