

MINUTES
OF THE
BOARD OF HEALTH

JEFFERSON COUNTY, COLORADO

** This meeting was held via Zoom **

On May 19, 2020 at 4:10 p.m., President Greg Deranleau called the meeting to order. Lindsey Gonzales took roll call. The following additional Board members were present: Cheri Jahn, Dr. Dawn Comstock, Dr. Kimberley Krapek and Lane Drager. Amanda Crusier, counsel for Jefferson County Public Health, was also present.

For the record a quorum was established.

Staff Members Presenting

Dr. Mark Johnson, Executive Director
Joseph Badalpour, Administrative Services
Jim Rada, Environmental Health Director
Dr. Margaret Huffman, Community Health Services

Acceptance of Consent Agenda

Dr. Krapek made a motion to approve the proposed consent agenda. Ms. Jahn seconded the motion.
Motion Passed

Employee of the Month

Mr. Drager presented the May Employee of the Month to Matthew Nii, with the Administrative Services Division.

Public Comments

Shannon Neel, a Jefferson County community member discussed with the Board her concerns and frustration regarding recent reopening proposals for Jefferson County Public Schools in the fall. Ms. Neel's main concerns were specific to group classroom size recommendations (10 students or less per classroom), safety and the overall mental health aspect the proposed policies and procedures could have on students and staff. Dr. Johnson discussed that Jefferson County Public Health and the other local metro public health departments currently act in an advisory role to the Colorado Board of Education, generally, and the superintendent for Jefferson County Public Schools, specifically. All guidance, policies and procedures will be reviewed and approved by the Governor in consideration of his most current public health orders. Ms. Neel discussed with the Board her growing frustrations when reaching out to different Jefferson County Public School contacts and getting contradicting information and/or no response. Ms. Jahn recommended Ms. Neel should reach out to her local school district board member for further guidance, recommendations and/or questions.

Financial Report

Mr. Badalpour presented the April 2020 financial statements to the Board. Mr. Drager made a motion to approve the presented financial reports. Dr. Comstock seconded the motion.

Motion Passed

New Business

Mr. Rada discussed with the Board Jefferson County Planning and Zoning’s land development regulation changes regarding date of legal parcel. Nathan Seymour and Chris O’Keefe with Jefferson County Planning and Zoning also provided input on the proposed changes. Currently, Jefferson County Public Health uses Table 4.1 and the date of legal parcel to determine the amount of land needed for an onsite wastewater permit. The amount of land needed to obtain an onsite wastewater permit varies based on the date of legal parcel. Section 4.2.B of the Jefferson County Onsite Wastewater Regulation assigns the responsibility for determining the date of legal parcel to Jefferson County Planning and Zoning. Jefferson County Planning and Zoning conducts legal parcel research for all development applications. In cases of properly platted lots or proper metes and bounds legal descriptions, the legal parcel research is typically straight forward. In cases of improper subdivisions where trading portions of lots has occurred, the legal parcel research can be a tedious, expensive and a time-consuming process.

Proposed land development regulation revisions include: all improper divisions of land that occurred prior to January 1, 2000, will be deemed a proper division of land AND the date of legal parcel (proper division of land) will be January 1, 2000. Under the provisions of Table 4-1 these formerly improper divisions of land will need 5-acres of land to obtain an onsite wastewater permit, while the surrounding proper divisions of land platted prior to December 5, 1977 can still be developed at 1- and 2-acre densities. This creates an inequity between neighboring properties. Proper divisions of land platted prior to December 5, 1977 will still be able to be developed at higher density with lesser treatment. Mr. Rada proposed a concept that would eliminate the need for the date of legal parcel based on nitrogen loading and carrying capacity concepts: He recommended modification of Table 4-1 to eliminate the date of legal parcel and base required wastewater treatment levels on lot size as follows: property size 5-acres or more, treatment level required would be treatment level one (conventional septic tank and absorption field). Property size less than 5-acres and equal to or greater than 2.5 acres, treatment level required would be treatment level 2N (minimum 50% nitrogen reduction). Less than 2.5-acres and greater than or equal to 1-acre, treatment level required would be treatment level 3N(70-80% nitrogen reduction). Exemption, with the permission of an existing public water system and with Treatment Level 3N or better, proper subdivisions platted prior to November 10, 1973 may be reduced to 0.5-acres.

After Board discussion with Mr. Rada and Jefferson County Planning and Zoning, Jefferson County Public Health and Planning and Zoning will continue to work together and work with the metro area realtor’s association. Planning and Zoning has agreed to continue conducting date of legal parcel research for JCPH until the end of 2020. The Board agreed the proposed changes would help simplify the process but expressed that they would like to see permitting decisions be supported with data-driven models and would like Mr. Rada to bring a draft to the Board for review within the next few months. The Board would also like Mr. Rada to review the variance policy within the next few months as well.

*****Recording paused the Board took a five-minute recess *****

The Board discussed the June Board of Health meeting. The June meeting was scheduled as an all-day Board of Health retreat. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic the Board agreed to reschedule the all-day retreat and have a June Board of Health meeting beginning at 4:00 p.m. At which time, the Board will review and discuss Case Number 19-123-752 (Murphy Gulch Road). The clerk to the Board of Health will work with the Board members within the next few months to reschedule the off-site strategic planning meeting for late 2020.

Executive Director Comments

Dr. Johnson congratulated employee, Paulina Erices. Paulina received the Model Practice Award from the National Association of County Health Officials (NACCHO) for her work with the Adelante Network. Dr. Johnson also shared Jefferson County Public Health received the Promising Practice Award for the Let's Talk Behavioral Program from Denver Metro Partnership for Health.

Dr. Johnson discussed with the Board the county's plan to move forward to a 4-day work week on June 1st. Jefferson County Public Health will delay the start of the 4-day work week due to many staff being dedicated to the COVID-19 response. The Women Infant and Children (WIC) program and the vital records office will continue to keep a 5-day work schedule for the foreseeable future. Jefferson County Public Health will hold a general staff meeting on June 4th to discuss what returning to work will look like for staff. Dr. Johnson discussed with the Board the importance of staying in sync with the Governor's public health orders.

Director Comments

Dr. Huffman discussed with the Board on how Jefferson County Public Health is reaching out to staff regarding the mental health aspect through a team of five clinically licensed psychologists on how to deal with the different pressures in responding to the coronavirus pandemic and providing support to staff who are working from home on their normal work duties. The goal is to keep everyone connected in the strongest ways through video conference calls, daily mental health wellness emails and many other supportive outlets during work from home and the pandemic response. Dr. Huffman also thanked Paulina Erices and congratulated her on her most recent award.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board of Health, the meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m.