

Silver Thread Public Health District Board of Health Meeting Notes  
Thursday, April 21, 2022

**Attendees:**

Jody Stroh  
Greg Levine  
Jerry Gray  
Jim Loud  
Jesse Albright  
Ramona Weber  
Jim Baker  
Tara Hardy

9:04 a.m. Meeting called to order by Jerry Gray

Approval of minutes from February 17, 2022

Greg Levine made motion to approve minutes; Ramona Weber seconded motion  
Motion carries unanimously

**Community Communications:**

Jerry Gray relays message from community member. Community member emailed grievances in regard to a Public Health staff member to Jerry. Jerry will follow-up with the community member and Tara, and will report back to BOH.

**OWTS**

Two updates to the regulations have not been addressed:

- 1) Penalty of \$1k if install an illegal system
- 2) Length of installer license changed from 1 year and \$25 to 2 years and \$50

Jim Baker made motion to accept proposal

**Discussion:**

- Janelle Kukuk gave brief history of changes and context to proposed changes. She proposed an additional component: a system to deter illegal installation by adding a penalty from BOH on top of what is imposed already. Belief that this would happen quicker and therefore deter more.
- Board agreed that this should be addressed by attorney, who will be at the next BOH meeting
- Motion to accept proposal withdrawn
- Questions to attorney will be:
  - Does BOH have authority to impose penalty?
  - When can BOH start implementing penalty (# of days)?
  - Would fees go to BOH or County?
- Tara will take questions to attorney and this will be discussed at August meeting.

**Town of Lake City Sewer Project Application**

Town of Lake City is applying to upgrade and expand the waste water system and needs BOH approval  
Joann Fagan in attendance to discuss the need for BOH approval for land use review.

Plan is:

- Add additional lagoon capacity
- Address minor integrity issues
- Better handle ammonia

All will improve water and get rid of any leaking.

Jesse Albright made motion to sign document for approval

2<sup>nd</sup> by Ramona Weber

Pass unanimously

#### Personnel Policy Manual

Attorneys, Lynn McNitt, and Tara have been reviewing the Sick Leave section of Public Health Personnel Policy in order to align it with the Healthy Families and Workplaces Act and with the Hinsdale County Personnel Policy manual. The sick leave section will now address sick leave accrual for part-time employees.

Jesse Albright made motion to approve changes to the Public Health Personnel Policy Manual

2<sup>nd</sup> by Greg Levine

Discussion:

- Tara made recommendation to review the manual every 2-5 years
- The new Public Health Personnel Policy Manual will now be given to all new Public Health employees, as opposed to the Hinsdale County manual.

Approval to make changes to Personnel Policy manual passed unanimously

#### Intergovernmental Agreement

The San Luis Valley Regional Partnership renewal is up. There are no changes and there is no money involved. Jerry Gray has signed the renewal for Silver Thread Public Health.

Ramona Weber made motion to approve the renewal

2<sup>nd</sup> by Jody Stroh

Pass unanimously

#### Director Report

- COVID update
  - Booster shot clinics in both counties are starting to dwindle
  - State is discussing the plan to transition COVID response from Public Health to the healthcare system.
  - Is COVID testing still the responsibility of Public Health? Silver Thread is still testing, but that is not the common practice in the rest of the state.
  - BA.2 variant does not seem to be a concern at this time and is not overwhelming healthcare system.
- Special Supplement Nutrition Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC)
  - Both counties have access, but from neighboring counties.
  - Tara is working with Gunnison HHS to include Mineral County (they already include Hinsdale). Joni would be the contact in Creede. The new contract is up to renew in October. Hope to have better access in the fall.
- Building harm reduction programs

- Eric and Joni have been working to build availability and access to Naloxone for both counties by supplying ambulances in both counties with it. Were able to order the drug at no cost.
- More AED kits are being distributed in both counties.
- Drug deactivation bags for unused prescription drugs are going to be distributed in counties. And public health is working with sheriff offices to get drop off boxes for unused prescription drugs.
- Senior Resources
  - Hinsdale County is phasing out of the Homemaker program due to lack of staff. Will start Consumer Directed Services. Public Health will contract with Consumer Directed Services who will handle all employees – hiring, screening, pay. This will also allow for expanded services like respite care and link clients to other services that haven't been available in Lake City. Creede will continue the homemaker program as they continue to have staffing and new clients.
- Staff participated in Arbinger Institute training
- Health Fair – Tara is working with both county medical centers to have Health Fair in fall. Currently looking for vendors.
- Mental Health services – Is there still a van transporting people to mental health services? Tara has talked to staff and they are not receiving any negative feedback. Remote therapy has become more available and expanded.

#### BOH Director Reports

- Jerry: Will work with community member on staff grievance and report back to the board.
- Ramona: The Creede grocery store can not take EBT or gift cards. They are still in the process of getting set up to accept those payment sources. Is Public Health food bank being used? Yes. Staff has been identifying those impacted and shopping or putting food baskets together for them. Have been ordering extra food from Care & Share.
- Robert: How do people in Hinsdale receive guidance for mental health services? Through referrals from Public Health or Med Center. Most are referred to Center for Mental Health (now called Axis Health).
- Jesse: Is Public Health reaching out to Monte Vista to help? Tara is catching up on the situation. Tara, Jesse, and Creede school superintendent are meeting regularly. Working to get marquee set up.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 18, 2022 in Lake City at 9:00am

Ramona Weber made motion to adjourn meeting.

Jesse Albright 2<sup>nd</sup> motion to adjourn meeting.

Motion passes unanimously.