

Archuleta County Investigative Health Committee Meeting - Minutes
Tuesday, September 28, 2021
Start – 6:05 PM

Roll Call:

Susan Kleckner, Mozhdeh Bruss, Marybeth Snyder, Leslie Davis, Adam Talamante and LaVonda Bass were present in person. Mike Le Roux arrived at 6:53 pm. County Commissioner Warren Brown was also present during the first half of the meeting. Jamie Jones managed Zoom.

Approval and Adjustments to the Agenda:

LaVonda made a motion to approve the agenda as presented, Adam seconded the motion, all "aye" and the Agenda was approved as presented.

Disclosures and/or conflicts of interest with item on the Agenda:

All agreed there were none.

Meeting Minutes:

Marybeth made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from the August 31, 2021 meeting, Leslie seconded the motion, all "aye" and the minutes were approved as presented.

New Business:

- A. County Commissioner Warren Brown, the liaison between the BOCC and the Health Investigation Committee, spoke to the committee.** He presented a list of "3B" counties (Alamosa, Delta, Gilpin, Grand and Logan) in Colorado, similar to Archuleta County (AC) in population, who have their own public health departments. He suggested we use the contact information he provided and obtain information from them that would help in the investigation and allow the committee to move forward. He mentioned that the Colorado Association of Local Public Health Officials (CALPH) is purportedly helpful to local health agencies. He mentioned the short time-frame the committee has to obtain its assigned goals. The committee needs to find facts to the best of its ability. The three assignments are: 1) Obtain from SJBPH what services are provided at what cost; 2) investigate the feasibility of creating a county public health entity; 3) investigate the viability of partnering with a neighboring county's public health entity. He said if we can't get the answers to #1, we should move on to #2 and #3. He added that a one year notice must be given to SJBPH if AC chooses to separate from SJBPH. Mr. Brown also stated he believes the County would be willing to pay for an ad in the Pagosa Sun to obtain public input regarding public health services. He suggested we also use social media, ask only a few simple questions. Warren then left the meeting.
- B. The conversation continued:** It was said that the same information request was made in 2019 so this is not the first request to SJBPH. Up until 2014, the information we seek was provided. It was agreed that the committee does not know what services are actually being provided to AC residents and that information is necessary for our investigation. Covid brought this issue to light. It was mentioned the SJBPH by-laws which show how AC and LaPlata county choose who is on the SJBPH Board of Health. She encouraged the committee members to attend the upcoming SJBPH Special meeting (9/30/2021 at 9:00am) as the request letter is on the agenda. Since a quorum of the committee plans to attend the meeting on Zoom, SJBPH and the public must be notified. It was mentioned that Brad who was the head of the local hospital was once on the Board. Leslie brought up that many services offered here in AC are contracted out and could also be contracted out by a county health entity.

- C. Review the response letter from SJBPH dated 09/17/2021:** The letter was read aloud, focus was particularly on the second to last paragraph offering a joint work session between the Board of Health (BOH) and the AC BoCC. A question left on the table was where to obtain the "monthly newsletters" from SJBPH. Some committee members researched the information source links in the letter and reported the information the committee seeks could not be located.
- D. Next step:** The committee would like to continue to seek the information needed from SJBPH. It was decided to postpone pursuing the information from Commissioner Brown until after the SJBPH special meeting. After discussion, *Marybeth made a motion "to invite Commissioner Alvin Schaaf (who is on the SJBPH BOH) to our next Health Investigation Committee meeting on October 12, 2021 at 6 pm to have him provide budgetary and service program information."* The motion was seconded by Adam, all "aye" and the motion was approved.
- E. Review "Suggested Practices for the Efficient Working of the Committee":** The "Suggested Processes for the Efficient Working of the Committee" dated 09/16/2021 V1. describes the processes and limitations for the committee regarding meetings, document creation and approval and meeting notices. It's named Exhibit F. *Susie made a motion to accept Exhibit F "Suggested Processes" as a document to reference and edit as needed. The motion was seconded by Adam, all "aye" and the motion was approved.*

Member Tasks:

- A. Marybeth to invite Commissioner Schaaf to the next meeting.
- B. All committee members shall create a list of questions to ask the 3B county contacts provided by Warren Brown (named Exhibit H.)
- C. All committee members are to consider public outreach strategies.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, October 12 at 6:00 PM.

Adjourn Meeting: 7:59 PM