

**EL PASO COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH**  
**February 26, 2025**  
**BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES**

The El Paso County Board of Health met at the Citizens Service Center at 1675 W. Garden of the Gods Road, Colorado Springs, Colorado, on February 26, 2025. Eight Board of Health members were present.

President Collas called the meeting to order at 8:37 a.m.

**Board of Health Member Roll Call:**

*Present:*

Ted Collas, President  
Doris Ralston, Vice President  
Commissioner Carrie Geitner  
Commissioner Cory Applegate  
Hunter Barnett  
Dr. Debora Chan  
Councilmember Dave Donelson  
Mayor Glant Havenar

*Absent:*

Dr. Richard Vu

**Directors and Officers Present:**

Susan Wheelan, Public Health Executive Director  
DeAnn Ryberg, Public Health Deputy Director  
Dr. Bernadette Albanese, Co-Medical Director  
Dr. Paul Mayer, Co-Medical Director  
Michelle Guenther, Business Operations Division Manager  
Carolyn Gery, Development Officer  
Dacia Hudson, Community Health Promotion Division Director  
Michelle Beyrle, Strategy, Data, and Communication Division Director  
Summer South, Clinical Services Division Director  
Kat McGarvy, Environmental Health Division Director

**El Paso County staff present at Regular Session:**

Andrea Schumacher	Haley Zachary	Heather Bennett	Jennifer Kerr	Logan Hyder
Laura Montanez Villafane	Lauren Miremont	Nicole Evans	Rubba Ahram	Amanda Hamilton

**Members of the public present at Regular Session:**

Cami Bremer	Cass Walton	Dan Martindale	Diana May
Karen Paules	Megan Billesbock	Nicole Johnston	Sallie Clark

### **Approval of Agenda**

President Collas entertained a motion to approve the agenda for the February 26, 2025, Board of Health Meeting.

**MOVED:** by Vice President Ralston, seconded by Mayor Havenar, to approve the agenda for the February 26, 2025, Board of Health meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED (8-0). Dr. Vu excused.**

### **Board of Health Comments**

1. Dr. Chan welcomed the new board members.
2. President Collas thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve for four years on the Board of Health. President Collas acknowledged Commissioner Bremer's six years of service on the Board of Health and presented a certificate of appreciation to her.
3. Members of the Board thanked Commissioner Bremer for her service.
4. Director Wheelan acknowledged President Collas' service to the Board of Health and presented a certificate of appreciation to him.
5. Members of the Board thanked President Collas for his service.

### **Approval of Minutes**

President Collas entertained a motion to approve the January 22, 2025, Board of Health Meeting minutes.

**MOVED:** by Councilmember Donelson, seconded by Mayor Havenar, to approve the minutes of the January 22, 2025, Board of Health meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED (8-0). Dr. Vu excused.**

### **Public Comment on Items not Scheduled on the Agenda**

Anne Esch, a Green Mountain Falls resident, commented on Regulation 43 and the plan to upgrade cesspools when a property changes hands. She is concerned that when the cesspool fails or when she passes her property on to her family that they will have to pay to update the cesspool to a septic system. She is wondering if there will be variances to the regulation. Kat McGarvy, Environmental Health Division Director, will follow up with Anne Esch.

### **Proclamation**

Nathan Whitney, County Attorney, read a Proclamation recognizing the retirement of Susan Wheelan.

President Collas entertained a motion to approve the Proclamation.

**MOVED:** by Councilmember Donelson, and seconded by Mayor Havenar, to approve the Proclamation of Susan Wheelan's Retirement.

**MOTION CARRIED (6-1-1). Dr. Vu excused. Commissioner Geitner opposed. Commissioner Applegate recused.**

### **New Business**

#### **Election of Board of Health President**

President Collas has recommended that Councilmember Donelson be the next Board President and asked if there were any other nominees. There were no other nominees. Councilmember Donelson accepted the nomination.

President Collas entertained a motion to elect Councilmember Donelson as Board of Health President.

**MOVED:** by Vice President Ralston, seconded by Mayor Havenar, to elect Councilmember Donelson as Board of Health President.

**MOTION CARRIED (8-0). Dr. Vu excused.**

### **Director's Report**

#### **Community Health Improvement Plan**

Rubba Ahram, Senior Public Health Planner, presented on the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

President Collas entertained a motion to table the approval of the CHIP to another meeting.

**MOVED:** by Commissioner Geitner, seconded by Hunter Barnett, to table the approval of the CHIP to another meeting.

**MOTION FAILED (3-5). Dr. Vu excused. President Collas, Vice President Ralston, Councilmember Donelson, Dr. Chan and Mayor Havenar opposed.**

President Collas entertained a motion to approve the CHIP.

**MOVED:** by Councilmember Donelson, seconded by Vice President Ralston, to approve the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP).

**MOTION CARRIED (5-3). Dr. Vu excused. Commissioner Geitner, Commissioner Applegate and Hunter Barnett opposed.**

### **Executive Session**

Executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4)(f) to discuss personnel matters, specifically the appointment of and salary for an Interim Public Health Director and recruitment of a Public Health Director.

President Collas entertained a motion to move into Executive Session.

**MOVED:** by Hunter Barnett, seconded by Commissioner Geitner, to move into Executive Session.

**MOTION CARRIED (8-0). Dr. Vu excused.**

The Board of Health Meeting moved into Executive Session at 11:18 a.m.

The Board of Health concluded Executive Session and reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

### **Resolution**

President Collas entertained a motion to appoint DeAnn Ryberg Interim Public Health Director.

**MOVED:** by Councilmember Donelson, seconded by Commissioner Geitner, to approve the Resolution appointing DeAnn Ryberg as Interim Public Health Director.

**MOTION CARRIED (8-0). Dr. Vu excused.**

### **Adjournment**

President Collas entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**MOVED:** by Dr. Chan, seconded by Hunter Barnett, to Adjourn the February 26, 2025, Board of Health meeting.

**MOTION CARRIED (8-0) Dr. Vu excused.**

Meeting adjourned at 12:31 p.m.

### **Next Board of Health meeting**

The next Board of Health meeting will be:

**Wednesday, March 26, 2025**

**8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.**

at The Citizens Service Center

1675 W. Garden of the Gods Rd. in Colorado Springs.

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