



City of Columbia, Missouri

Meeting Minutes - Draft

Board of Health



Thursday, March 12, 2026
5:30 PM

Regular

Columbia/Boone
County Public Health &
Human Services
Training Room 1
1005 W. Worley St
Columbia, MO

I. CALL TO ORDER

Heidt called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Public Health and Human Services staff present: Rebecca Roesslet

County Commissioner present: Janet Thompson

City of Columbia staff present: D'Markus Thomas-Brown

Present: 9 - Harry Feirman, Jonathan Heidt, Rosann Geiser, Sonita Simelus, Ella Miller, Joseline Hernandez Arroyo, Tom Rose, Samantha Joiner and Jennifer Carter Dochler

Excused: 2 - Ashton Day and Bridget Kraus

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Feirman moves to approve the agenda, seconded by Rose. The motion passed unanimously.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

BOH Draft Meeting Minutes 02.12.2026

Attachments: [BOH Draft Meeting Minutes 02.12.2026](#)

Geiser moves to approve the minutes, seconded by Miller. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Chapter 5 Animals and Fowl Discussion

Heidt turns the floor over to Roesslet for updates on Chapter 5 Animals and Fowl. Roesslet starts by telling the board that Meyers and herself presented the recommended changes on Chapter 5 at the last City Council meeting. She explains the feedback that they received from the City Council based on the presentation. There are three different ordinances now, there is "amending Chapter 5 of the City Code relating to animals and fowl; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective", "amending Chapter 5 of the City Code relating to feral cat colonies; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective", and "amending Chapter 5 of the City Code relating to limitation upon number of dogs and cats kept at one location; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective." City Councils recommendations were that they wanted the board to go back to Council with the first ordinance; amending Chapter 5 of the City Code relating to animals and fowl, but they wanted the board to look at the other two ordinances the feral cat colonies and limitation upon dogs and cats kept at one location and have further discussion on those. Roesslet recommended to the board that they not make any final decisions on what they would like to do with those two ordinances at this current meeting, but to go and watch the section of the Council meeting where the Chapter 5 ordinance was discussed first. Her idea was that they continue as they had before and first start by discussing the feral cat colonies at the next meeting in April and then discuss the limitation upon dogs and cats kept at one location at the meeting in May. Roesslet also gives a shout-out to Meyers for how well he did at the City Council meeting. There is some discussion throughout the board and the board agrees with Roesslet's suggestion for the next meeting schedule.

Roesslet finishes by thanking the board for all of their hard work on all of the ordinance changes and all of the hard work that they have done thus far.

At this time after some discussion from the board Rose makes a motion to send back the changes of Chapter 5 of the City Code relating to animals and fowl, and not the changes of Chapter 5 City Code relating to feral cat colonies or limitation of number of dogs and cats kept at one location, the motion is seconded by Geiser. The motion passed unanimously.

V. NEW BUSINESS

D'Markus Thomas-Brown, Violence Prevention Administrator

Heidt introduces D'Markus Thomas-Brown to the board, mentioning how at the previous meeting they had talked about violence as a public health issue. Heidt then turns the floor over to Thomas-Brown to speak. Thomas-Brown introduces himself as the Violence Prevention Administrator. He mentions that a lot of the coalitions that are related to the work he does are housed at the Public Health and Human Services, mentioning a few like the Boone County Overdose Recovery Coalition, SYNC, and the Coalition to End Sexual Violence, all that are housed at the Health Department. The Office of Violence Prevention was inaugurated in 2023. Thomas-Brown gives some of his background and history that lead to the Office of Violence Prevention. Thomas-Brown explains that the Office of Violence Prevention is focused on coordinating the development, implementation, and evaluation of prevention, intervention, and community enrichment by working with law enforcement, government agencies, and stakeholders; they continue to work to develop strategies that reduce violence and promote public safety and well-being. The mission is to address root causes of violence and to support long term community health and well-being. Thomas-Brown continues to speak and explain what the Violence Prevention is and what the Office of Violence Prevention does, the resources they provide and the resources that they work with as well. Thomas-Brown tells the board about the different offices that the Office of Violence Prevention works with and the connections that are made with in the community.

The board takes time to ask Thomas-Brown their questions that they have based on the information that he has presented to them and Thomas-Brown takes his time giving the best answers to the board's questions. They continue some more discussion about the topic of Violence Prevention as well, with statements coming from County Commissioner Thompson, and Roesslet giving some input as well. Thomas-Brown mentions more about gun access and how kids are able to have more access to guns now than they did before, and how guns are not locked up in the house, along with many other reasons as to how they are able to have access to guns. Thomas-Brown finishes off his presentation and the board thanks him for his time.

VI. REPORTS

Director's Report - Rebecca Roesslet

Moving on the director's report Roesslet starts by giving a quick measles update, that as of last week there were 1,281 confirmed cases reported in the US in 2026 this calendar year. There was a case in Kansas City that is the closest it's been to us. Because of the measles update the Health Department is looking at their own measles protocol for when someone walks in or is sent by their physician for testing. Roesslet mentions that flu numbers are going down also mentioning that they are working on a new project with Kansas City called Project Speed - it is looking at a nurse driven protocol in Missouri to allow RN's to administer prep and if it is successful it is going to increase prep access across the State. Right now it needs to be a Nurse Practitioner. That is all that Roesslet has for the director's report.

VII. GENERAL COMMENTS BY PUBLIC, MEMBERS AND STAFF

The board has some more conversation about the information that they received from the presentation from Thomas-Brown.

They will discuss feral cat colonies at the next meeting in April.

VIII. NEXT MEETING DATE

April 9, 2026

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Hernandez Arroyo moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Carter Dochler .
The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:04 P.M.