

Summit County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Summit County Health Dept. Conference Room

650 Round Valley Drive

Park City, Utah 84060

Meeting also conducted via Zoom

Monday, July 12, 2021 - DRAFT

Topic	Discussion	Action or Summary
Attendance	<p>Board Members Present: Chris Cherniak – Chair, Ilyssa Golding, Chris Ure, Doug Evans, Roger Armstrong, Marc Watterson, Dorothy Adams - <i>Absent</i></p> <p>Staff Present: Dr. Richard Bullough – Director, Dr. Phil Bondurant, Derek Moss, Louise Saw, Nate Brooks, Shelley Worley, Katy Staley</p>	
Welcome and approval of minutes	<p>The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member Ure made a motion to approve the minutes for the June 7, 2021 Board of Health Meeting with changes. Board Member Evans seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The minutes for the June 7, 2021 Board of Health meeting were approved with changes.</i>
Public Comment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No Public Comment was made. 	
Environmental Health Department Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nate Brooks shared there are three fee changes being proposed. There will be proposed fees for gray water, tiers 1 and 2. The gray water fees match the septic system fees. It is being proposed that the swimming pool closure fee be reduced from \$500 to \$150. The businesses are not doing self-closures, so Staff will be doing the closures. There is a chlorine shortage right now, but if pools cannot maintain the correct chlorine levels, then they need to close. The gray water program information is on the Health Department website and anyone wanting more information can call for more detail. Service providers for gray water systems are the same as for onsite wastewater (septic systems). • Board Member Watterson made a motion to open the thirty-day public comment period for the proposed fees. The proposed fees will be discussed with possible action made at the September Board meeting. Board Member Ure seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nate Brooks proposed three fees for the fee schedule: two for gray water systems, and one for swimming pool closures.</i> • <i>A motion was passed to open the thirty-day public comment period for the proposed fees.</i>
COVID Update – Cases and Trends	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bullough shared that Summit County continues to do quite well with COVID cases. There is an incidence increase right now, but we are hoping for an incidence plateau. We knew COVID would not be wiped out. Eighty percent of the cases in Utah are the Delta variant. There have been about four cases per day in Summit County. The surge in positivity (5.6%) is a concern. There has been a steady and consistent increase since the first of June. The goal has always been to be below five percent positivity. Summit County remains an anomaly, but the State is in a surge. The hospitalization rate for the State is 1.17 which exceeds the thresholds for the utilization warning of ICU capacity. COVID-specific ICU utilization is between 11 and 19 percent for the State. Hospitalization rates are alarming as we move into fall and winter. • Eastern Summit County continues to have a higher number of cases per 100,000 population than Western Summit County. The County is now in the moderate transmission index. Everyone needs to be vigilant. The vaccines work. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Bullough shared a COVID update. Case rates are in incidence increase right now, but Summit County has much lower numbers than the State overall.</i> • <i>Continue to be vigilant. The vaccines work.</i>
COVID Update – Vaccination Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derek Moss shared the majority of COVID cases (96-97%) are in unvaccinated people and coming in groups. It was hoped that case rates would go down with being outside, but that is not the case. The Delta variant is much more transmissible. • Breakthrough cases total 35 (0.12%), with State breakthrough cases at 0.17%. Moderna seems to be the most effective vaccine in the County. Breakthrough cases in the County seem to be even among the age groups, with the youngest being 26 years old. Three breakthrough cases have been 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Derek Moss shared an update of vaccination rates and breakthrough case rates.</i> • <i>The younger (under 12) population should be able to get vaccinated</i>

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	<p>hospitalized, two who received the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, and one Moderna.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member Ure asked if another surge was expected. Derek Moss answered it is unknown. Some data shows the need for a booster, but some data shows prolonged immunity. It takes time to sequence samples and the data is lagging for the Delta variant. Dr. Bullough stated the CDC and Federal government do not support the need for a booster. Louise Saw stated that the data is not showing an increase of breakthrough cases in the older population (who were vaccinated first), so the breakthrough cases are not due to waning vaccine. Dr. Bullough stated the numbers could be higher if people are not being tested. Utah has the fifth highest case rate in the nation, and June has been the third highest month of case growth in the State during the entire pandemic. • Since the beginning of the pandemic 80,830 children under the age of 18 have been diagnosed with COVID, over 700 hospitalized, 45 in the ICU, and two have died. The assumption that school can resume as normal is not factual. The uptake numbers of vaccinated children need to improve. It is a priority to have kids in school, but there is a lot of work to be done. The disparity of vaccinated children in Eastern versus Western Summit County was discussed. Political ideology, concern with protestors, and timing of vaccine availability for children were some suggested reasons for the disparity. Dr. Bondurant suggested that vaccinations may escalate as school starts. Derek Moss stated some hesitancy may come from the conservative mindset. People do not know the long-term side effects from the vaccines. Nothing but time will address some concerns. Dr. Bullough stated that if children are to get full immunity before school starts then they should get their first dose of vaccine now. The CDC and State have said to gear up for vaccines to be approved for children 6-12 years old as soon as August. • Derek shared that 28,308 Summit County residents are fully vaccinated. The Health Department is currently giving an average of thirty doses per week. There are 541 people overdue for their second dose, but that number is most likely inflated due to mistakes. • The Health Department is trying to reach out and looking for opportunities to schedule vaccinations, provide opportunities to get vaccinated, and educate people about the vaccines. Some opportunities include the County Fair, and the return to school. Only one pediatric office in the County has the vaccine in-office. Mobile clinics are being utilized. The vaccine will be available at Health Department offices. • Board Member Watterson asked what he can do to help. Derek Moss answered that education is important. There are some people who have hesitation with the long-term side effects or wonder if COVID is real. The Health Department will be talking to the school Superintendents and have already talked to the school nurses. It is important for people to hear correct information from their neighbors and friends. Board Member Watterson shared his concern about what school will look like this next year. Will parents know if there is an outbreak? There needs to be cooperation between the School Districts and the Health Department. • Board Member Ure stated that the media and the government are one-sided and contradictory. Do away with the politics. People will get vaccinated if they are given the choice, but many feel like they are not given the choice. Some people are waiting for the Johnson & Johnson vaccine to become more available, so they only have to get one shot. Some people have heard the rumor that the vaccine makes young girls sterile. Dr. Bullough stated that people need to do the research to find the 	<p><i>starting in August or September.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Vaccine hesitancy was discussed, with suggestions of what can be done to increase vaccination rates.</i>

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	<p>correct information and not believe all the rumors. Board Member Golding stated that not getting the vaccine causes harm to others. Derek Moss stated that he will share the statewide survey about vaccine hesitancy at the next meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was public comment made via the Zoom chat function, which was read into record. The public comment came from Quinn disagreeing with there being a political hesitancy with COVID. People are doing their own research. Quinn asked why people should get an untested drug when their own immune system is sufficient. Physicians should discuss early treatment. The public comment was not addressed by the Board. • Dr. Bullough stated there is clear data that vaccines are incredibly effective. Most comments to the contrary are hearsay. 	
ARPA and UDOH Covid-related Grants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bondurant shared there is an ample amount of resources coming to Utah Public Health. Dr. Bondurant presented the upcoming grants to the County Council at their meeting last week. A lot of money will be received over a short amount of time, and personnel is needed to handle the grants. A full-time limited position for a Grant Coordinator will be requested and is necessary to be eligible for some grants. There will also be a request for two other positions. The budget will be opened to address the incoming funds. The grant funding is for activities beyond normal public health to be used to address testing, school, and to address health disparities related to COVID, and should not affect the regular budget. The funds are there to continue COVID efforts. There will be an ongoing conversation about the grants moving forward. • Board Member Watterson shared that the State has set aside funds in the case that a booster is needed. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Bondurant shared information about incoming grants related to COVID efforts.</i> • <i>Three positions will be requested related to grant funds.</i>
Directorship – Transition Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bullough shared that Dr. Bondurant has been the lead on new funding and implementing programs. A good balance has been found in the long transition. COVID has diverted the attention of the Health Department and now is the time to reconnect with the community. • Dr. Bondurant stated he is grateful for the Staff being patient with the four-month transition. Round two of interviews for the Deputy Health Director position will start tomorrow. The position needs to be filled by someone with an understanding of the community and who is able to fit in. • There will be a retirement party for Dr. Bullough on August 20th from 4pm to 6pm at the Utah Film Studio. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Health Director transition is going well.</i> • <i>Interviews for the second round for Deputy Health Director will begin tomorrow.</i> • <i>A retirement party will be held for Dr. Bullough on August 20th.</i>
Other Board Discussion Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member Watterson shared that the UALBOH conference is September 23-24 in Richfield. Travel, meals, and lodging will be covered. A link has been sent to Board Members to RSVP. • Chair Cherniak asked for an air quality update. Nate Brooks shared that current conditions in the county are unhealthy for anyone with respiratory or heart conditions or who has had COVID. There are some high-elevation winds on the way that should help clear the air. Everyone should use their best judgement when exercising outdoors. Anyone can purchase a Purple Air monitor and participate in monitoring air quality. www.purpleair.com • Board Member Evans asked if the Health Department was in contact with the water systems to see who is struggling for water. Nate Brooks answered that he is in contact with some, but he will reach out. Board Member Evans stated that there are more water quality problems when water systems are struggling with water quantity. • Board Member Ure stated that the County should be an example and turn off their sprinklers. Dr. Bondurant stated that Manager Fisher has made a mandate to be in-line with State recommendations. Board Member Evans stated that Summit County is late to the game, is high on 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The UALBOH conference is September 23-24 in Richfield. Board Members should RSVP.</i> • <i>Nate Brooks shared an air quality update.</i> • <i>Nate Brooks will reach out to the water systems to see who is struggling for water.</i> • <i>Water conservation concerns were discussed.</i>

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	the water shed, lacks priority water rights, and lacks water quantity. Board Member Ure stated that we need to learn to conserve.	
Adjourn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting adjourned at 6:11 p.m. • <i>Board Members Watterson and Ure made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0.</i> 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 2nd at 4pm.</i>