

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, August 2, 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</p> <p>Staff Present: Dr. Richard Bullough – Director, Dr. Phil Bondurant - Director, 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 Evans made a motion to approve the minutes for the July 14, 2021 Board of Health Meeting with changes. Board Member Ure seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The minutes for the July 14, 2021 Board of Health meeting were approved with changes.</i>
Public Comment (Non-Agenda related)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Cherniak stated that there have been several emails sent to the Board of Health and the Health Department recently. There has been discussion about how to deal with those emails, and legal counsel is being sought to determine how emails will be handled. All public comments must have first and last names to be allowed during the meeting. • Deanna Rhodes with Connect Summit County stated there will be a Mental Wellness in the Garden event held Saturday, August 28th from 9am to 1pm as an open house at the Summit Community Garden on Old Ranch Road. • Ryan Sternagel started to make public comment related to COVID and was asked to refrain from making comment related to an agenda item. • Tanya Keller asked when the public will have an opportunity to talk about COVID-related concerns and stated that the public does not have access to the minutes. Chair Cherniak stated that anyone may submit an email to boh@summitcounty.org for comments. The Board of Health will consider having a future meeting to receive public comment concerning COVID. Dr. Bullough will follow-up on making sure the minutes are available. Dr. Bullough stated he appreciates there is tension in the community concerning COVID right now, and some concerns will be addressed during the COVID agenda item. • JoAnn Funseth stated that comments have been submitted via email and it is critical that the public have the opportunity to comment. Can the public expect any type of response? It does not feel like we are being heard if there is no feedback. Dr. Bullough and Dr. Bondurant stated they are receiving on average about 880 emails a day and more than twenty voicemails a day. Concerns will be addressed during the COVID update. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Deanna Rhodes shared there will be a Mental Wellness in the Garden event held this month.</i> • <i>Public comment was made requesting that COVID concerns be allowed in a public comment setting. The Board will consider having a future meeting to receive public comment concerning COVID.</i> • <i>There have been an overwhelming number of emails and voicemails received every day with COVID concerns.</i>
Health Department Budget Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bondurant shared the budget process. The budget is due. The Deputy Health Director gathers the nine budget sheets, including the COVID-related budget. Deputy Health Director, Shelley Worley stated that each department has its own budget that was turned in Friday and has been reviewed and will be sent to the budget committee tomorrow. The budget will be reviewed with the Board of Health in September. Plans are to start the budget process earlier next year. Dr. Bondurant shared that the budget took a significant cut in 2021, so the budget ask for 2022 will be significantly different, with some increases. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The budget process was shared. Each department has submitted their budget, which has been reviewed and will be sent to the budget committee tomorrow.</i>
Environmental Health Department – Gray Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nate Brooks shared that the proposed new fees for the Gray Water program are in the thirty-day public comment period. An approval letter from the Board of Health will be requested at the end of the public comment period. The Gray Water program is not a public program, but is 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Nate Brooks shared that the proposed new fees for the Gray Water</i>

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Update	<p>opt-in, so no vote will be needed. The program should be able to be handled by current Staff, so there will not be any increased budget requests due to the Gray Water Program at this time. Board Member Armstrong stated the Gray Water Program is a good conservation practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member Evans asked if the Health Department has been approached about complete reuse systems. Nate answered that complete reuse systems are still in the experimental phase and it is up to the manufacturer to get those systems approved through the State. The Health Department is learning as much as they can about these systems. 	<p><i>Program are in the 30-day public comment period and will be discussed at the September Board meeting.</i></p>
COVID Update – Cases, Trends and Vaccinations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bondurant shared there is a lot of energy and emotion connected to the recent CDC guidelines for wearing masks. Most of the comments that have been recently received by the Health Department surround masks. Any mask order requires the intent of the Local Health Officer and the County Council and will expire after thirty days. Anything beyond thirty days requires Legislative approval. With the high vaccination rates and low case rates in Summit County a mask order is not warranted at this time. Businesses can require masks on their premises. There is strong evidence that masks have had a positive impact in schools and other states are adopting the same policies that Utah had in place for schools last year. Superintendents will address the concerns of their school districts and do what is best to limit school transmission and keep kids in class. If a school reaches thirty cases in their school, then the Legislature rule kicks in. • Decisions about masks will be based on credible sources. Some emails received have not been productive, but accusatory. The Summit County Health Department will continue to serve the underserved, most vulnerable population. The Health Department is not trying to confuse anybody and is not relaying false information but aligns with a data-driven approach. Constructive criticism is welcome. The Health Department will work with the County Attorney to implement a public comment period for a COVID discussion. Board Member Armstrong stated that the County has been guided by science and it is irresponsible to go in another direction. • Board Member Watterson clarified that the Legislative rule SB107 states that once an individual school has reached thirty COVID cases (or more than 2% of the student body for schools with fewer than 1500 students) within fourteen days, then test to stay will be implemented for the entire student body. The Health Department will give support and resources to help implement any needed action. Dr. Bondurant stated that a mask mandate would be separate from SB107 and is left up to the Local Health Officer and the County Council. School Districts cannot implement their own mask order. Any mask order would be done with the Board of Health and school collaboration and input. Private schools have more latitude and can make their own rules. • Dr. Bullough shared that evidence supports that the County is doing well because of high vaccination rates. Summit County averages about five COVID cases per day, with a five percent positivity rate. The state of Utah is averaging about thirty cases per 100,000 people per day. Summit County Health Department will not make rash decisions. The data is reviewed every day. The majority of cases are thought to be the Delta variant and could be related to larger gatherings. Hospitalizations are a State indicator and are a concern. As COVID ICU rates climb there is a concern that the total ICU utilization will exceed the eighty percent threshold. There has been a leveling off of the disparity of case rates between Eastern and Western Summit County. Families and businesses are taking COVID seriously and Summit County has one of the lowest case rates of counties in the State. Summit County remains in the low care rate category for 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Bondurant shared a COVID update. The decision to have a mask mandate is up to the Local Health Officer and the County Council. Case rates and vaccination rates do not merit a mask mandate at this time.</i> • <i>The County is doing well due to high vaccination rates. Summit County has one of the lowest case rates of the counties in the State.</i> • <i>People are still getting vaccinated and can get vaccinated easily.</i> • <i>There are illnesses that mimic COVID symptoms. Keep isolated and take illnesses seriously.</i> • <i>It is unknown when the vaccines will be approved for those under the age of 12.</i> • <i>There is no intent to have a test to play requirement, but vaccinations are encouraged.</i>

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	<p>percentage of positivity and moderate for the 14-day case rate. There have not been any deaths in the County due to COVID in the last 28 days, and there is no conspiracy to falsify death certificates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derek Moss shared vaccines continue to be important. There is still a consistent flow of people getting vaccinated. Contact the Health Department, People’s Health Clinic, pharmacies, and Wasatch Pediatrics for vaccines. Vaccines are readily available. The vaccines are still only approved for people over the age of 12. It is unknown when vaccines will be approved for those under the age of 12. There are other illnesses whose symptoms mimic COVID. Those who have symptoms should keep isolated and take it seriously. Reach out with any questions. • Louise Saw shared the vaccination breakthrough rates. The majority of cases are in those who are unvaccinated. The vaccine is still doing a good job. Of the 183 hospitalizations in the County only 7 are ages 0 to 17, 3.8%. There have not been any deaths in Summit County under the age of 18. • There is no intent to have a test to play policy, but everyone is encouraged to get vaccinated. 	
<p>COVID Update – Public School Discussion and Fall Planning</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bullough shared that he met with the Superintendents about resources that may be available. Dr. Bondurant has established a chain of communication with the schools. • Dr. Bondurant stated there have not been discussions about masks in schools right now. It is hoped there will never be thirty cases in schools. The goal is to have kids in schools for those who are comfortable. School is starting soon, and everyone shares anxieties and concerns about school starting. The Governor will hold a press conference on August 10th to address concerns. • Board Member Watterson stated the State Department of Health has a new page on their website for schools. • Dr. Bondurant shared that the response from each of the three school districts in Summit County will be different and the Health Department is working to help support all three school districts. The Health Department has no authority to regulate schools, only to give guidance. Resources are available and the Health Department supports keeping schools open. There will be a disease plan manual available for reference. The disease plan consolidates manuals to provide guidance for COVID and should be available in the next couple of days. Derek Moss shared there are disease manuals for other diseases, and there is a section in each on authorities and what can be done. The Health Department will work with schools and parents to help with any disease. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Health Department had met with the Superintendents of all three school districts and will work to support the schools.</i> • <i>There is a disease plan manual for COVID that provides guidance and will be available in the next couple of days.</i>
<p>Directorship – Transition Activity</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bullough shared that Shelley Worley, the new Deputy Director took the lead on the budget with Cindy Keyes and was able to get it submitted quickly. Dr. Bondurant is leading the budget discussion. Dr. Bullough stated he is optimistic about where the Health Department is going. The community knows the Health Department and there is the opportunity to have the public engage with the Health Department. • Dr. Bondurant stated that the budget takes precedent right now. The Grant Coordinator position has been requested. Health Department Staff is ready for the Directorship transition and will do the best they can moving forward. • All Board Members and Nann Worel thanked Dr. Bullough for his professionalism and commitment to public service. 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Shelley Worley, the new Deputy Health Director has been working on the budget.</i> • <i>Staff is ready for the Directorship transition and will do the best they can moving forward.</i> • <i>Dr. Bullough was thanked for his service as Health Director.</i>
<p>Other Board Discussion Items</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member Ure asked what type of wastewater system is being utilized in Indian Hollow. Nate Brooks answered Indian Hollow will have a community system enclosed in itself. There will be a community drain field and infrastructure will be in place to connect to sewer someday. There was 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Indian Hollow Subdivision will run on a community wastewater</i>

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	<p>a review and the design was approved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member Ure stated that Wasatch County is “blowing up” with golf courses and he has been asked about having golf courses being responsible for their own sewer and infrastructure. There is not enough water. Dr. Bullough answered that the County Council is focused on water as a priority, and they will be looking at the biggest water users and working toward a solution. • Deputy Director Worley shared that the minutes are all available to the public now. Chair Cherniak reminded the public that any public comments submitted need to be applicable, relevant, appropriate, and civil. • Board Member Ure suggested that the Board plan a time to take public comment concerning COVID. Board Member Adams stated that a Board of Health meeting is not the appropriate place to vent frustrations. • Board Member Armstrong stated there is a lot of information and alternative theories being shared. It may be helpful to have a discussion with health experts to take questions and respond to them. It is not the job of the Board of Health to go into the state of medicine, but to rely on medical experts. People are frustrated and want life to go back to normal. 	<p><i>system with infrastructure to connect to sewer someday.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The County Council is focused on water as a priority and will be looking at the biggest water users.</i> • <i>The minutes of past meetings are available to the public now.</i> • <i>The Board discussed the possibility of having an opportunity for the public to make comment concerning COVID.</i>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m. • <i>Board Members Watterson and Ure made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed 7-0.</i> 	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 13th at 4pm.</i>