



July 31, 2024

Board of Health Packet

TriCounty Health Building

133 S 500 E

Vernal, UT 84078

12 p.m.



Uintah County
133 South 500 East
Vernal, Utah 84078
(435) 247-1177

Duchesne County
409 South 200 East
Roosevelt, Utah 84066
(435) 722-6300

Kirk Benge, MPH
Director/Health Officer

AGENDA (* denotes an action item)

Topic	Presenter
Call to Order - Welcome Emmett Duncan as a new board member	Board Chair - Dr. Mathis
Prayer & Pledge	By Invitation
1. * <u>APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM (previous)</u>	Dr. Mathis
2. <u>UPDATES</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Active Pertussis Case(s) updates○ Follow up on Comfort Inn pool emergency○ Review of local trends in Causes of Death	Director Bege Darrin/Kirk Madeline George
3. * <u>2023 FINANCIAL AUDIT REVIEW</u>	12:45 Doug Rasmussen
4. * <u>APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER</u>	Bruce McKee
5. <u>FINANCIAL REPORT</u>	Bruce McKee
6. * <u>RECEPTION CONSOLIDATION AND BUILDING RENOVATIONS</u>	Raima Colledge
7. <u>NEW CONTRACTS</u> SUBAWARDS - E-Cigarette, Marijuana, and Other Drug Prevention <ul style="list-style-type: none">● The Foundation for Healthy Communities of NE Utah● Northeastern Counseling DHHS <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Electronic Case Reporting Amendment 1● Syringe Services 2021 Amendment 6● Community and Clinical Interventions Amendment 2● Public health Emergency and Healthcare FY 24-28 DEQ <ul style="list-style-type: none">● DEQ contracted work● *DEQ Minimum Performance/Core	Director Benge
8. * <u>CONSIDERATION OF 2025 FEE SCHEDULE</u>	Director Benge, Darrin Brown, Bruce McKee
9. <u>ADDITIONAL UPDATES & DISCUSSION</u>	Director Benge
10. Adjourn	



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AGENDA LINKS, INFO & DETAILS

MEETING MINUTES*

May 22nd, 2024 meeting - Click [THIS LINK](#) to review the minutes.

UPDATES

- Welcome to our new board member, Emmett Duncan. Appointed by the Ute Council to fill the open position.
- We recently had a fully vaccinated child test positive for pertussis with no travel history or clear exposure identified. We sent a letter to local physicians stating that we feel it is very likely that there are more pertussis infections likely occurring or soon to occur in the Uinta Basin and reminding them to be on the lookout for other pertussis infections as our kids prepare to go back to school.
- There was a scare at the Comfort Inn pool on July 13th, where at least 11 people sought medical care after exposure to a chemical that was unknown at the time. Our investigation revealed it was almost certainly Hydrochloric acid fumes, and all known exposures recovered quickly.
- Madeline George has been working on understanding local trends on cause of death, and will present some of her findings and analysis.

2023 AUDIT *

We invite Doug Rasmussen from Smuin, Rich & Marsing to review the 2023 Audit with the board and answer any questions. He plans to join us at approximately 12:45

Click [THIS LINK](#) to view the 2023 TriCounty Health Department Audit Report

APPROVAL OF CHECK REGISTER*

Click [THIS LINK](#) to review the Check Register (invoice listing).

FINANCIAL REPORT

Click [THIS LINK](#) to view the Financial Summary.



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REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BUILDING RENOVATIONS RELATED TO CONSOLIDATION OF RECEPTION AREAS*

Both Vernal and Roosevelt locations have entrances and reception staff for Environmental services which are separate from clinical reception areas. TriCHD leadership has a goal of improving customer service and experiences, and improving cross-training of staff to better serve the public. Part of this plan would consolidate entrances and reception areas. We have already started this process in Vernal. In addition to this goal, we also polled staff about what types of improvements they would like to see, and many of the staff suggestions revolved around physical spaces. In our all-staff meeting late last year, we asked staff to recommend and prioritize the types of building, office, and space changes they thought were important. Raima will present leadership's thoughts on where this should lead, and some of the recommendations leadership has about how to proceed with some renovations to accomplish the goals that came out of these processes. Raima and Kirk will present plans and request board recommendations on how to move forward.

NEW CONTRACTS

Click on the name of the contract to review:

SUBAWARDS - E-Cigarette, Marijuana, and Other Drug Prevention Grants

- [The Foundation for Healthy Communities of NE Utah](#)
- [Northeastern Counseling](#)

DHHS Contracts

- [Electronic Case Reporting 2022 A1](#)
- [Syringe Services 2021 A6](#)
- [Community and Clinical Interventions A2](#)
- [Public Health Emergency and Healthcare Preparedness Programs](#)

DEQ Contracts

- [DEQ Contract Work](#)
- [DEQ Minimum Performance Standards \(Core\) funding* \(not yet signed\)](#)

DEQ contracts with LHDs have historically been a single contract that passed through both state funds and federal EPA funds. Last year, LHDs requested that the funding be in separate contracts moving forward. We were able to delineate duties into two separate contracts this year through the DEQ/LHD Governance process, despite the fact that this process has felt very strained for the last couple of years.



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After a lengthy negotiation process to settle terms and reporting requirements, the Minimum Performance Standards (MPS) contracts were sent out to LHDs on June 27th with request to return them by July 5. There were unexpected changes from DEQ, including new reporting requirements not previously agreed to. All 13 health departments refused to sign the contract. The changes created a lot of confusion, and required LHDs to report back to DEQ regarding EPA activities, despite these contracts being based on state MPS dollars.

DEQ made some very small changes and shared this altered version the next week. Notably, they changed "Below is a description of potential tracking or items required by statute" to "Below is a description of potential activities, which are not exhaustive or mandatory, that may be conducted and tracked in accordance with relevant laws."

The Health Officers met on July 11th. Some LHDs felt they needed to sign the contracts, but most felt the approach DEQ took flew in the face of the governance structure and process. The Health officers voted unanimously to send a letter to the Director expressing frustration, and informing DEQ that since the governance process isn't working, we would need to seek assistance beyond the governance process in order to resolve our issues. As current president of the Association of Local Health Depts, I signed and sent the [letter](#) on the 19th. LHDs reached out to Senator Sandall. DEQ Governance members met with Senator Sandall the week of July 21 to discuss potential solutions and how to move forward.

Additional links and info:

Governance committee and process is established in [UCA 19-1-201](#), parts 3-5

Link to [DEQ Minimum Performance Standards Rule](#)

Additional thoughts:

[UCA 19-1-102](#) may need further clarification related to the concepts of "relationship to local health departments;" and "strengthen local health departments' environmental programs;"

We may need to clarify what the legislative intent is with the language "the efficient delivery of environmental programs" found in [26A-1-114\(2\)\(d\)\(ii\)](#)

We may need to clarify what the legislative intent is with the language "coordinate implementation of environmental programs to maximize efficient use of resources..." as found in [19-1-201 \(c\)](#)

CONSIDERATION OF 2025 FEE SCHEDULE*

We need to consider proposed changes to fees for 2025. [HERE](#) is a summary of proposed changes.



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ADDITIONAL UPDATES & DISCUSSION

Tanning Bed enforcement updates (if time allows)

NALBOH 2024 Annual Conference 8/12 - 8/14/2024

Nashville, TN

End