



## **SOUTHEAST UTAH HEALTH DEPARTMENT (SEUHD)**

### **BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

**Date January 27, 2026 - 5:00 p.m.**

**Virtual Meeting / In person option at Price SEUHD office**

#### **PRESENT**

**CARBON COUNTY** *In-person* - Debbie Peet, Commissioner Larry Jensen

*Virtual* - Zak Konakis, Chair

**EMERY COUNTY** *In-person* - Kathi Kearney

**GRAND COUNTY** *Virtual* - Breann Davis, Vice-Chair, Rhiana Medina, Commissioner Melodie McCandless

**EXCUSED** Commissioner Jordan Leonard, Mark Holyoak

**ADMINISTRATION** *In-person* - Bradon Bradford, Andrew Michaelis, Brittney Garff  
*Virtual* - Sara Braby

#### **I. Call Meeting to Order**

Zak Konakis called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM and did a roll call. It was mentioned that there would be a new board member joining us

#### **II. Public Comment**

Public comment was opened by Zak. Hearing no comment, public comment was closed.

#### **III. Minutes for November 18, 2025 – Review and possible approval -**

No comments were made on the minutes.

**Motion to accept Minutes from November 18, 2025** - Larry Jensen - Kathi Kearney second - Motion passed

#### **IV. Budget**

##### **A. Check Register and Disbursement Listing**

There were no questions prior to the meeting, and no questions were raised during the meeting.

**Motion to accept the Check Register & Disbursement Listing** - Kathi Kearney  
- Breann Davis second - Motion passed

**B. Fraud Risk Assessment**

Andrew spoke to the assessment that it is mandatory and we scored 330 which puts us in the low category. As far as discussions for next year we are working to have an internal audit system to improve this further for next year. Debbie asked for clarification for an IT & security policy and thought we had one. It was explained we don't have one for this assessment but will look into adding one for the future as well. Breann mentioned that number 5 on the assessment notes that if all board members did the online training it would bump our score down more, so the board could complete that to benefit us more. We will look to do that this year.

**Motion to accept the Fraud Risk Assessment** - Debbie Peet - Melodie McCandless Second - Motion passed

**C. Budget (New Contracts)**

Brady spoke on money for the measles response that has a broad range of how that can be used. The other that is being added is the preschool development grant. We were not fully aware of this grant and just found out about it this week. It is quite flexible and we will be able to connect to families in many ways even more broad than some of our other programs. This will enhance our work even more and we are very excited for what we can do with it. There is a 30% match requirement on this, but it can be some state/local wages so this should be very doable for us. We expect this will not be hiring a new employee, but rather enhance the work that our current employees do and allow some more reach that way. We are hopeful that this will continue and we have time to meet these goals.

**Motion to accept the New Contracts** - Kathi Kearney - Larry Jensen Second - Motion passed

**V. Policy Review and Possible Approval**

There were no policies to review today.

**VI. Legislative Watch**

Brady gave updates on some of the things we are seeing with the legislature right now.

HB 88 right now has to do with public assistance benefits: we are unsure if someone has to prove they are lawfully in the country to receive WIC or not, so we are waiting to see if this will impact us.

HB 152 is focused on vaccine exemptions. Currently they have to do a small online module to exempt their child for vaccinations for school. This bill would remove that requirement and they wouldn't have to do the module and could

exempt them from vaccination without learning what this could do to their child if they were exposed at school through that module.

HB 179 & 283 are raw milk bills. There are small differences between the two, but in the end public health leans more toward 283 as it requires signage and such if sold in stores.

There is another bill that would increase the tax on nicotine. It does sometimes lead to less nicotine use, but also would add to revenue for the state.

Potentially a bigger bill is focused on fentanyl and methamphetamine. It would essentially make it to where law enforcement would have to notify us and we would have to clear homes and apartments and such before it would be inhabitable. We are not sure what this would do to our workload, but are watching it.

## **VII. Public Health Report**

- A. Clinical and Family Services** - The State of Utah measles website was shown - we are still at 3 measles cases in our district which all were quite some time ago. We did have measles in the wastewater in December, but had nothing come from that.
- B. Community Health (Promotion and Education)** - None at this time.
- C. Environmental Health** - Brady mentioned that Orion was called to a drug case in Grand county and closed the property, which included people living in 5 separate buildings or trailers, to occupancy.
- D. Emergency Preparedness** - None at this time.
- E. Public Health Information** - Brittney spoke about the new ADA guidelines for accessibility. Internally we are reviewing all of our web content and making sure it is all in compliance with the guidelines and also refreshing the website while we are working on it. We are also going to be reviewing all of our PDFs and documents that are publicly accessible during this process. HB 491 was also explained that through working on ADA compliance, we will be taking that inventory list and working on HB 491 and making sure we are in compliance with that as well. This is a very big task for the entire department that will affect our website, forms, social media accounts, registrations, etc. It will shape how we move forward when creating documents and keeping accessibility in mind and keeping things to that standard. It was also discussed that through this process the board of health page on the website will be refreshed and we are requesting that the board members please send a new headshot of themselves to be posted on that page.
- F. Epidemiology** - None at this time.

## **VIII. Minimum Performance Attestation**

Brady spoke about how we are meeting these requirements locally. We have to have a health officer who meets all the requirements and performs all the duties within that. We do have to contract with a physician as the health officer is not a physician, which we have. We have to have a Board of Health which is within the requirements, which we do have. As a health department we have to follow the power and duties outlined, which we do. We have to have the listed administrative staff which we have. We have to assure health services are

provided and we assess these services and providers. We have to provide public health services. The things we do should be evidence based where possible. We do vital records. We have to have laboratory capacity, which we do. We have to make preparedness efforts, which we complete. This was just an explanation in saying we do meet these standards.

**Motion to accept and allow Zak to sign the Minimum Performance Attestation** Larry Jensen - Melodie McCandless Second - Motion Passed

### **SEUHD Board Bylaw review and possible amendment**

Brady said that we cannot change and vote on these today, but he wanted to show the bylaws which likely need some clean up and rewording. The only significant change Brady suggested was number 12 in the “purposes” section. This changed when San Juan County left our health department. It is stated in the interlocal agreement, so we should change that to match. Right now it is very specific when we meet, so it was suggested we broaden that a bit. Most of the other changes are just to change some language and help it read better. In the end, Brady asked for the board members to review this by the next meeting for the changes to be voted on. Debbie mentioned that there is nothing stated about how long someone can be a chair on the board if they can go forever or if it is limited to only one year, etc. It was mentioned that it might be something that needs added.

### **Open and Public Meetings**

This is a yearly agenda item. We do everything we can to comply with the open and public meetings act.

### **SEUHD Code of Ethics and Guiding Principles**

We do a signature from the board members every year as a reminder of what we expect of our employees as well as the board of health.

### **Conflict of Interest Disclosures**

If there are any new conflicts of interest we also will ask for signatures there.

## **IX. Closed Session - if necessary**

None needed.

## **X. Board chair, vice chair nominations and vote**

Larry asked how long Zak has been serving and he mentioned it has been 2 years and he is happy to let someone else take over. After a brief conversation, Kathi Kearney mentioned that she would be happy to serve as vice chair. Breann Davis was nominated to serve as the chair, which many voiced that they agreed.

**Motion to accept Breann Davis as the new Chair and Kathi Kearney as the Vice Chair** - Jordan Leonard - Larry Jensen Second - Motion passed

**XIII. Board Comments**

No further comments were made.

**Motion to adjourn** - Melodie McCandless - Kathi Kearney Second

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

**The meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM.**

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Zak Konakis, Board Chair

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Bradon Bradford, Health Officer