

Southwest Utah Board of Health

Work Meeting

620 South 400 East
2nd Floor Conference Room
St. George, UT
Wednesday, January 28, 2026
1:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Members Present:

Mr. Kent Peterson	Iron County
Commissioner Paul Cozzens.....	Iron County
Mr. Scott Symond.....	Beaver County
Commissioner Jerry Taylor.....	Garfield County
Mr. Kaden Figgins.....	Garfield County (Pro Temp)
Commissioner Wade Hollingshead.....	Beaver County
Ms. Jerica Bauer	Kane County
Commissioner Celeste Meyeres	Kane County
Commissioner Victor Iverson.....	Washington County

Members Not Present:

Dr. Kenneth Snow.....	Washington County
-----------------------	-------------------

Others Present:

Dr. David W. Blodgett, Director/Health Officer.....	SWUPHD
Mr. Cameron Mitchell, Deputy Health Officer.....	SWUPHD
Ms. RuthAnne Watt, Administrative Liaison	SWUPHD
Mr. Brandon Ray, Administrative Services Director.....	SWUPHD
Commissioner Patty Kubeja.....	Kane County

Public in Attendance:

Michael Kenner.....	Kane County Water Con. District
Scott Helle.....	Washington County
Tracee Jeffs.....	Kane County
Leann Hollerman.....	Iron County
Cade Hoff.....	Real Estate Broker, Washington County
Dean Jones.....	Washington County
Mari Eddy.....	Iron County
MaryAnn Sharp.....	Iron County
Jenny Vossler.....	Iron County
Cinde Brown.....	Deer Springs Ranch, Kane County
Joan Snush.....	Deer Springs Ranch, Kane County
Jon Forsyth.....	Iron County
Daren Condie.....	Iron County
Shauna Mack.....	Kane County
Crystal Rock.....	Washington County

Public in Attendance Continued:

Cindy Laffoon.....Iron County
Michael McNichols.....Kane County

Commissioner Celeste Meyeres called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Southwest Utah Public Health Department of Health Policy on Water Hauling	<p>Section 6 – Water Hauling Section 6.2 is the section that is being looked at.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Unless prohibited by a local municipality or county, water hauling may be deemed an approved water source for residential and recreational properties which have access less than 180 days per calendar year.
Discuss options for water hauling	<p>Question – Do other health departments have a water hauling policy?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Northern Utah doesn't allow water haulingSouthern Utah doesn't mention it in their policies so it is put on the counties <p>Question – If this is removed from policy is there a backup that will make sure that health and safety will still be followed?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">If this is removed from rule then it would fall to the individual counties to maintain the health and safety. <p>6.2 addresses the requirements that have to be in place before a septic permit is issued</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">If this section is removed the septic permit would not require water, but it would fall to the counties to verify water and safety as part of their building process
Recommendation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Commissioner Meyeres is recommending water hauling be taken out of local health department control and be put under the discretion of each county
Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none">The water hauling rule was put in place for those homes/cabins that are out in the middle of nowhere that only accessing the property less than 180 days per year.
Concerns:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Septic system oversaturationHealth and safety of populationQuality of the waterIf an approved septic system fails because water hauling didn't work who takes responsibility<ul style="list-style-type: none">It would be put back on the water hauler
Suggestion:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Water hauling shall be regulated by the local county or municipality
Policy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A 30-day public notice is required to make any changes to rule. It also has to be outside of normal working hours with a hearing officer present.<ul style="list-style-type: none">Kaden Figgins is happy to draft 3 different policies for the counties to consider for adoption in their own county.Seems the direction the board would like to go is striking 6.0 completely from the Southwest Utah public health department rule and be adopted by each county

Handout passed out that took a poll with from the planning and zoning.

- Each of the county planning and zoning were polled and all were against removing 6.2 from policy.
- The handout showed how many water hauling permits have been approved in the last 5 years and last 10 years in each county.
- There were minimal water hauling permits approved in each county.

Is there a specific amount of water involved in order to make a septic system work?

- 450 gallons of water a day for a 3-bedroom home
- The direction in more recent years has been to try to get more of the public on sewer rather than septic. Removing 6.2 will move that in the opposite direction.

Public Comment: At Chair's Discretion	<p>Chair opened public comment Mike McNicols, own a home in Kane County.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bought 20 acres in Deer Springs Ranch. There will never be a public water system that can be tied into. Used a portable potty with garbage bags in it as the waste and hauled it away when they left. There is a state certified water source at Deer Springs Ranch for water hauling. Hauls water in the back of his Ford F-250 for a couple of hundred dollars a year instead of drilling a well for over \$100,000. Have a septic system on the property. <p>Kade Hoff, own property in Washington and Kane County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lots in Deer Springs Ranch were purchased with the assumption of being able to put a septic system on the property. If unable to put a septic system on the property, then property values will be affected.• If removing 6.0 from health department appreciate each of the counties looking to step up <p>Mike Kenner, Kane County Water Conservancy District, Licensed Level 1 & 2 designer for septic systems.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have inspected many septic systems. If there is no use then the bacteria just eats up the solids. It doesn't seem to matter how much water is hauled. Appreciate the tone of this meeting and the positive direction. <p>Darren Condie, water hauler</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Didn't discuss the benefits of water hauling. You don't waste water when hauling just like when using an RV.
--------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Vote on whether to proceed with changes to the rule and/or what those changes would look like	<p>Chair closed public comment</p> <p>Recommendation to move forward to consider with the 30-day public meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Agree to schedule the required 30-day public notice. Consider the complete removal of 6.0 Water Hauling from Southwest Utah Public Health Department Non-Public Drinking Water System Regulation
------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Motion: Ms. Jerica Bauer, 2nd: Mr. Scott Symond,

Vote: Yes – Commissioner Celeste Meyeres – Yes, Ms. Jerica Bauer – Yes, Mr. Scott Symond – Yes, Mr. Kent Peterson – Yes, Commissioner Victor Iverson – Yes, Commissioner Paul Cozzens – Yes, Commissioner Jerry Taylor – Yes, Mr. Kaden Figgins – Yes, Commissioner Wade Hollingshead – No, Absent – Dr. Kenneth Snow

- If this moves forward then verifying water sources will be left up to the individual counties.

Outline next steps	SWUPHD will schedule public hearing for March 4th at 6pm at the health department in St. George. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Will post to the public notice website. Will notice that electronic participation would be available. Public feedback can be sent in via mail or email.
---------------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Adjournment	Commissioner Celeste Meyeres adjourned the meeting at 2:20pm Next regularly scheduled board meeting – February 11, 2026
--------------------	------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------


Chairman, Board of Health


Secretary, Board of Health

2-11-26
Date

2/11/2026
Date