

**Present:**

Troy Wood, Chair  
Brian Cook, Vice Chair  
Dr. Gary Alexander  
Lorene Kamalu, Commissioner  
Mayor Randy Lewis, Immediate Past Chair  
Dr. Ryan Stewart  
Scott Zigich

**Department Staff:**

Brian Hatch, Director of Health  
Kaylee Crossley, Assistant to the Director  
Dave Spence, Deputy Director, Health  
Rachelle Blackham, Division Director, EHS  
Neal Geddes, ATTY

**Excused:**

Ann Benson  
Dr. Colleen Taylor

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The meeting of the Davis County Board of Health (Board) was held Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at the Davis County Health Department, Multipurpose Room, 22 South State Street, Clearfield, Utah. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 a.m. by Mr. Troy Wood.

**Welcome**

Mr. Wood welcomed the Board and staff to the meeting.

**Minutes (Action)**

The minutes of November 10, 2020 were presented and reviewed.

*Commissioner Lorene Kamalu motioned to accept the minutes of November 10, 2020. Dr. Ryan Stewart seconded. The vote was unanimous.*

**Public Hearing Report: Public Pool Regulation (Information)**

Ms. Rachelle Blackham presented the changes to the Public Pool Regulation, which included:

- Removal of the fencing requirements for private pools
  - Cities are now taking care of it
  - House Bill 29 adopted the International Swimming Pool Code
- Removal of procedural requirements
- Elimination of Licensed Pool Operator (LPO) requirement and fees
  - Certified Pool Operators (CPO) are still required
- Increased seasonal and annual permit fees
- General formatting

A public hearing for the regulation was held on December 10, 2020 and Mayor Randy Lewis served as the hearing officer. No public comments were made on the day of the hearing. Public comment was open through December 18 and no additional comments were received.

**Approve Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law (Action)**

Ms. Blackham requested that the Board approve findings of fact and conclusions of law.

*Mayor Lewis motioned to approve the findings of fact and conclusions of law and Dr. Gary Alexander seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.*

### **Adopt Public Pool Regulation (Action)**

Ms. Blackham requested that the Board adopt the Public Pool Regulation.

*Dr. Stewart motioned to adopt the Public Pool Regulation and Mr. Scott Zigich seconded. The vote was unanimous.*

### **Recognitions (Information)**

Mr. Brian Hatch shared recent health department recognitions, including:

- Thanks from community members. Multiple people have brought things in for the staff, both at the health department and the clinic. It has been greatly appreciated and came during the height of the response.
  - We continue to receive things.
  - Last week, Layton High brought treats and valentines to the clinic.
- Modern Woodmen of America presented us with the Hometown Heroes award.
- The Davis School District recognized our efforts to keep the response going in the schools and several staff that work directly with the school district were recognized.
- Legislative recognition and gratitude for public health through [H.C.R. 6 Concurrent Resolution Recognizing COVID-19](#). This resolution recognized state and local health departments. Our vaccine clinic was also recognized. The Board watched the following clips:
  - House Recognition: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=shcZr6jR0\\_Y&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=shcZr6jR0_Y&feature=youtu.be)
  - Representative Raymond P. Ward read the Resolution to the House.
    - General Jeff Burton, who was the interim director of the state health department shared his support for the Resolution.
    - Representative Paul Ray presented a citation to local and state health directors, recognizing the incredible efforts of public health, despite being underfunded and understaffed.
  - Senate Recognition: <https://le.utah.gov/av/floorArchive.jsp?markerID=113445>
    - Senator Ann Millner presented the resolution to the senate.
  - President Stuart Adams recognized local and state health directors in attendance.

Commissioner Kamalu said that it was well done by Representative Ward. Mr. Wood agreed. Mr. Hatch stated that he talks with Representative Ward regularly. Legislative recognition of public health is unique. Commissioner Kamalu wanted to know the day that the resolution took place. It was read on February 3.

Mr. Wood said that the recognition is overdue and well deserved. We rely on health departments and the response has been incredible. Mr. Wood and the Board offered a standing ovation to Mr. Hatch and his team. Mr. Hatch stated that the staff deserve it. It is a heavy lift and the health department has great staff who make it all work. The recognition was appreciated and will be passed on.

### **COVID-19 Response Update (Information)**

Mr. Hatch provided an update on COVID-19 in Davis County. Board members receive a weekly update on COVID-19. This update is also sent to mayors, city managers, and legislators.

- This week, we dropped another 23% from where we were at the week before.
- The epi curve shows our outbreaks, including one at Week Five, one in July, one in December and January, and now we are seeing great success in coming down.

- Our public is doing what they need to do and gatherings have slowed down now that the holidays are over. We are seeing more mask use and distancing. Vaccination efforts are helping too.
- There is still some resistance, but for the most part, people are following guidelines.
- We could potentially have another wave and need to be diligent until we get a majority of the public vaccinated.
- We are seeing under 100 cases a day. Our staff have been working at such a high level and are not used to lower cases.
- It is getting a little easier, but we do not want to see what we saw in December and January again, when we were having 500 cases a day. The whole system, including our hospitals, are seeing success.
- The same age groups, 15-24 year olds, have the highest rates, followed by our working age groups, 25-44 and 45-64, where there are more opportunities for exposure to the virus.
- We have 22 people hospitalized. We peak two weeks later than our case rates, but our numbers are coming down now.

Mr. Wood stated that there is still tragedy associated with those who are hospitalized. It is still just as deadly. Mr. Hatch agreed and stated that deaths follow the outbreak. The higher the number of cases, the greater the number of deaths. The goal is to reduce cases, which will then reduce everything that follows.

- We are still doing a good job at testing and our positivity rate is decreasing. Testing rates have decreased, but so has the positivity rate. The outbreak is coming into control and declining.
- The state is working on keeping testing at the forefront to help with early detection. We have rapid testing to help and the schools are using it very effectively. There is a move to get it out to child care. Long term care has also been using it.

Mr. Brian Cook asked if there were any studies being done on why certain individuals get hit harder than others. He asked about blood type as a factor. He wanted to know why some have mild cases and some die. Mr. Hatch stated that he was sure that there are lots going on, but it will take time for those studies to be vetted and peer reviewed. He did not have any specific evidence or studies at the moment. Mr. Wood said that it is one of the more frustrating things right now. In the hospitals, people are getting tested before surgeries, and some feel great, but test positive. They also want to know why they do not have symptoms. Some are getting ready to go into surgery for serious complications, like cancer, but are asymptomatic. Dr. Stewart stated that there are tons of ideas, but that we do not know. Some studies are looking at T cells. Mr. Hatch stated that that is one of the big theories, that the immune system fights it off early through T cells. T cells might fight it off, but then you do not build up lasting immunity and continue to reinfect yourself. We will continue to learn more. One of our essential functions of public health is to add to the body of knowledge. We are learning and will share it.

- Our percent positive is dropping. The state is making a shift in how they report it.
  - Right now, everything is person centric, so everything is a little higher. A person may get multiple positive tests over a period of time. People can continue to test positive. It was adjusted to only count one positive.
  - It is now being adjusted to count each test and look at positives per test.

- We should see a substantial drop. We will probably see it drop to 7 or 8% in the state. That drops everything else. Thirty seven other states have adjusted to this methodology.
- Pre-existing conditions have stayed the same. Comorbidities could be contributing to adverse outcomes. Diabetes has led the way and a substantial portion of our population has diabetes, so it is concerning.
- Rates by city were shared. We were in the thousands a month or so ago, but all cities are experiencing drop off. We still have some hot spots. Schools follow the same hot spots.

Mr. Hatch provided the Board with a vaccination update:

- Our vaccination clinic at the Legacy Events Center runs Tuesday through Saturday. As of Monday, we had administered 35,302 vaccines. Only Salt Lake County has done more, but they also receive more. 82% of those who have been vaccinated have been residents. Early on, we vaccinated those who worked in our county too.
- Last week, we vaccinated 9,310. We are set up to do 10,000 a week. The clinic runs for six and a half hours a day, with time for set up and clean up.
- Our goal is to be able to vaccinate 20,000 people a week in Davis County. We would open Monday through Saturday and extend our hours.
- People are having fun at the clinic. There is no tension there. It is pretty smooth and low key for the employees. We have a lot of room to expand. We are focusing on bringing on additional partners to help too.
- Local health department will take on lion's share of vaccinating, but will look at other partners, such as hospital systems to help with vaccinations. Contractors are coming on at state level. Pharmacies and large clinic groups, such as Tanner and Ogden Clinic will likely join. Eventually, clinician's offices will be able to offer it through normal visits. We are in a good place and more doses are coming.
- Johnson and Johnson should be coming in late February or the first part of March. It is a single dose and will most likely be given to systems that are better suited for only seeing people once, such as pharmacies and clinician's offices. Right now, we are using Pfizer and Moderna, and they require two doses.

Mr. Wood asked if Johnson and Johnson will come in a single dose or vial. It can be hard for the clinician's offices to use the vaccine in a vial all at once. Mr. Hatch stated that he is not sure on the delivery and if it is a vial or a pre-filled syringe, but will check into it. The health department will stick with Moderna and Pfizer for now. We have an ultracold freezer, so we will mostly use Pfizer. It can be challenging to have multiple kinds. If people want to shop by brand, it is better to have them be able to shop the community. The goal of our clinics is to get it out quickly and efficiently, and to as many people as we can. Astrazeneca should also come a few weeks later and will be a two dose vaccine.

It is likely that they will all come in vials. We are not sure how long it can sit once a vial is opened. So far, once you puncture the vial, we have six hours to use it. Mr. Wood stated that that time frame is difficult for them. If they could go a week from opening it, then it changes the game. It is a rush to find people to not waste it. Mr. Hatch stated that we have had that issue at the end of the day, but have handled it pretty efficiently. We have people on lists that we can call in. We do not waste many doses at all, and the ones that have been wasted have been errors, such as having a syringe break. We have had plenty of individuals willing to get it.

Vaccine priorities and distribution were discussed:

- Hospitals first received first and second doses and have vaccinated their staff.
- The next group to receive vaccines included healthcare workers, first responders, and K-12 as part of the phase one priority.
  - We have done pretty good in Davis County and currently have open appointments. We have likely hit the uptake for our first priority groups.
- Our 70 years of age and older population is now a focus. In Davis County, 53% have received a first dose.
  - We are hoping for at least 70-80% of our 70 years of age and older group to get vaccinated. If we have the doses, we can deliver. We have had good success in our 85 years of age and older population.
- We still have 20,000 appointments scheduled through the end of February.
- We are planning to move to the next group, those ages 65 and up, and those with certain medical conditions.
- Everything is looking good. The goal is for everyone to have a dose by the end of summer.
- Uptake in different cities was discussed. It has been proportionate to the population and our 70 and up group has been able to access it.

Commissioner Kamalu said that she was asked a question from someone in the county, specific to the governor's order about vaccinating K-12 staff and if it applied to tutoring services and private schools. Mr. Hatch stated that right now, it applies to those that are registered as K-12 schools and are officially recognized. This includes private, parochial, or public K-12 schools. At this time, there are not enough doses for everyone, so we need to be patient. All arguments are valid, but may not be the priority right now. Our 70 and up group is the priority right now because they are at the highest risk, experience severe disease, and are more likely to die from the disease. We are trying our best to stay with those priorities. We are screening and are asking people to be honest and ethical as we move through this.

Mr. Brian Cook stated that he went to a funeral in Idaho in December, and most people were not wearing masks. A few days later, he tested positive for COVID-19. He had a 10 day reaction that was similar to the flu and then was feeling better. He wondered if someone should get vaccinated if they have already had COVID-19. Mr. Hatch stated that they should wait for 90 days before being vaccinated.

Mr. Cook stated that his wife had the same symptoms, but never tested positive, and he wanted to know if it was likely that she had it too. Mr. Hatch asked what test was performed. Mr. Cook stated that it was the swab. Mr. Hatch stated that it was most likely a PCR test and that it was hard to say, but generally speaking, she likely was a probable case.

Dr. Alexander agreed with Mr. Hatch and said that she could also get tested for antibodies. If it was confirmed, then the recommendation would be to wait the 90 days. Mr. Cook asked who would do the antibody test. Dr. Alexander stated that the clinician could do it.

Mr. Wood said that something to consider is that those who have had COVID and then got vaccinated have had more of a reaction to the vaccine. If she had it, it might trigger some other responses.

Mr. Hatch stated that that is part of it. If you have had COVID, you should have protection for some time. Right now, we are trying to get it out to those without protection. The recommendation is still to get vaccinated, even if you have had COVID, but to wait the recommended 90 days.

Mr. Hatch shared a draft outreach video for the community that will help people know what to expect when getting vaccinated. Commissioner Kamalu said that the video was fantastic and that Trevor, the Communications Manager, is very good. Mr. Hatch stated that we are still working through the video. Mr. Wood wanted to know when it would be ready and if it would be posted on the health department website. Mr. Hatch stated that it would be posted to the website and other places when it is ready. Commissioner Kamalu stated that they could help send it out through their e-newsletters.

Mr. Hatch stated that the credit goes across the board. We are getting a lot of recognition for our set up at the Legacy Events Center. For us to have what we have come about with a lot of effort. The Commission and the Legacy Events Center have prioritized this and things were postponed. We have the best clinic in the state. IT developed a scheduling system and it has not gone down. It has done its job. Our system is pretty seamless. We have been able to upload data in real time. It is a group project. We have multiple agencies helping, including the Davis School District, Roseman University, and Davis Technical College. They have contracted in to help and are teaching the next generation. This is not just the health department. This effort is more than just us, and the public is responding really well.

#### **Director's Report (Information)**

Mr. Hatch provided a legislative update. He stated that things have been somewhat quiet, but there are a few bills that they are watching. There are some that they are concerned about, including a bill for microenterprise, which is the concept that you can go to a person's house and they can cook dinner and be a restaurant without being a restaurant. This undermines food safety because they do not want to be regulated in the same way. This is a niche that is evolving throughout the nation. Ms. Blackham stated that it is disappointing because there are other avenues to do this style of food, but this goes a little too far because it allows anyone in their own kitchen to be a restaurant. It also adds complications to zoning, such as how to enter the location to inspect it, and it is looking like we could not do anything. Mr. Wood shared that there would likely be a concern about the tax and how to regulate it. We should pay taxes on it. Mr. Hatch stated that the whole premise that they are operating under is that you do it at your own risk. People are starting to become more risk takers and are losing confidence in the system that has protected us. We have been successful over the years. The cottage industry has been a compromise to manufacture and sell. We have to navigate how to make it a safe industry for the public. We are not having great success in making changes to that bill. We are trying to work with the sponsor. Commissioner Kamalu asked who the sponsor was for the bill. Mr. Hatch stated that it was Christine Watkins in the House.

Mr. Wood asked if they were proposing more or less regulations than we would support. Mr. Hatch stated that they are proposing no regulations. Mr. Wood stated that if there is a demand, people will come, and we need some type of safety. Mr. Hatch shared that it was patterned after a bill in California.

Mr. Hatch stated that the health department is also concerned with a bill around electronic cigarettes, which basically authorizes the nicotine content to be quadrupled. We are trying to work through that and are not sure why it was put so high. Businesses are losing business because they cannot sell in that industry. We are watching it closely and are hoping that it comes back to a reasonable limit. Mr. Hatch stated that there has also been talk about limiting public health authority during an emergency. There may be bills with this.

Mr. Hatch shared that there will be a consolidation of multiple departments at the state level, including human services, health, environmental, and workforce services. We are not sure what this means for us at the local level, but will continue to work with them. We are concerned that public health will be lost in bigger groups and pushed down. We are wondering if it will stay at the forefront of where it needs to be.

**Budget Report (Information)**

Bypassed this update due to time constraints.

**UALBH (Information)**

Bypassed this update because Ms. Ann Benson was unable to attend.

**Chair's Report (Information)**

Mr. Wood shared that this was a steep learning curve in the beginning, but that we did great as a state and as a county so that we did not put everything at risk. Since 1918, we have not had such a health crisis on our hands, but we all foresee that there will be another wave or variant in the future, and now we know how to better address it without a lockdown. We can be safer and respond faster now that we know what we know. Good job to public health for their efforts.

**Commissioner's Report (Information)**

Commissioner Kamalu stated that it has been a reflective time as it has been about a year since this started. Public health and the County have responded to this. A year ago, Mr. Hatch was part of the state task force to help navigate this. Everything that Mr. Hatch taught in public health has played out. In the County, we used to meet three times a week, now it is every other week. There is still plenty of work going on and plenty more we anticipate. The collaboration has been key. The cities, schools, medical community, business community, and departments in the county, have been able to tackle it together and it has been amazing to witness. We never listed what was considered essential or not as a county. That was important, and we had guidelines and encouraged businesses to keep open. We had one unique month in April when hands-on services and gathering places had restrictions. For the most part, we have been able to keep businesses open and to keep the economy going and earn consumer trust. Thanks to all of you for your part in it. She receives a lot of feedback and the processes for vaccinations have been able to provide what is needed quickly. The collaboration and unique facility that we have because of the 2002 Olympics, has allowed for this to happen. It is significant as a Board to understand those things. We are thankful that we have been able to do what we have. The learning is not over. We will be better for it. We are all very grateful. Mr. Hatch said thank you. At the end of next year, we will be working hard to catch up on what we have not been able to do this year. We are extended pretty greatly, and not a lot of other things are high priority right now. We have met and are trying to get things back to normal and want to get programs back up and running. Mr. Wood stated that the Board supports that diversion and that we will get back to business as normal in time.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**        **May 11, 2021**  
                                 **7:30 a.m.**