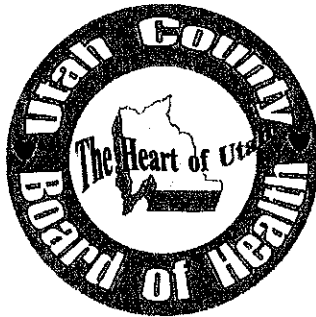




UTAH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

151 SOUTH UNIVERSITY AVENUE
PROVO, UTAH 84601

MINUTES January 24, 2022

Members Present:			
Jordan Singleton, Chair	X	Ryan Schooley	Phone
Carl Hanson, Vice-chair	X	Shane Farnsworth	Phone
Gaye Ray	X	Ann Anderson	excused
Mark Donaldson	X		
Amelia Powers Gardner	X		

Others present:

Eric Edwards, MPA, MCHES UCHD Executive Director
Julie Dey UCHD Secretary
Number of people in attendance 9

1. Welcome by Eric Edwards
2. Approval of the minutes from November 22, 2021

MOTION: Carl Hanson made the motion to approve the minutes from November 22, 2021, with two corrections as identified by Eric Edwards and Amelia Powers-Gardner. The motion was seconded by Amelia Powers Gardner and passed by unanimous vote.

3. Elect Board of Health Chair and Vice-chair for 2022

MOTION: Gaye Ray made the motion to nominate Jordan Singleton as the Board of Health Chair for 2022 which was seconded by Mark Donaldson and passed by unanimous vote.

MOTION: Mark Donaldson made the motion to nominate Carl Hanson as the Board of Health Vice-chair for 2022 which was seconded by which was seconded by Gaye Ray and passed unanimously.

4. Board of Health Expansion Discussion

Ben VanNoy, Utah County Attorney, explained to the board that the Utah County Commission is the board that appoints Board of Health members. The Utah County Commission has requested that we discuss expanding the board with additional members. There is also the possibility of adding alternate Board of Health members. For example, if a board member could not attend, an alternate board member would be ready and waiting to be called to fill in the gaps on an as-needed basis.

Amelia Powers- Gardner explained that the Commission would like to appoint additional medical professionals representing the medical community.

5. Approve Amendments to the Board of Health By-laws

MOTION: Amelia Powers-Gardner made the motion to expand representation on the Board of Health as seen in the by-laws of the Utah County Board of Health. The motion is to update by-law articles by accepting the changes in Article 4.1, removing Article 4.3, and in Article 4.2 using the language of “no less than four (4) and no more than five (5) persons representing medical or health fields, one of which will be a medical doctor and one a registered nurse.” Gaye Ray seconded the motion, and the board approved the changes unanimously.

The updates to the Board of Health by-laws will now be presented to the Utah County Commissioners for their approval.

6. Review Utah County Health Department Mission and Values Statement

Eric Edwards reviewed the Health Department’s mission and value statements which are meant to help guide Utah County Health Department’s efforts in public health. We are grounded in the ten essential public health services. These ten essential public health services are adopted by all public health departments across the United States and are a part of the Utah County Health Department’s guiding principles feeding into our values and our mission. Eric asked the board if there was anything in the statement they would like added or to modify.

Ryan Schooley asked Eric if NALBOH (National Association of Local Boards of Health) has a model (vision/mission) statement and how does that compare to what Utah County Health Department has currently. Gaye Ray was able to answer by saying the ten standards are standard nationwide and are pretty identical among health departments.

Carl Hanson referred to Patty Cross, Division Director of Health Promotion at Utah County Health Department, regarding the recent integration of the (substance abuse) Prevention Program into the division of Health Promotion. Carl asked Patty’s perspective, “Do you think the mission and value statement captures the Prevention Program?” Patty replied that, “Yes, with the Prevention component.”

Eric suggested one potential modification would be, “prevent avoidable disease, injury and addiction.”

Jordan Singleton suggested a change under ‘Our Values’ to be: “Timely, effective, professional and confidential ~~customer~~ public health service,” which the board members agreed with.

7. Approve a resolution creating a policy enacting the procedure for approval of minutes

Ben Van Noy explained the Open and Public Meetings Act governs meetings such as the Board of Health. One of the requirements of the act is for the meeting minutes and how minutes are kept, etc. The act also requires that we have policy. The Utah County Attorney’s office is recommending to all Utah County boards including the Commission and public bodies within the county to adopt this policy. The Utah County Commission has already adopted it. This will get us in compliance with the Open and Public Meetings Act.

MOTION: Gaye Ray made the motion to adopt a resolution of the Utah County Board of Health creating a policy enacting the procedure for approval of minutes. The motion was seconded by Amelia Powers-Gardner and approved by unanimous vote.

8. Approve a resolution adopting amendments to Utah County Health Department Regulation for Tobacco Retailer Permitting

Ben Van Noy explained the amended items of the regulation for tobacco retailer permitting. Ben reported that there was no public comment on the proposed amended regulation between the Board of Health meeting on November 22, 2021 and January 24, 2022.

MOTION: Amelia Powers-Gardner made the motion to approve the amendments to the Utah County Tobacco, Electronic Cigarette, and Nicotine Product Retail Permit Regulation. The motion was seconded by Carl Hanson and passed unanimously.

9. Approve fees to be added to Health Department Fee Schedule for Microenterprise Home Kitchens

MOTION: Amelia Powers-Gardner made the motion to approve the \$300 fee for Microenterprise Home Kitchen inspections on the Utah County Health Department Fee Schedule. This was seconded by Gaye Ray and passed unanimously.

10. 2-10 year Growth Planning (Mosquito Abatement Sample)

Eric Edwards reminded the board of the November 22, 2021 meeting and that a well thought out request was made by the board for the Health Department to begin looking at multi-year cycle of funding as our county is growing as fast as most any county in the nation. This is exponential growth that will exceed inflation and other things.

Mosquito Abatement was a good place to start with planning because it is one budget without a lot of complexity. We now need review and input from the board on the data we have collected. The Health Department has a Public Health Informaticist that was able to secure census data and with that information forecast growth for the next ten years. Through the analysis of the past ten years, the growth was 26%, and so this is where we start with a simple multiplier of 2.6% per year to show a modest growth rate which certainly doesn't capture it perfectly or with precision. We will add layers of refinement as we start to look at geographic differences. This will help with our future budgetary forecasting and to help the Health Department better plan and provide public health services for our rapidly growing community. This will help with capitalization process that is more refined, to help us project building needs and equipment needs based on areas of growth.

The board asked questions regarding inflation built into the data.

Amelia Powers-Gardner recommend looking at the Gardner Institute which has just released a study of Utah population growth over the next 40 years. From this study, over the next 40 years, 30% of the growth for the entire state will be in Utah County. We will double our population in the next 40 years. Amelia also recommended the 'Prosperity Utah Plan' or a plan from the Utah County Chamber of Commerce because these growth projections show geographic findings which means they map the projections throughout the county. Using these tools as overlays for your data would be very helpful and then you don't have to do the 'guesstimating.' Pesticide licensing fees need to account for inflation because they likely won't stay the same with the rate of inflation. Items like hats and shirts used to identify Mosquito Abatement employees while they are spraying should have inflation built in also.

Amelia continued those standard non-inflationary times is where the standard growth would be looking for anything other than 6%. The bare minimum we would use for inflation rates would be 6% year-over-year in every category with the exception of pay increases. I think your projections are heading down the right path. As you refine that information and you get used to that and you start duplicating this amongst your divisions, then we can start looking at our incomes (grants), and what grants do we have and will the grants suffice. If the grants do not suffice then what are our plans. As each of your divisions starts seeing the population growth and where it is going, they are going to start looking and asking, "Do we need to have an immunization clinic in this area, do we need to have a vital records office in this area, etc.?" 

Eric said this will continue to be a standing agenda item until it is ready to be considered for budgetary planning in June of 2022 which is our goal. That will get us ready for planning for the 2023 fiscal year.

Mark Donaldson asked if the Health Department was still having hiring problems with hiring nurses. Eric said absolutely. Amelia said that hiring nurses had in part to do that Utah County doesn't really pay for inflation increases with employee salaries.

Eric thanked Dan Miller, Mosquito Abatement, Jackie Karsies, Business Manager and Colton Fox, Public Health Informaticist for putting together the information.

11. Employee Changes

Eric reviewed the employee changes with the board.

12. Covid-19 Update

The report provided to the board is attached in the minutes. The Health Department is working to open a new vaccine location in Saratoga Springs that should open on February 1, 2022. In schools: 'Test to Stay' is not an option right now as the state legislature has put a pause on it with Omicron as it isn't seen as an effective tool right now. We also don't have supplies of Covid tests to do the 'Test to Stay.'

Both Jordan Singleton and Shane Farnsworth reported on Covid information in a local hospital and local school district respectively.

The question was asked by Amelia Powers-Gardner, "Do physicians have a way to know which hospitals have monoclonal antibodies in stock? This is an honest need. If you as physicians have a patient which meets the qualifications and needs the monoclonal antibodies, do we have an ability to tell them where they can send those patients."

Jordan Singleton answered, "No. The problem is that when hospitals run out, they are not reporting. The only thing you could do would be to call different Emergency Rooms and ask, 'Do you have any monoclonal antibodies for the Omicron variant.'"

Amelia Powers-Gardner said this is an area that we as a board of health have identified as a public health need. This is something we could look at and communicate with the state Health Department that, for those truly high-risk patients, physicians have 'near-time' reporting on the availability of monoclonal antibodies; or at least physicians should have the ability to know which hospitals have them in stock. Again, this is a true public health need, and this would be a proper role for the board of health.

Eric Edwards said that he will reach out to the process and find out what it is and figure out how we can then communicate to physicians and hospitals and where these people are likely to be seen and then let them have a facilitated way to know where the monoclonal antibodies are available.

Jordan Singleton – The hospitals would have to report to the state. Another problem is that by the time we make the change in reporting, the Omicron surge will be over or dropped. Physicians would love to have the information. Since these treatments have come out, physicians don't know where the treatments are at or who has them. It is challenging, especially these last couple of weeks. Our test positive percentages are at an all-time high like the 40% range. I have heard that tests are turning around faster for results.

Amelia Powers-Gardner -- Even then, if there was another variant regardless, if there is a treatment for that variant, the same process could be used to track that treatment. If treatments are in short supply, we should have a way to track it so that physicians know where to send their high-risk patients.

Mark Donaldson – We need to be better prepared. There are going to be patients where it could absolutely be life or death, and we need it to be transparent to the physicians as to where they can get the medication.

Eric Edwards – Let the Health Department reach out to the state and see what they are doing, have them explain the process and then identify what can be changed to make that visible and more transparent to physicians and do something about it.

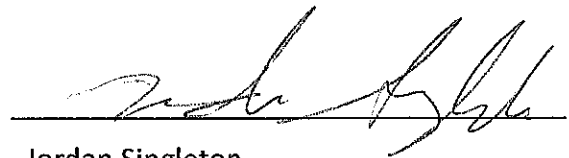
13. Other Business

UALBOH Annual Symposium will be held Thursday, March 31 – April 1, 2022, in Richfield, Utah at the Snow College Campus. Additional information will be emailed to the board members.

MOTION: Gaye Ray made the motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Mark Donaldson and passed unanimously.



Eric Edwards, MPA, MCHES
Executive Director / Local Health Officer
Utah County Health Department



Jordan Singleton
Chair
Utah County Board of Health