

SOUTHEAST UTAH HEALTH DEPARTMENT (SEUHD)
BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
July 26, 2022 - 5:00 p.m.
(Virtual Meeting)

PRESENT

CARBON COUNTY: Debbie Peet-Chair, Attorney Lynelle Hansen
EMERY COUNTY: Commissioner Kent Wilson, Kathi Kearney
GRAND COUNTY: Breann Davis, Commissioner Josie Kovash
EXCUSED: Commissioner Larry Jensen, Kelly Wilson, Zak Konakis, Rhiana Medina
ADMINISTRATION: Bradon Bradford, Orion Rogers, Tracy Randall, Delia Paletta, Sara Braby, Brittney Garff

- I. **Call Meeting to Order** – Meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. by Debbie Peet.
- II. **Public Comment** – Debbie asked if there were any public comments, there being no public comments, Debbie closed the public comment.
- III. **Minutes for May 24, 2022 - Discussion and possible approval**

Debbie asked if there were any questions or corrections regarding the May 24, 2022 meeting minutes. Kathi indicated that there were two very minor corrections. Page two, item D, the word “sell” should be “sale” and on the motion, it should be “2021 Ram Cargo Van” instead of “2021 Ram Passenger Van.”

Motion - (Kathi Kearney/Commissioner Kent Wilson) Move to accept and approve the May 24, 2022 meeting minutes with the minor corrections as listed above. Unanimous

IV. **Budget**

- A. **Check Register -Questions, clarifications possible approval** – Brady stated that there were no questions regarding the check register.

Motion – (Kathi Kearney/Breann Davis) Move to accept the Check Register as presented.
 Unanimous

- B. **Revenue and Disbursements – Discussion and possible approval** - Tracy stated that there are three contracts for board review on the Revenue Changes. The first is the Electronic Case Reporting and the purpose of the contact is to provide support for electronic data for case reporting to be sent to the State. Brady stated that there are certain procedures that may be implemented at health departments across the State. The SEUHD does not do many of them but if a certain procedure is done with a client, it is a great advantage and to have the capability to send the database to the State where they can then be analyzed. The funding is to pay the SEUHD’s electronic medical records provider if they need it to adjust their system to make our electronic records compatible with the States records. At this time, the SEUHD uses EClinical Works. EClinical Works is presently working on portions of their system independently from the State contract. Some of the funding may be used to reimburse EClinical Works for portions of it but may not use the whole program.

Additional funding was received from Crisis Work Force in the amount of \$61,986. The original funding was used to pay for the recent retention bonuses and the new funding can also be used for another bonus which is planned for June 2023 and also for other expenses.

The Minimum Performance General Health block grant was increased by \$109,408 for FYE 2023 which will be received for several years going forward. Brady stated that for the last 25 years, health departments have split a pot of \$2.1m to address general public health needs throughout the State. Health officers have gone to the State Legislature every year and indicated that the State puts in place minimum performance standards for health departments to hire a health officer, nursing director, etc., and also to do community assessments and environmental health actions, all of which are mandated but not funded. This year the State increased the funding to \$6.1m that is divided per funding formula between each health department to administer the minimum performance standards. Regarding the Minimum Performance funding, for staff that does not charge their time to a specific contract, such as Brady, Tracy and Delia, who perform administrative duties for all programs, a certain percentage of funding is drawn from each program contract for salaries. The positive thing about having additional funding is that it will allow for administrative staff to put a larger percentage of their time into this funding source and not utilize program funding so that additional and actual contract work can be done and also fulfill contract objectives. Kathi asked if this funding would help in the process of accreditation. Brady stated it would not impact accreditation very much. Theoretically, this funding could pay for some of the registration costs.

Motion – (Commissioner Kent Wilson/Kathi Kearney) Move to accept the revenue changes as presented. Unanimous.

Budget Summary 1st Quarter of 2022 Tracy stated that the summary is for the first quarter of 2022 and an update will be provided for the first two quarters of 2022 at the next meeting.

V. Environmental Health Regulation Enforcement Guideline – Discussion and possible approval

Brady stated that it is important to recognize that this document is solely a guideline and not a regulation that will be imposed on anyone. This regulation is something that an accredited health department would have in place to lay out the steps for implementing enforcement when necessary. Orion stated that the SEUHD has received a lot of housing complaints and now that both the Moab and Price offices are better staffed, it has allowed time for staff to put together a regulation to address housing issues. Also, with the increase in staff, a standardized process needs to be in place to implement the guideline for housing as well as the State and Federal rules. The guideline is similar to what Grand County uses to enforce their codes. The guideline gives a step-by-step process on how to regulate fairly and equitably. If approved by the board, the guideline would be adopted as a procedure to enforce the housing regulation. Brady stated that if there were board members that did not have the chance to thoroughly review the guideline, it may be possible to address it at the September meeting. Commissioner Wilson stated that he was in favor of postponing adopting the guideline until further review by the board. Also, when business license applications are reviewed by Emery County, they are encouraged to engage with the SEUHD in order to make sure that they are in compliance but that is not happening. Commissioner Wilson asked how businesses can be connected with the health department in order for them to be in compliance and to ensure that they are abiding with all of the regulations as they apply. Orion stated that the best way to do that is to have all agencies sign off/approve the business before they can open.

There has been an effort made to get signature lines on all of city license business license applications. Commissioner Wilson stated that he would meet with Jim Jennings and get the signature line added to all business applications and asked Orion to send him a sample of what is needed on the application. Orion stated that Moab has it set up as a DocuSign which is automatically sent to the SEUHD. Debbie asked if the draft guideline could be sent to the board for further review and discussion at the September board meeting. Orion stated that it would be emailed to them.

Orion asked the board to consider approving the guideline in concept with the idea that if there are any comments or edits, they can be reviewed at the next meeting.

Motion – (Commissioner Kent Wilson/Kathi Kearney) Move to approve the Environmental Health Regulation Enforcement Guideline in concept and review in 60 days at the September board meeting and make edits if needed. Unanimous

X. Health Officer Report

- A. Public Health/COVID-19/Epidemiology – Brady stated that the radon campaign was successful and a good amount of data was obtained and added to what had been historically low data. A lot of tests were run and a decent number came from smaller cities. Brady reviewed the test data numbers for each county.

The SEUHD has continued access to funding for individuals that are going to mitigate their homes.

Opioid settlement money - Currently working with the Carbon County Commissioners and Four Corners on ideas on how to implement the opioid settlement money. The funding is not earmarked for the SEUHD. The meeting was to discuss how programs can be implemented to help mitigate the impact of opioid addiction in Carbon County. Similar discussions would be beneficial to have with Emery County as well. Grand County has just started the settlement process. Commissioner Wilson stated that it was a good idea and it could be done in conjunction with Carbon County and asked what the time frame was. Brady stated that a time frame has not been established. A budget proposal with the Carbon County Commission will be done within two-three weeks from today. Commissioner Wilson stated that there will be two disbursements in the first year and he would like to have the sheriffs engaged in order to get their perspective and identify how to help those individuals. Brady stated that that was a good idea. Commissioner Wilson asked if the meetings would be held with each individual county or regionally. Brady stated that having an initial meeting with each county to get each county's perspective would be beneficial and then implement it regionally.

- B. WIC – Nothing to report at this time.
- C. Health Promotion - Nothing to report at this time.
- D. Building Update – Moab building – The Moab Free Health Clinic has purchased the old USU campus. Because they have assumed responsibility of maintaining the campus along with their existing building, they want to move in as soon as possible, which will be in about one year. In the last discussion held with the board, it was noted that the SEUHD would need to meet with an attorney to determine how the finances would work and how to ensure that the SEUHD would have equity in the property when the SEUHD invests in the project. Additionally, there are some concerns with the proposed design of new buildings and if it was going to be better than what the SEUHD has now. The architect was contacted and provided with some ideas and concerns regarding the design and are now waiting for a new proposal of the design. The level of interior demolition may not be too high which may help to keep the costs down. The objective is to keep it functional for the next 50 years.

E. Clinical Services – Sara stated that seven COVID-19 vaccinations have been done for seven-year-olds and younger. Moderna is available for six months to four-year old's, Pfizer for six months and older. There has not been any Johnson & Johnson vaccine administered. Plans for the flu and COVID-19 booster clinics are being made with different agencies in the community. Vaccine clinics for the middle schools will be held on August 3rd and 9th, in Carbon and Emery counties. It has been the SEUHD's goal to serve that population. Coordination is being made with USU Eastern to provide flu clinics on campus and possibly at other local businesses. Debbie asked if COVID-19 vaccines are going to be provided at the schools. Sara stated, yes including boosters and the HPV vaccine. It is the State's goal to increase the HPV and Meningitis vaccine statewide. Movie theater ads are still being done through the Utah Cancer grant. Social media advertising will also be done in Moab. Commissioner Wilson what the recommendation was for the COVID-19 booster. Sara stated that up for age 50 and older, they can have up to two boosters after the first two vaccines and based on age and health risk. Flu shots and boosters can be done on the same day. The booster for the Omnicom variant is being explored. Boosters should be done five months after the second shot then four months after that the second booster. Brady stated that if you are in regular and close contact with someone that is still high risk, it is recommended that they get the booster sooner than the fall and if they are not comfortable waiting, they can get it early.

Commissioner Wilson asked what the policy is for the public regarding isolation. Brady stated that the SEUHD is not quarantining anyone anymore. Quarantining is still being done in long-term facilities. The SEUHD is recommending that people check with their employer as to what their preference is and monitor their symptoms. If someone does not go into isolation, they should wear a mask for five days after exposure. The best practice is staying home and isolate but that is not the state that communities are in now, it is monitoring symptoms and staying home if symptoms increase. Commissioner Wilson asked what the main symptoms of the variants are. Brady stated that most of the symptoms are like the cold and that those with the vaccine are better protected at a higher level.

F. Environmental Health – Nothing to report at this time.

XI. **Board Comments – Future Discussion** – Debbie thanked Brittney and the SEUHD for a job well done on the 2021 annual report. Brady stated that Delia has already asked for new annual report information for 2022. Brady stated that he would not mind having virtual meetings but it would not be the norm. This meeting was virtual because there were few agenda items. There were no additional board comments or discussions.

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Debbie Peet, Board Chair

Bradon Bradford, Health Officer