## **UTAH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**



# 151 SOUTH UNIVERSITY AVENUE PROVO, UTAH 84601

# MINUTES January 25, 2021

Members Present:			
Jeff Acerson, Chair	Х	Ryan Schooley	X
Ann Anderson, Vice-chair	Х	Sam Jarman	ZOOM
Gaye Ray	Х	Carl Hanson	ZOOM
Mark Donaldson	Х	Tanner Ainge	ZOOM
Jordan Singleton	Х		

### Others present:

Eric Edwards, MPA, MCHES UCHD Executive Director

Julie Dey UCHD Secretary Dr. David Flinders UCHD Physician

Number of people in attendance 8

- 1. Welcome by Jeff Acerson
- 2. Approval of the minutes from November 23, 2020 and December 7, 2020

**MOTION**: Ann Anderson made the motion to approve the minutes from November 23, 2020 and December 7, 2020 as written which was seconded by Gaye Ray and passed by unanimous vote.

3. Announcement of new board members: Jordan Singleton, Carl Hanson and Commissioner Tanner Ainge

Eric Edwards expressed appreciation to Jordan Singleton and Carl Hanson joining the Board of Health.

Jordan Singleton is an Emergency Room Physician and the Medical Director for the Fire Department

in Lehi. Carl Hanson is a professor and chair of the Department of Public Health at BYU and has been at BYU for 16 years. Commissioner Tanner Ainge has also joined the Board of Health.

4. Elect Board of Health Chair and Vice Chair for 2021

**MOTION:** Sam Jarman made the motion to elect Jeff Acerson as Board of Health Chair and Ann Anderson as Board of Health Vice Chair which was seconded by Ryan Schooley and passed by unanimous vote.

5. Review Utah County Health Department Mission and Values Statement

Eric Edwards, Executive Director, Utah County Health Department explained to the board members that reviewing the Mission and Values statement is a minimum performance standard that local health districts are to review annually. Utah County Health Department's Mission and Values Statement is included as an attachment to the meeting minutes.

Mark Donaldson said, "Retrospect can teach us a lot of things, and I think as we get on the downward slope of the current pandemic, I think that we need to consider, what do we do the next time around because it will be an optimal time to step back and review and see what makes sense and be forwarding thinking about the next issue."

6. Elect a new Administrative Hearing Board Chair

A new Administrative Hearing Board Chair needs to be elected. The former chair was Dianne Carr. Dianne's term ended on December 31, 2020.

Ben Van Noy, Utah County Attorney, explained, "Generally you don't hear about these hearings unless the appellant then appeals the Administrative Hearing Board's decision to the Board of Health. We have one of those appeals that would have been for today as Item #8 on your current agenda. It has been continued, and I will address that later. The board members do need to be appointed. We are working on changing those rules which is Item #9 on the current agenda. We do need more board

members on the Administrative Hearing Board, and Eric and I need to work on the proposed names to give to the board to get a large pool of people for the Administrative Hearing Board. Administrative Hearing Board members can be from the Board of Health or members of the community such as medical professionals, attorneys, public health specialists. Currently the Administrative Board consists of Dr. David Flinders, Jim Johnston of BYU, Larry Ellertson former Commissioner, and Dianne Carr former Board of Health member."

Jeff Acerson asked a clarifying question, "As a board, we approve an Administrative Board Chair from this group and then the other members of that committee can be at large, is that correct?"

Ben Van Noy replied, "As long as they fall into the category of what is approved in our Administrative Hearing Board regulation, then 'yes.'"

Gaye Ray volunteered to be the Administrative Hearing Board Chair.

**MOTION:** Mark Donaldson made the motion to nominate Gaye Ray to be the Administrative Hearing Board Chair which was seconded by Sam Jarman and passed unanimously.

#### 7. Utah County Health Department Goals for 2021

Eric Edwards reviewed the Utah County Health Department Goals for 2021. Reviewing the goals is a minimum performance standard that local health districts are to review annually. Utah County Health Department's Goals for 2021 are included as an attachment to the meeting minutes. The current list of goals include:

- Employee engagement
- Home Visitation Post-partum depression
- WIC Increase overall census
- FDA National Retail Food Regulatory Program Standards
- Relias Learning Management System for Mosquito Abatement
- COVID-19 Vaccination

Jordan Singleton suggested a social media campaign to protect against mis-information in the field of public health. Jordan suggested putting more advertisements on social media. Eric proposed that at the March 2021 Board of Health meeting, the Health Department Public Information Officer, Aislynn Tolman-Hill, will present potential options that can be utilized and are cost effective and are demonstrated to be effective for the board members to review and provide direction. Eric suggested that Carl Hanson and the Public Health Department at BYU could potentially provide direction.

Gaye Ray made the following comment, "The old adage that 'nobody knows about public health until it doesn't work,' is the wrong attitude to take. We have to start talking about what public health does and put a 'face' on public health so the information that is given has context."

Jordan Singleton said, "As the COVID-19 crisis starts to resolve there may be a mental health crisis. It is fairly inexpensive to put advertisements on Instagram stories and Instagram feeds and Facebook. \$5 per day and we could reach 10's of 1,000's people. The community will receive information, resources and sites where they can receive help."

Eric said these were great suggestions and goals worth shooting for. Eric said the Health Department will put together a proposal to be brought before the board and available to review by the board members before the next meeting in March. The board can then provide direction on how and what will be most relevant and useful for Utah County residents.

Aislynn Tolman Hill, Public Information Officer, explained to the board the social media monitoring the Health Department uses such as Meltwater, Hootsuite and ArchiveSocial.

Gaye Ray asked if grants could be written for funding social media posts and social media monitoring.

Carl Hanson spoke directly to Eric about the following topics and perhaps turning them into goals:

1) The World Health Organization has come out with a lot of materials regarding the pandemic and also the 'info-demic' that is happening globally with inaccurate information that is flying all over the place, and it is obviously going through social media channels. We need to counter the wrong information and teach people how to access accurate information. 2) Nationally there has been a lot

of talk about Public Health 3.0 and the idea that our local health departments should consider being the chief health strategist in our community to address social determinants of health.

#### 8. Tobacco Hearing

Ben Van Noy said they are currently negotiating with the appellant. The official request would be to strike with the understanding that if we don't settle, the appellant would prefer to have a hearing sooner than the next board of health meeting. In this case, we would need a quorum of board of health members to hear the second level of appeal.

**MOTION:** Ryan Schooley made the motion to strike the tobacco hearing from today's agenda and reconsider at a future date which was seconded by Ann Anderson and passed with unanimous vote.

#### 9. Administrative Hearing Board Regulation Changes – Ben Van Noy

Ben Van Noy said there were concerns with the Administrative Hearing Board regulations which are cumbersome. We are working to streamline the board into a single hearing officer to expedite hearings; however, there are concerns with having only one person there. So, then the proposal was to give the appellant the option of whether they wanted to choose a quicker hearing with one person who is the hearing officer OR to have a hearing from the whole board. Ben requested that the board continue this today is provide additional time to do this right.

**MOTION:** Gaye Ray made the motion to continue the Administrative Hearing Board Regulation changes which was seconded by Ann Anderson and passed unanimously.

#### 10. COVID-19 Vaccine Update

Eric reported that Utah County Health Department has vaccinated 14,128 residents through January 22, 2021. Community nursing services has vaccinated over 10,000 of our educators. We are excited to ramp up and bring on new staff (registered nurses and clinical assistants) so that we can get people vaccinated as soon as possible. We are building a stronger and more robust call center to help those

who cannot access technology to book their appointments. We have leased the Shopko building in Spanish Fork for a vaccine clinic which will be our high thru-put facility for now.

Dr. David Flinders answered the board member's questions regarding the COVID-19 vaccines.

#### 11. Employee Engagement Plan

This topic was included in Agenda Item # 7.

#### 12. Employee Changes

Eric introduced Rustin Sweat as the new Finance Manager for the Health Department. A list of new employees was provided to the board members and is included as an attachment to the meeting minutes.

#### 13. Discuss 2021 Legislative Issues

There is talk of potentially combining the Utah Department of Health with the Utah Department of Human Services. Concerns with this are that public health will be overshadowed by other things. There are important things that happen in both agencies. If the merge becomes a topic, we will ask the board members to contact their state representatives. We don't want a loss of public health focus, prevention, and the science behind them.

Board members will begin receiving emails from Julie Dey listing the potential bills and a statement on how the Health Officers align with either favorable, neutral or oppose. At times board members will be asked to give public health points of view to state leaders.

#### 14. Other Business

**MOTION**: Ryan Schooley made the motion to adjourn which was seconded by Jordan Singleton and passed by unanimous vote.

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Eric Edwards, MPA, MCHES Executive Director / Local Health Officer Utah County Health Department Jeff Acerson Chair Utah County Board of Health

