

**TOOELE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

May 13, 2021

352 E. Airport Way Wendover, Utah

**PRESENT:**

Board: Brent Marshall, Anthony Howes, Tom Tripp, Linda McBeth, Pam Bennett, Michael Wells (phone), Brian Johnson, Devan Clevenger

Absent: Mathew Jackson

Staff: Jeff Coombs, Ericka Jordt, Bryan Slade, Amy Bate, Jamie Zwerin, Brad Gillies, Amy Royal, John Contreras

Public: none

<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>DISCUSSION/FINDINGS</b>	<b>RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS</b>
Welcome- <i>Chair</i>	Brent Marshall called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken.	
Approve March 23, 2021 Meeting Minutes	Brent asked for a motion to approve the March 23, 2021 meeting minutes.	Tom Trip made a motion to approve the March 23, 2021 meeting minutes, Pam Bennett seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion approved.
Board Member Assignment Reports (Information Item) UALBOH Symposium (Information Item)  <i>Chair</i>	Tom is assigned to follow the Opioid lawsuit. He reported that Purdue Pharma has declared bankruptcy, they are one of two of the major defendants in the lawsuit. Their parent company is still managing what is going on.  Linda was told the UALBOH is still on, but she has not been given details yet, once she gets the details next week she will ask Ericka to forward to the group.	
Health Officer's		

<p>Report</p> <p>COVID-19 Vaccination Update (Information Item) Staffing Update (Information Item) Update Board of Health Bylaws (Action Item)</p>	<p>Jeff presented the BOH COVID-19 Status Report for the State of Utah and Tooele County. State of Utah as of May 13, 2021-</p> <p>Utah-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 day average 327 cases/day</li> <li>• 6.46% person over person percent positive test rate</li> <li>• 3.61% Test over Test percent positive rate</li> <li>• 401,812 cases</li> <li>• 16,477 hospitalizations</li> <li>• 2,255 deaths</li> </ul> <p>Tooele County-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7 day average 8.4 cases/day</li> <li>• 5.57% person over person percent positive test rate</li> <li>• 2.6% Test over Test percent positive test rate</li> <li>• 7,287 cases</li> <li>• 226 hospitalizations</li> <li>• 43 deaths</li> </ul> <p>Jeff recognized a significant decrease in the 7 day average from the beginning of the year. The state and Tooele County have been seeing a plateau but are starting to see a slight decrease.</p> <p>He reported that Tooele Valley has 36,255 people vaccinated per 100,000 and outside of the valley Tooele County has 32,494 people vaccinated per 100,000. We are working with the Nevada Dept. of Health to find out the number of people vaccinated in Wendover. 1,370,701 Utahns have received at least one dose and 1,084,381 are fully vaccinated. Utah has the youngest population in the nation and Tooele has the second youngest population in the state so although it looks like we are slightly behind it is because we have a lot of kids that are not yet vaccinated or are too young to receive the vaccine. Pfizer has been approved for Emergency Use Authorization for kids 12-15 years of age. TCHD will offer Pfizer for this age group starting Monday. Salt Lake Health Dept. is storing the doses for us because we do not have an ultra-cold freezer. NOMI Health will do a special Pfizer vaccine clinic for 12-15+ years old at the Park and Ride May 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. The school district will notify parents of the clinic. Walgreens also has Pfizer doses. Uptake of first doses has declined to less than 200 a week and we are doing about 1440 second doses a week. First dose clinics</p>	
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will be moved back to TCHD from Deseret Peak during regular business hours. We are reaching out to businesses and worksite special groups to offer the vaccine. About 30% in Tooele have said they will decline the vaccine. We will continue to work on education. Jeff showed a chart listing percentage of population vaccinated by age. The chart showed the age group at the highest risk did the best at getting vaccinated. Linda asked what type of outreach was done for this age group? Jamie responded that she worked with Marilyn in the Tooele County Clerk's office to get voter registration records that staff then used to reach out to help make appointments for those who couldn't access the online appointment system, the Transportation staff offered rides to vaccine appointments, staff provided shots to those with mobility issues while they stayed in their vehicle, nurses went to homebound clients to give them their shots, Healthy Circle at MWMC really helped as well as our Health Promotion team and Community Health Workers. She added that this age group was very isolated, and they wanted to get the shot to get some of their freedom back and to get back to normal. Jeff went over the report showing the vaccination rate by race/ethnicity and then by gender. He noted that the America Indian population has their own vaccination program so that figure may not be completely accurate. Jeff recognized the wonderful effort made by Lucia our Wendover Community Health Worker for going door to door to discuss the vaccination effort, make appointments etc. Lucia is a trusted member of the community and she has helped some overcome their distrust of the government. There have been 10 cases of the U.K variant and 7 cases of the California variant identified in our community. The U.K variant has shown to be twice as infectious as the original variant. Jeff shared data showing how the virus affects youth. There have been more hospitalizations of children from COVID in 15 months than there have been from influenza since 10/1/2017. Tom concluded that by wearing masks to protect from COVID the number of influenza cases were reduced. Jeff added that there isn't a season for COVID, it is year round. Youth are also suffering from long hauler effects once they no longer test positive. Case rates have increased 66% in middle school students and 106% in high school students since April 10, 2021.

New staff hired since the last board meeting are:  
Health Dept.: Trisdana Colledge Family & School Health Secretary, April Francom Dental Assistant, Elizabeth Gravidahl Nurse, Amanda Crump Emergency Planner Assistant.  
Aging Services: Kyle Kortie Meals on Wheels Driver, Barry Holm UTA Driver, John Smith Food Prep Worker, Amy Whitham Activity Specialist.

Tom motioned to approve the

	<p>Jeff presented the proposed changes to the Bylaws. The changes mainly consisted of changing the wording from Tooele County Commission to Tooele County Council. The handout showed all of the proposed changes and the County Attorney had reviewed and approved the changes. Tom explained the difference between an ordinance and a resolution.</p>	<p>changes to the Bylaws as presented, Devan seconded the motion, all voted in favor and motion passed.</p>
<p>Financial Report April 2021  Financial Report (Action Item)  Transfer from Fund Balance to Capital Improvement Fund (Action Item)  Capital Improvement Fund Balance Transfer for Work at Senior Centers (Action Item)  <i>Brad Gillies</i></p>	<p>Brad referred to the handout titled Actual vs Budget Four Months Ended April 30, 2021.</p> <p>Brad summarized the following:</p> <p>REVENUE- Operating revenue through April 30, 2021 is about 24% of the annual budget. As of April 30, reimbursements on state contracts had only been received through March, accounting for some of the shortfall. Revenue from most contracts and grants is also less than budgeted as staff has concentrated on the COVID response and has been unable to spend budgeted hours on regular responsibilities. However, this time has been covered by separate COVID funding. Fees for services are down, but much of this revenue is seasonal such as flu vaccines. We are monitoring it and hope to be at or near budget as the year progresses. We are also trying to see how COVID has impacted our normal services such as Environmental Health services.</p> <p>EXPENSES- Operating expenses through April 30 are about 26% of budget. All departments are at or under budget. This report shows all wages and benefits paid in their corresponding divisions, although time related to COVID is not being reimbursed through grants and contracts. Later this year we will start to move some over, so they will show up as COVID expenses. However, these wages and benefits are covered by separate COVID funding. When the budget was put together at the beginning of the year nothing was budgeted for COVID expenses or revenue so everything in this budget is related to our normal operations.</p> <p>NET OPERATING- Net operating shortfall for the four months ended April 30 is about \$506,000, or about 32% of what was budgeted. We budgeted to have a \$1,6033,690 shortfall for the year. This is covered by other budgeted sources such as the County contribution, the health tax levy, and if necessary, the Department's fund balance. In total we are still looking at coming in ok at the end of the year. COVID funding is also covering its related wages and benefits.</p>	<p>Tom Tripp motioned to accept the report as presented, Brian Johnson seconded the motion, all voted in favor and the motion passed.</p>

COVID- COVID expenditures to date have been about \$1,730,000. This includes employee wages and benefits, contact tracing, community healthcare workers, computers and other equipment. This amount has all been covered through different contracts and grants, so we are not having to draw any money out of our fund balance. Included in this total is about \$406,000 of wages and benefits for January through April of this year, or about 43% of all wages and benefits paid. All COVID related expenditures have been covered by separate grants and funding. There is currently COVID funding available for many areas of the response through June of 2024.

Brent acknowledged that a lot of money has been spent on COVID and the residents appreciate what has been done by the health department.

Brent entertained a motion to accept the financial report as presented.

Brad explained that in 2017 and again in 2018 we asked the board to approve moving \$150,000 from our Fund balance to a Capital Improvement Fund balance. The fund balance is what has built up over time from revenues over expenses. The money is designated to be used for different improvements and projects that could not be covered in the budget. The \$150,000 that was moved to the Capital Improvement Fund was designated to be used for building improvements and repairs. In 2019 we used \$50,000 to update the security system inside the building. We are asking the board again to approve the transfer of \$150,000 from our fund balance from 2019 to the Capital Improvement Fund. 2020 results are not in yet, the latest audited numbers are through 2019. Pam asked what was the total excess for 2019? Brad didn't have the exact numbers but thinks it was about \$300,000 but it added to a fund balance that was already about 2.8 million. Jeff added that the goal is to achieve a one million dollar balance to cover a list of items that are needed over the next 10-15 years that is projected to cost about one million dollars with one project that can hopefully start this year being the remodeling of the kitchen in the USU Extension area. He would like to reach that goal by adding \$150,000 per year. Jeff confirmed for Pam that this amount is historical. Jeff added that after seeking an affirmative recommendation from this board it would then be presented to the County Council. Linda asked if we can justify the health tax levy increase from three years ago and put money into this hopeful project fund? Tom agreed and would like to see a list of what the proposed projects and costs are. Jeff added that since so much has been affected by COVID it is important that we look towards the future and try

Tom motioned to table the request until the next meeting when a list of the capital improvement projects can be provided and further discussion can be had, Anthony seconded the motion, all were in favor and motion carries.

	<p>to figure out what our budget will look like, what will we recommend for a mil levy and how much will we need to pull out of our fund balance. Brad included that our real balance is sitting in the fund balance, so we want to be proactive by planning for the future of these necessary improvements and have the money set aside for them. Jeff added that we have also done some transportation projects with these reserve funds as well. Brent agreed that justification and transparency are needed.</p> <p>Jeff outlined the need for some repairs and upgrades need to be done at both the Tooele and Grantsville Senior Centers. Some of the cost to fix these problems will be shared with the Facilities Management department. Jamie described some of the projects that need to be done including, resurfacing the wood floor, replacing appliances, grease trap repair, sprinkler system and landscaping repair and adding some hvac work to areas without any. The board was asked to consider approving the transfer of \$100,000 from Aging Fund balance into the current year budget. Jeff explained that Aging Services funds are separate from Health Dept. funds. Tom added the County will be wanting to make some budget adjustments in June so paperwork for this request needs to be submitted to the Auditor's office expeditiously because the County Council will want it to go through a 1<sup>st</sup> &amp; 2<sup>nd</sup> reading and then a public comment period.</p>	<p>Linda McBeth motioned to approve the requested Improvement Fund Balance Transfer for Work at Senior Centers of \$100,000, Devan seconded the motion, all voted in favor excluding Tom who abstained from voting.</p>
<p>EH Update Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day (Information Item) <i>Bryan Slade</i></p>	<p>Bryan explained that the Household Hazardous Waste Collection event has been held annually for the last 25 years. It is a very popular event that continues to grow every year. Though Clean Harbors has helped with the event for many years it is a big burden on our staff. Bryan met with Chuck Lawrence and they decided that Clean Harbors will take over the event going forward with help from TCHD staff. Though final bids have not been received yet Bryan suspects it may cost a bit more. Clean Harbors is planning on holding an event in October, but the date has not been finalized yet, once finalized we will advertise the event. The preference would be to hold the event several times throughout the year. Bryan will have more information at the next board meeting.</p>	
<p>Aging Services Reopening of</p>	<p>Jamie reported that due to the high number of older adults in the county that have received the COVID-19 vaccine, the senior centers will fully reopen on June 14<sup>th</sup>. The centers will</p>	

<p>Senior Centers (Information Item)</p>	<p>be open from 8am – 4pm and reservations will no longer be required. Staff will continue to sanitize throughout the day, provide masks and hand sanitizer, encourage those who have not been vaccinated to get the vaccine and offer to help make them an appointment. Jamie and Devan will discuss resuming monthly activities in the Wendover Community Center. Staff have tried to maintain the equipment during the closures and will be replacing the stoves and steam tables with funding from the CARES Act. A new electronic sign will be installed outside of the Grantsville center, and repairs will be made to the sign at the Tooele center. The partial reopening on April 19<sup>th</sup> went well.</p>	
<p>Family School Health Update School Nurses going to Tooele County School District (Information Item) <i>Amy Royal</i></p>	<p>Amy Royal announced that once this school year ends the five School Nurses currently employed by TCHD will move to the Tooele County School District. It will be more advantageous benefit wise for them to be employed by the school district. The nurses were a great help during COVID by helping with contact tracing, testing, and vaccinations as well as regular immunization clinics and school flu clinics. Nursing services needs are expanding at the schools and they will have the knowledge and experience to fill these needs. Each school nurse currently is assigned to between 5 and 7 schools. Jeff noted that we found out that the retirement benefits we were providing them we could no longer do. For years we have subsidized this service but no longer need to since the School District has been paying in full for the nursing services. He agreed they will have more say and direct involvement in the health programs in the school district. He recognized the benefit of having these nurses on staff especially during emergencies where surge capacity was needed.</p>	
<p>Board Member Comments and/or Concerns</p>	<p>Tom suggested to use this venue if the opportunity arises and spread the word. Jeff noted that UEHA will hold their conference here this fall. Tom met yesterday with Rep. Brad Wilson and Senator Stuart Adams about how the pandemic is going to wind down- the basic message was that there will come a time where people will need to protect themselves and state offices working from home and masks in schools will come to an end. Tom noted the Planning &amp; Zoning Dept. is currently discussing whether to allow enhanced (alternative) septic systems on a 1 acre lot. Brent brought up that the municipalities are trying to get ready and plan and advertise their 4<sup>th</sup> of July activities. He keeps getting asked if restrictions will be lifted by then to allow for</p>	

	<p>bounce houses at the park? Due to cleaning/sanitizing difficulties they are not sure if allowed. Also, not sure if with the new mandates if they will be able to hold different events inside the schools like the queen contest. John replied that whoever is planning the activity should set their own guidelines, similar to restaurants making their own decision on whether masks are required. Jeff added that there will be no government mandates on those type of activities but from a public health practice the bounce houses should be cleaned between uses. The chance of spread of COVID-19 by contact surfaces is a lot lower than initially thought.</p>	
Public Comments and/or Concerns	No public comments were given.	
Meeting Adjourn	Brent entertained a motion to adjourn.	Brian made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 pm, Anthony Howes seconded the motion, meeting adjourned.

Attachments: Actual vs. Budget Four Months Ended April 30, 2021 (33% of Year), Bylaws of the Tooele County Board of Health, BOH COVID-19 Status Report May 13, 2021