

TOOELE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

January 24, 2023

151 N. Main Street Tooele, Utah

PRESENT:

Board: Neil Critchlow, Nando Meli, Pam Bennett (phone), Anthony Howes, Devan Clevenger (phone), Erik Stromberg

Absent: Mathew Jackson, Linda McBeth, Michael Wells

Staff: Jeff Coombs, Jamie Zwerin, Bryan Slade, Brad Gillies, Ericka Jordt, Amy Hoftiezer, Mamadou Tounkara, Emma Hoyt, Jamie Slade

Public: Tom Tripp

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS
Welcome- <i>Chair</i>	Anthony called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken. Board members and staff introduced themselves.	
Installation of new Board Member, Erik Stromberg (Action Item) Approve November 22, 2022, Meeting Minutes (Action Item) <i>Vice Chair</i>	Erik Stromberg was sworn in as a board member representing the Tooele County Council. Erik is replacing the position previously filled by Tom Tripp. Erik also serves on the Tooele County Council. Jeff recognized Tom Tripp for his years of service on the board and serving Tooele County residents. Tom thanked the group and expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to serve. Anthony entertained a motion to approve the November 22, 2022, meeting minutes.	Erik Stromberg was appointed as a board member. Neil Critchlow made a motion to approve the November 24, 2022 meeting minutes, Nando Meli seconded the motion, Erik Stromberg abstained from voting since he was not present at the last

		meeting, all voted in favor, motion approved.
Board Member Assignment Reports (Information Item)	There were no updates for board member assignment reports. Going forward Erik will update the board on the status of the opioid lawsuit.	
Health Officer's Report Respiratory Diseases Update (Information Item) Staffing Update (Information Item) <i>Jeff Coombs</i>	<p>Jeff shared a report of current respiratory disease statistics. COVID, flu and RSV cases continue to remain low. He reported that all state run COVID testing sites will be closing this month. The Tooele testing site located at the Park & Ride location will close on January 26th. Tooele had the second busiest testing site in the state. Those wanting to test can order free at home test kits online, ask to be tested through their health care provider, purchase kits at some pharmacies or go to the Tooele County School District Student Services building at 555 E. Vine Street, you'll need to call to schedule a test. He reminded the group that these testing options do not get reported so the results are not included in the numbers. The main indicator that tells us how we are doing with COVID is hospital admission per 100k; we want to stay below 10 and we are currently at 5.9 and 2.8% for inpatient bed utilization. We continue to stay in the low threshold for transmission index level per the CDC. Reporting of COVID in wastewater continues to stay low. Influenza has declined significantly in the last couple of weeks, but its possible we could have a spike in the spring similar to last year. RSV has also declined significantly. Mamadou mentioned that it is possible that a vaccine for RSV will be available next year. Jeff noted that guidance will be released soon on receiving an annual COVID vaccine similar to the annual flu vaccine. He reminded the group that the main function of these vaccines isn't to prevent disease but to reduce the severity of it.</p> <p>Jeff gave an update and a handout on the Utah Association of Local Health Departments Bill Watch 2023. Jeff stated at times we may ask the board to contact our state representatives on bills that we take a strong stand on. Jeff gave a summary on some of the bills on the list:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB113- Local agriculture amendments -This could affect our drinking water 	

	<p>regulation as it requires a 100-foot protection zone around a private well. Jeff will meet with Senator Sandall for more information. This bill was not listed on the handout.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HB71- Local Health Department Revisions -UALHD testified in committee in support of the bill and the bill was unanimously passed out of committee. • SB116- Local Health Department Modifications. This bill removes the authority of a local health department to isolate or quarantine an individual; and allows a local health department to recommend that an individual isolate or quarantine. This would require the county council to vote to isolate someone. • HB131- Vaccine Passport Prohibition- This bill makes it unlawful for a place of public accommodation to discriminate against an individual based on the individual's immunity status; health care facilities may be exempt. • SB28- Radon Amendments- this has been sent to committee to study what kind of testing, how it will be paid for etc. Jeff noted that we already test our schools for radon. Rooms that have exceeded the level have been mitigated by adding ventilation, sealing cracks in foundations etc. <p>There was no discussion on a staffing update.</p>	
<p>Community Health Assessment (Action Item) <i>Mamadou Tounkara and Emma Hoyt</i></p>	<p>Mamadou Tounkara and Emma Hoyt presented a summary of the Tooele County Health Department Community Health Assessment (CHA) 2022 to the group. The full report will be sent to the group and posted on the tooelehealth.org website. The primary goal of the CHA is to tell the community's story and provide a foundation to improve the health of Tooele County residents. Relevant quantitative and qualitative data was collected from our community for this project. This survey is completed every 5 years. This project fulfills a portion of the requirement for reaccreditation. The survey of 5 questions was a mixed survey which included responses collected from both phone and email surveys. 603 surveys were collected and 5 people participated in the focus group. The data gathered in this report will be used to form the Community Health Improvement Plan. From the information gathered the top 5 public health indicators were reflected as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The rising cost of healthcare 2. Obesity 3. Infectious Diseases 4. Mental Health Issues 	<p>Erik motioned to accept the Community Health Assessment, Devan seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion passed.</p>

	5. Illicit drug use	
<p>Financial Report (Action Item)</p> <p><i>Brad Gillies</i></p>	<p>Brad summarized the following Financial Report - Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2022 (Preliminary) This report is taken from the Tooele County’s preliminary year-end report. An updated year-end report will be presented at the March meeting.</p> <p>REVENUE- Operating revenue was about \$4,400,000 or about 89% of the annual budget. Payments for state contracts and grants was about \$3,200,000. However, contract payments from the State for November and December had not been received as of the end of December. We anticipate receiving about \$300,000 for these two months. Once received, this will be reported as 2022 revenue. Fees for services were about \$1,250,000.</p> <p>EXPENSES- Operating expenses were about \$6,100,000 or about 90% of the budget. All departments were under budget. Some of this was the result of not being fully staffed at times during the year. Also, COVID related expenses were less than budgeted as activity related to the pandemic slowed down. In addition, some projected capital expenditures were not made and instead deferred until 2023.</p> <p>NET OPERATING- The preliminary net operating shortfall for the year was about \$1,600,000 or about 94% of what was budgeted for the year. The preliminary net for the year, including other sources was a shortfall of about \$19,000. Other budgeted sources included a County contribution of about \$455,000 and about \$893,000 from the health tax levy. However, per this report we will receive about \$193,000 more from the tax levy. The 2022 budget also included about \$368,000 to be used from the Department’s accumulated fund balance. However, with the reduced expenses, the additional tax levy receipt and the November and December State contract receipts still to come, we will not need to use any of our fund balance. Any excess will roll into the Department’s 2023 fund balance. It should be noted that the approved 2023 budget calls for about \$800,000 to be used from our fund balance.</p>	<p>Neil motioned to accept the Financial Report as presented, Erik seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion passed.</p>
<p>Environmental Health Update Discussion on Data Records for</p>	<p>Bryan reported the results of the sampling done on the alternative septic systems in the county. Conventional systems release 60 parts per million (ppm) of nitrates into the groundwater, the 3 samples taken in December from the alternative systems were 2.1 ppm, 18.1 ppm and 23.3 ppm. That is a 55-90% reduction of nitrates being released into the</p>	

<p>Alternative Septic Systems (Information Item)</p> <p><i>Bryan Slade</i></p>	<p>groundwater. Bryan stated that the maintenance contractor needs to come out to service these systems. He added that more data on these alternative systems is needed before we can decide if we can change the current restriction of allowing conventional systems to only be used on lots that are 5 acres in size or larger, anything less than 5 acres requires an alternative system to be used. Bryan explained that the alternative systems are required to be permitted through his department and part of the permitting process requires a copy of the maintenance contract and proof of yearly maintenance to be performed on the system. Bryan reported that 31 permits have been issued for alternative systems in Tooele County, though only about 20-25 are in operation. Bryan confirmed that more sample results will be available this summer.</p> <p>Bryan explained that a bill was passed a while back allowing microenterprise food operations- this means people can produce and sell food commercially out of their home kitchens. No one in Tooele County has applied for this permit until now and there are only 4 of these operations throughout the state. Though an application, plan review and inspection process are already in place a permit fee has not yet been adopted by this board. Bryan will propose a fee at the next meeting for this type of permit.</p>	
<p>Aging Services Update (Information Item)</p> <p><i>Amy Hoftiezer</i></p>	<p>Amy reported that two long-term staff members are retiring, hiring will begin for an Activity Specialist and a Social Worker. The Ombudsman, Alternatives and Caregiver Support programs were all recently audited, and all received outstanding reports. During the Medicare Open Enrollment period staff were able to assist 288 people in the process and the cost savings for 2022 was \$97, 556. Starting March 1st, the suggested donation for home delivered and congregate meals is increasing from \$3 to \$4. For those over 60 years of age that cannot afford that amount are asked to make a contribution of what they can afford. Those under 60 years of age will be charged a required fee of \$6, instead of the previous amount of \$5. The nutrition contract was for one year, so it is up for a Request for Proposal again. Costs have increased significantly since the RFP was done last year. Jeff added that in addition to the 180 home delivered meals a day the driver's delivering the meals also do a type of welfare check on these seniors. Neil agreed this is a much needed program. Additional funding is needed especially as we experience growth in our county. If additional funding is not received, we may have to put people on a waiting list or create a scoring system. The senior centers also provide about 120 congregate meals a day. Jamie added that most of these seniors are below the poverty line. This meal is a great value when compared to the cost of a nursing care facility.</p>	

	<p>Amy reported that the Area Agencies on Aging across the state have decided the two legislative funding requests this year are for an increase in funding for home delivered meals and alternatives program. Council on Aging meeting is January 25th. Valentine's party at the Tooele Senior Center on February 9th. Jamie commended Amy in her new role as Aging Director, she has done a great job.</p>	
<p>Health Promotion Update (Information Item) <i>Jamie Slade</i></p>	<p>Jamie updated the group on the Tobacco Prevention and Control program. In 2022 there were 43 licensed tobacco retailers including 4 specialty stores. Two compliance checks per year per store are conducted. These checks are done with underage buyers and law enforcement. 86 checks were completed last year and there were only 4 sells to minors, which is about a 4.7% sell rate, the state rate is about between 6-10%. Our Health Educator Desiree Mudrow does a great job with the program and offers education to the retailers on how to be compliant. Jeff explained the penalties for selling to minors are steep. Repeat violation within two years raises the penalty significantly, three violation results in a suspended license and four violations results in a license being revoked.</p> <p>Jamie noted that the Health Promotion team was invited to join the Alcohol Task Force, which includes Grantsville, Tooele and Wendover Police Force and our own Prevention Services team. Compliance checks are conducted the same as with the tobacco compliance checks. Jamie noted that a compliance recognition banquet was held recently to recognize those retailers who had not sold to minors in the last 5 years- there were 12 retailers who met the criteria.</p> <p>The Health Promotion staff continue to hold monthly car seat education classes, Falls Prevention, Tai Chi, Stepping On, Walk with Ease, Arthritis Foundation programs etc. Megan Raschke recently joined the team as a Health Educator. She is currently working on the diabetes and heart disease prevention programs and childcare centers.</p> <p>On March 8th partnering with USU Extension to host a community dinner with a focus on opioid prevention and harms reduction. On March 9th Jamie and staff will support the Prevention Services team will host a suicide prevention summit for faith leaders. These two events will provide Naloxone and a training on how to use it as well as gun locks.</p>	
<p>Election of Chair and Vice Chair (Action Item)</p>	<p>Anthony opened the floor to nominations.</p> <p>Nando nominated Neil as Vice Chair, Neil declined, Nando nominated Erik as Vice Chair,</p>	<p>Neil nominated Anthony for Chairperson, Erik seconded the nomination, all voted in favor,</p>

<i>Vice Chair</i>	Erik declined.	motion passed. Nando nominated Matt Jackson as Vice Chair, Anthony seconded the nomination, all voted in favor, motion passed.
Board Member Comments and/or Concerns	<p>Neil would like to discuss the Community Health Assessment in more detail. Neil thanked those for their work with our senior community.</p> <p>Erik thanked Jeff and Jamie for the orientation for this board and he thanked those who worked on the reports presented.</p> <p>Jeff invited board members to attend the annual symposium that will be held in Midway in April. Ericka will send out the details and register those who want to attend.</p> <p>Pam asked Devan if any progress had been made on establishing some medical services for Wendover. Devan reported that not a lot of progress has been made but its starting and she invited all to attend a meeting that is being held on Monday.</p> <p>Anthony thanked those who put together the Meet & Greet call with Rep. Jimenez, he thought it was a great meeting. He also commended the staff for the immunization services his son recently received here at the health department, staff did a great job.</p>	
Public Comments and/or Concerns	No comments were given.	
Meeting Adjourn	Anthony entertained a motion to adjourn.	Nando made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm all were in favor, meeting adjourned.

Attachments: TCHD Community Assessment 2022, Respiratory Disease Report, Financial Report Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2022 (Preliminary)