

TOOELE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

March 22, 2022

Zoom- <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88513165726?pwd=eTFjcXJjU0RBd094Qjl6TU9lOHVlZz09>

PRESENT:

Board: Pam Bennett, Anthony Howes, Tom Tripp (virtual), Linda McBeth, Mathew Jackson, Michael Wells, Nando Meli, Neil Critchlow

Absent: Devan Clevenger

Staff: Ericka Jordt, Bryan Slade, Brad Gillies, Amy Royal, John Contreras, Desiree Mudrow, Amy Bate, Jeff Coombs, Emma Hoyt, Mamadou Tounkara

Public: Brent Marshall

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS
Welcome- <i>Chair</i>	Tom called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken.	
Approve January 25, 2022, Meeting Minutes (Action Item) <i>Chair</i>	Tom entertained a motion to approve the January 25, 2022, meeting minutes.	Matt Jackson made a motion to approve the January 25, 2022, meeting minutes, Anthony Howes seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion approved.
Board Member Assignment Reports (Information Item) <i>Chair</i>	Linda shared the agenda for the Symposium to be held March 31- April 1 in Richfield. Health equity will be one of the main discussion topics. Let Ericka know if you would like to attend the event. Linda suggested Tom review current projects and assign board members to them. Tom gave an update on the Opioid lawsuit. Every county in the state has joined the lawsuit. The proposal is that we should get 85% of what was offered. This is the last update until the details come through.	

<p>Health Officer's Report</p>	<p>Jeff recognized Brent Marshall for serving on this board and his commitment to public health. Brent was presented with a recognition award for his service. The group thanked Brent.</p>	
<p>COVID-19 Update (Information Item)</p>	<p>Jeff presented a COVID-19 Status Report. He noted that we are in a good place for now. Tooele is at its lowest case rate since August 23, 2020, but he added to keep in mind that testing counts are less reliable now then they were earlier due to home test kits are not included in the numbers, only lab results are. The wastewater sampling shows levels are dropping significantly. Tooele is in the “low” transmission index level as is the rest of the state by both the old and new standard. The CDC is working on a way to standardize measurements. We will continue to monitor Summit County as they seem to have the first and fastest rise in cases due to a lot of out of state travel. Jeff added that Wendover is doing significantly better than was reported at the January meeting.</p> <p>Tooele County:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21,134 total cases • 677 total hospitalizations • 96 deaths • Current 7 day case rate: 3.4 cases/day, lowest since August 23, 2020 • 14 day case rate per 100,000: 61 • Beta Variant peak, 7 day case rate, 65.3 cases/day • Delta Variant peak, 7 day case rate, 67 cases/day <p>Three measurements that put Tooele County in the “low” transmission index level-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cases per 100k past 7 days: 20.76 • Hospital admissions per 100k: 6.2 • Inpatient Bed Utilization: 3.4% <p>In the last 28 days, Unvaccinated Utahns had:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.9x greater risk of testing positive than those fully vaccinated • 2x greater risk of testing positive than those who are boosted • 2.2x greater risk of hospitalization than fully vaccinated • 5.4x greater risk of hospitalization than those who are boosted • 3.46x greater risk of dying from Covid than those fully vaccinated 	
<p>Staffing Update (Information Item)</p>		
<p>Legislative Update (Information Item) <i>Jeff Coombs</i></p>		

- 18.19x greater risk of dying from Covid than those who are boosted

John spoke to the group about the newest variant. He explained that each variant may have different characteristics, but what they do share is that all variants are unpredictable. B.A.2 accounts for about 12% of all new cases. Mamadou added that we are monitoring the wastewater sampling results for Tooele County. Though cases seem to have declined drastically the numbers are not completely accurate due to underreporting of an overwhelming number of samples to be processed, at home self- test kits not being reported, etc. Jeff reiterated that the vaccine may not prevent you from becoming infected, but it will reduce your risk of becoming hospitalized or dying. Pfizer has submitted for approval for those at high risk to receive a second booster and Moderna has submitted for approval for all to receive a second booster dose.

Jeff gave a staffing update. Emma McBride was hired as the WIC Secretary; Jacky Castro former WIC Secretary is now doing Spanish translation work for us by contract. Zoey Adams was hired as a Covid Support Worker, Kari Winn hired as a Food Prep Worker at the Tooele Senior Center, Emma Hoyt was hired as an Epidemiologist as well as an Accreditation Coordinator and Mamadou Tounkara was also hired as an Epidemiologist. Emma and Mamadou were introduced to the group.

Jeff gave a legislative update and shared a handout showing which bills have passed and which bills didn't. Ongoing funding for local health departments has been secured for performance management and minimum performance standards, this is the first increase in the last 25 years. This funding will allow us to continue funding our Community Health Workers and retain our current epidemiology capacity. He talked about a Covid vaccine exemption that allows employees who can prove they have been infected within a certain amount of time can be exempt from being required to get the vaccine. HB 183 requires agreement of the Utah Senate president, Speaker of the House, governor and head of state school board or superintendent to allow Test to Stay in schools. This new procedure will be very time consuming and make it futile by the time all of the permissions were given. A vaccine passport amendment did not pass, it is headed back for an interim study. HB21 requiring lead testing in schools and childcare facilities passed. Every fixture will be tested in every school and money has been made available from the state to replace fixtures if needed. Testing is optional for licensed childcare facilities. Tooele currently has 5 licensed facilities that will be offered testing. Food Trucks no longer need a secondary permit when

	<p>operating in a county other than the county where they received their original permit. We will only inspect these trucks if we receive a complaint since we won't be permitting them or collecting fees from them. Drinking Water Amendments authorizes the Division of Drinking Water to implement an annual fee on public water systems to be deposited into the Drinking Water Capacity Account. HB 336 Vehicle Registration Modifications allows a county to provide information and evidence regarding a person who is suspected of providing an improper address to register a vehicle in order to avoid emissions inspection. SB236 Pharmacy Practice Amendments allows a nurse employed at a health department to dispense a drug to treat a sexually transmitted infection. HB 341 Birth Certificate Amendments was asking to provide all new births with a free birth certificate, this is going back to an interim study due to the financial impact this could have. SB45 implements the reorganization of the Dept. of Health and Human Services. HB80 Diabetes Prevention Program allows us to bill for certain diabetes prevention services. SB0133 Food Security Amendments allows for a committee to be created to coordinate state efforts in addressing food security. HB182 Local Health Dept. Order Amendments excludes state facilities and the capitol hill complex from the authority and jurisdiction of a local health department (mask mandate).</p>	
<p>Health Promotion Update Regulation #17 Synthetic Cannabinoids- Repealed (Action Item) Regulation #18 Electronic Smoking Device- Minor Corrections (Action Item) <i>Amy Bate</i></p>	<p>Amy Bate introduced Desiree Mudrow as a Health Educator and the Tobacco Prevention and Control Manager.</p> <p>Desiree proposed repealing Regulation #17 Synthetic Cannabinoids because it has been superseded by the Synthetic Drug Abuse Prevention Act of 2012. This act classified synthetic cannabinoids as a schedule 1 substance, effectively banning them. Tom asked for a motion to repeal the regulation.</p> <p>Desiree presented the proposed changes to Regulation #18 Electronic Smoking Devices and explained that the changes would only update the language to reflect current state laws and federal regulations. Linda asked if any of the retailers would object to the changes or want a public hearing? Desiree explained the changes have already been implemented in the state law and the retailers are already aware of the changes.</p> <p>Pam asked how Tooele County is doing on tobacco compliance checks? Desiree reported out of 43 inspections only about two are found in violation and they are usually not repeat offenders due to significant increase in penalties for repeat violations.</p>	<p>Nando Meli made a motion to repeal Regulation #17 Synthetic Cannabinoids, Mike Wells seconded the motion, all voted in favor.</p> <p>Neil Critchlow motioned to accept the proposed language changes to Regulation #18 Electronic Smoking Devices, Nando Meli seconded the motion, all voted in favor.</p>

<p>Environmental Health Update Proposal to Increase Onsite Wastewater Fee (Action Item) <i>Bryan Slade</i></p>	<p>Bryan requested approval to increase the septic system permit fee from \$300 to \$350. He explained that for more than ten years now the health department has been charging a \$300 fee for each septic system permit. Since 2001, the state Division of Drinking Water Quality (DWQ) has collected \$25 from each permit fee from all local health departments to help fund its septic system operator certification program. As of July 1, 2022, the DWQ is increasing the fee they collect to \$40 per permit. To help offset this fee increase, a proposal is being made to increase the fee collected here at the health department from \$300 to \$350. In addition to this increase being collected by the state we also implemented an online application and fee payment system which also takes a portion of each fee paid online. He feels this proposed increase request will also help offset these fees. Bryan was asked if a review had been done to consider if the fee is covering the cost of the service. It was also asked how our fee compares to what other counties charge. Bryan reported that about 70 permits were issued last year compared to about 130-150 in previous years. Tom suggested reviewing the fee annually and to do a cost analysis with Brad. Brad explained that each employee distributes their time to a specific program at the end of each pay period so they would be able to research the cost of the service vs. the fee being collected. Bryan noted that this fee has not been increased in at least 10 years or more. Jeff added that wages and costs have increased over the last 12 years. Jeff suggested tabling the request until the next meeting and at that time Bryan can present the request again with more information and figures.</p>	<p>Matt motioned to table the proposal to increase the Onsite Wastewater Permit Fee until more information can be provided at the next meeting scheduled for May 12, 2022, Neil seconded the motion, all voted in favor.</p>
<p>Community Health Update Proposal to Increase STD Testing Fee (Action Item) <i>Amy Royal</i></p>	<p>Amy presented a handout showing a request to increase fees for testing and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases. Amy noted that our county has increased in population which has resulted in an increased number of tests being requested. She explained that no fee is charged for the following priority populations: adolescents and young adults and their partners (age 15-24), men who have sex with men and their partners, pregnant women and their partners, contacts to syphilis and gonorrhea and non-white clients who engage in high-risk sexual behavior; the state pays for their tests and treatment (we can charge an office visit fee), but all others not in this group are charged for testing and treatment. She also explained that the health department is unable to bill health insurance for testing or treatment. She explained there are many steps involved in completing this service including, patient check-in, charting, gathering history, appointments, call back for results and notifying potentially exposed partners etc. Pam asked if a sliding scale was used to decide how much to charge those who must pay? Reasons people come here to be tested and treated instead of a doctor's office:</p>	<p>Neil motioned to table the proposed fee increase until more information can be provided at the next meeting May 12, 2022, Nando seconded the motion, all voted in favor.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clients want the confidentiality; they don't want their insurance to put this on their health record • By state law we cannot share this type of medical information about a minor to their parents if they come here for testing or treatment • Our fees are cheaper than local doctor offices and other health departments. <p>Tom felt a cost analysis needs to be done to calculate what the fee should be in order to break even for the service, Neil agreed. Jeff explained that the STD program receives a small amount of contract funding from the state to pay for those in the priority population, but overall time spent on this program will always be subsidized by the general funds. Amy added that about 60 tests were completed in 2020 and 90 tests in 2021. Tom suggested tabling this fee increase proposal until the next meeting when more detailed cost analysis can be reviewed.</p>	
<p>Aging Services Update (Information Item) <i>Jamie Zwerin</i></p>	<p>Jeff provided an update on Aging Services as Jamie was not able to attend the meeting. The Grantsville Senior Center has fully reopened after flooding caused major damage. Repairs have been completed and now some landscape work is being done. Once the landscape project is completed an open house will be held. Masks are no longer required, and participation is starting to increase.</p>	
<p>Financial Report (Action Item) <i>Brad Gillies</i></p>	<p>Brad summarized the following for the Financial Report for the Two Months Ended February 28, 2022 (16.7% of year)</p> <p>REVENUE- Operating revenue through February 28, 2022 was about \$373,000 or about 8% of the budget. Payments for state contracts and grants were about \$165,000 or about 5% of budget. Payments from the State for February had not been received as of the end of February. Fees for services were about \$208,000 or about 15% of budget. The receipt of fees for services is seasonal.</p> <p>EXPENSES- Operating expenses were about \$816,000 or about 13% of the annual budget. All departments were under budget. COVID related direct expenses, as well as some allocated departmental expenses are funded through COVID grants.</p> <p>NET OPERATING- Net operating shortfall for the two months was about \$442,000 or about 29% of what was budgeted for the year. This shortfall is covered by other budgeted sources including a county contribution of about \$455,000 for the year and about \$893,000</p>	<p>Tom made a motion to accept the financial report, Michael seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion passed.</p>

	<p>for the health tax levy. The 2022 budget also includes about \$124,000 to be used from the Department's accumulated fund balance.</p> <p>Linda asked for further clarification on the county contribution and health tax levy. Jeff explained that the county contribution is just a ledger line, it is a way to show an in-kind contribution for the rent of the building of \$450,000.</p>	
Board Member Comments and/or Concerns	<p>Nando noted that he would not be able to attend the May 12th meeting as it conflicts with the Stockton Town board meeting. The next board meeting will be held at the Wendover Community Center on May 12, 2022. Ericka will send details on dinner, hotel, mileage etc.</p> <p>Pam reported that part of the Dept. of Human Services will be meeting with Optum and Gary Dalton, Director of Human Services with Tooele County to monitor mental health.</p> <p>Neil asked if a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day would be held, Bryan confirmed the event will be held sometime in August.</p> <p>Mike expressed his appreciation for the health department staff especially during the last couple of challenging years.</p> <p>Amy Bate shared a flyer for The Art of Neighboring event on April 30th and invited the group to attend.</p>	
Public Comments and/or Concerns	No comments were given.	
Meeting Adjourn	Tom entertained a motion to adjourn.	Nando made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 pm all were in favor, meeting adjourned.

Attachments: Actual vs. Budget Two Months Ended February 28, 2022, COVID-19 Status Report March 22, 2022