

TOOELE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

August 12, 2025

151 N. Main Street Tooele, Utah

PRESENT:

Board: Mat Jackson, Linda McBeth, Christian Pantelakis (virtually), Anthony Howes, Jolene Jenkins, Nando Meli, Mike Wells, Cheryl Damas

Absent: Erik Stromberg

Staff: Grant Sunada, Taylor Palmer, Tracy Beckett, Jamie Zwerin, Christine Webb

Public: Brandon Nay

TOPIC	DISCUSSION/FINDINGS	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS
Welcome Approve May 1, 2025, Meeting Minutes (Action Item) <i>Mat Jackson</i>	<p>Mat called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Cheryl Damas was welcomed as a new board member, replacing Pam Bennett. Cheryl will represent ethnic minorities, senior citizens, the disabled, low-income, women, and/or youth. Cheryl introduced herself and provided insight into her background and experience. Cheryl will be ratified at the next County Council meeting.</p> <p>Mat entertained a motion to approve May 1, 2025, Meeting Minutes.</p> <p>Matt entertained a motion to amend the agenda by moving Public Comments from Agenda Item #8 to Item #2. Matt noted that going forward Public Comments will be placed toward the beginning of the meeting.</p>	<p>Jolene made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, Anthony seconded the motion, all voted in favor.</p> <p>Nano made a motion to move the Public Comment Section forward, Jolene seconded the motion, all voted in favor.</p>
Public Comments	<p>Brandon Nay approached the board with a request to amend Wastewater Regulation #12 to allow him to install a standard (conventional) septic system on his property that is within Tooele City limits. The current regulation requires a property to be at least 5 acres in size to do a standard septic system; his property is 4 acres. He can connect to the city water system but is unable to connect to the city sewer. He has received a letter from Tooele City stating</p>	

	<p>he cannot connect to the city sewer system. He has checked with Zimmerman Well Service and was informed that all the wells in his area are six feet deep and there have been no problems with nitrates in the groundwater in this area. This area is not highly populated with septic systems.</p>	
<p>Board Member Assignment Reports (In <i>Mat Jackson</i></p>	<p>Mat asked the group to share any updates on their assignments. Anthony said he was unable to attend last year's Utah Association of Local Health Departments annual symposium, and he does not know of a date yet for next year's event. No other reports were shared.</p>	
<p>Health Officer's Report Upcoming Events (Information Items) <i>Grant Sunada</i></p>	<p>Grant shared some recent highlights from staff and events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Yiran Qin presented data for Tooele County to the Health Services Advisory Committee on substance use and suicide attempts. • Met and toured with the Sacred Circle leadership which included representation from the Goshute Indian Reservation. They are in the beginning stages of opening a clinic in Wendover. The next meeting will be held here at TCHD on September 3rd. The clinic will serve low-income and Medicaid clients, not just those who reside on the reservation. We are continuing to collaborate and build a relationship with this group. • Grant and Jamie attended the National Association of City and County Officials annual conference. They both had great feedback of the conference, being able to network and bring back things they learned to apply here. • Recently met with the Tooele Chamber of Commerce to explore and build on the link between economic health and public health as Jeff Coombs previous Health Director was able to do during COVID. • Presented the Annual Report at the Tooele City Council Meeting and introduced himself as the Health Director. • June All-Staff Meeting focused on connecting with those different and similar to us. The Dignity Index was shared and the group discussed how they could use it in their interactions. August All-Staff Meeting theme was Growth Mindset vs. a fixed mindset and the benefit of being a lifelong learner. • Tooele County wants employees to become trained on the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People. Grant and Jamie will do the training first. Grant noted that a 360 assessment will be sent via email, he asked the group to watch for it and to please complete it. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As of today there are zero measles cases in Tooele County; there are 11 cases statewide. Updates for Utah can be found here 2025 measles response Utah Epidemiology and nationwide cases can be found here Measles Cases and Outbreaks Measles (Rubeola) CDC. Staff have been working on Measles “Message Map” to help address inquiries from the public with a unified message. Upcoming events include school and community Flu Vaccine Drives, and Emergency Preparedness is coordinating an exercise with Mountain West Medical Center. NALBOH Conference in Savannah, GA October 6-8, 2025 <p>Mike suggested coordinating with the EMT staff at Tooele Tech. Grant welcomed the suggestion and also mentioned our Medical Reserve Corp resources.</p>	
<p>Environmental Health Update Vote to Adopt Proposed Changes to Body Art Regulation #10</p> <p>Vote to Discontinue Methamphetamine Testing Services by Tooele County Health Dept.</p> <p>Propose Changes to Wastewater Disposal Regulation #12</p> <p>(Action Items) <i>Taylor Palmer</i></p>	<p>Taylor reported that a thirty-day public comment period and public hearing were held to accept comments on the proposed changes to Regulation #10 Body Art Facilities; no comments were provided. He explained for those not present at the previous meetings that changes were made to our regulation to be more in line with the state rule R392-701 Body Art Sanitation. He provided a list of highlighted changes listed below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remove duplicates from our current regulation to avoid repetition of requirements in the state rule and avoid being more strict or broader than their rule. Revise applicable remaining definitions to align with state rule definitions. Keep the requirement for body artists to complete their hepatitis B vaccination series and add the option for a declination form. Keep the requirement for submission of a scale drawing floor plan for new body art facilities. Add a section clarifying that any potential conflicting portion of this regulation will be superseded to comply with state laws. <p>Taylor noted that a recent legislative change prohibits local rule from being more strict than the state rule. He also confirmed with our County Attorney that if an item is not mentioned in the state rule we can have it in our local rule.</p> <p>At a previous meeting, Taylor proposed to increase the fees for testing or to discontinue providing testing for methamphetamine as no other health department in the state does</p>	<p>Mike made a motion to approve the proposed changes to Body Art Facilities Regulation #10, Christian seconded the motion, all voted in favor.</p> <p>Nando motioned to approve discontinuation of Methamphetamine (meth) Testing Services by TCHD. Mike seconded the motion, and all voted in favor.</p> <p>Nando made a motion to accept the proposed changes to Health Regulation # 12 Wastewater Disposal with the changes discussed, Christian seconded the motion, all voted in favor.</p>

testing and staff are not certified to test. If the proposal to discontinue testing is approved, staff would still oversee the permitting process for a home that needs to be decontaminated. Jolene asked about providing the public with a list of options for testing. Taylor provided a list and confirmed it has been posted on our website and homeowners can perform the test themselves. Taylor noted the state rule does allow for testing to be done by someone who is not certified but the results could be challenged.

Taylor presented a proposal of changes to Health Regulation#12 Wastewater Disposal. He shared a list of highlights of the proposed changes. The proposed changes are intended to simplify the regulation and to mostly go off of the state rule. The proposed changes will also help address situations such as a scenario that has been raised by property owner Brandon Nay, whose lot in Tooele City is less than the five-acre threshold stipulated for standard septic systems. Unable to obtain a connection to the Tooele City sewer system, he is mandated by current regulations to install an alternative wastewater treatment system. This mandate applies even though his property is serviced by Tooele City water and is not situated in a high-density area for septic tanks. Taylor explained that the regulation was changed to a 5-acre minimum lot for conventional septic systems after the groundwater study was done in 2016 which showed increased nitrate levels. The study did mention that we could allow for smaller lot sizes if they are served by a public water system. Nando asked to clarify that the regulation would still require connecting to a sewer system if within 300 feet. Taylor confirmed that the requirement to connect to a public sewer system, if determined feasible, and within 300 feet would still be required. Jolene noted that in Grantsville once a septic system fails, if they are within the 300 feet they have to connect. Mat asked how this would impact Erda City's growth and the nitrate situation. Taylor explained that all the alternative systems that have been installed are required to treat for nitrates. Mat also asked how this would impact Erda City if a big box store or strip mall wanted to open, Taylor explained that there are large systems for businesses, but those permits are issued by the state. Grant suggested some changes to section 3.4 to include a comma after shared well and to break down the requirements by lettering or bulleting them individually. Jolene asked how someone would go about getting an exception, Taylor responded it would have to come from TCHD. Jolene asked to add "the health department" to section 3.4. Taylor said this situation was reviewed by the County Attorney, and he advised changing the regulation vs. issuing a variance. Taylor asked if a public comment period would need to be held. Mat replied no, since it is just a change of how it's written in the regulation, not a change to the regulation.

<p>Financial Update Financial Report</p> <p>(Action Item)</p> <p>Tracy Beckett</p>	<p>Tracy noted that the projected budget for fiscal year 2026 is due to the County Council on September 5th (fiscal year runs from January to December). Tracy will present the projected budget to this board at the September meeting.</p> <p>Tracy presented Financial Report Six Months Ended June 30, 2025.</p> <p>Revenue-</p> <p>At mid-year, total operating revenue was approximately \$2 million, or about 40% of the annual budget. This is slightly below the 50% benchmark, but not unexpected. Some key revenue resources- such as grant reimbursements and service fees- tend to pick up in the second half of the year due to timing and seasonal activity.</p> <p>Other revenue, including interest, rental income, and county contributions, totaled around \$366,000. While some items are tracking well, others like the Health Tax Levy and use of the fund balance will occur later in the year, as planned.</p> <p>Expenses-</p> <p>Operating expenses through June were about \$3.2 million, or roughly 39% of the annual budget. Most departments are managing their budgets carefully and staying under or near their targets for this point in the year. This conservative spending helps us maintain stability while we wait for additional funding to come in.</p> <p>Net-</p> <p>As of June 30, the department is showing a net operating shortfall of approximately \$784,000. This is typical for the mid-year point and is expected to balance out as more revenue is received later in the year. If needed, we have a portion of the fund balance set aside to help cover any gaps and ensure services continue without disruption.</p> <p>Tracy will have July's numbers completed by the end of the week.</p>	<p>Jolene motioned to accept the Financial Report Six Months Ended June 30, 2025 as presented Mike seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion passed.</p>
<p>Staffing Update</p> <p>(Information Item)</p>	<p>Jamie reported that no new employees have been hired since the last meeting, in part due to the uncertainty of future program funding. We are expecting anywhere from 12-15% cuts for Prevention Services funding, so we will not fill the position recently vacated by Layne Koyle. Prevention Services staff are doing a great job covering the duties held by Layne.</p>	

Jamie Zwerin	Jamie Anderson, Health Promotion Coordinator and Public Information Officer resigned in May; internal interviews will be held on Friday to fill this position. A part-time Transportation Driver position is open.	
Board Member Comments and/or Concerns	Nando asked Grant to present at the council meeting. Jolene attended the Back to School event presented by the Grantsville Youth Council and Communities That Care. She noted they will miss Layne and commended the work he did with the Communities That Care coalition. About 300 attended and several groups were there to provide information and resources. Jolene wondered if there are resources or handouts to address helping keep kids safe. She also talked about getting an app to use for healthy living, acts of service, etc. Jamie will reach out to our Health Promotion team and Prevention team. Grant shared that Sara Obray and Aging Services staff were recognized nationally for their work with The Next Chapter, this program helps caregivers navigate life after the loss of a spouse.	
Meeting Adjourn	Mat entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40pm.	Nando motioned to adjourn, and Christian seconded the motion; all were in favor.

Attachments: TCHD Financial Report Six Months Ended June 30, 2025, TCHD Actual vs. Budget Six Months Ended June 30, 2025 (50% of the Year), Proposed Removal of Methamphetamine (meth) Testing Services, Draft Mintes May 1, 2025, Health Regulation #10 Body Art Facilities, Director's Report May-July 2025, Proposed Changes to Health Regulation #12 Wastewater Disposal,