

TOOELE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

September 27, 2022

151 N. Main Street Tooele, Utah

PRESENT:

Board: Tom Tripp, Anthony Howes, Linda McBeth, Neil Critchlow, Nando Meli, Michael Wells. Pam Bennett (phone), Devan Clevenger (phone)

Absent: Mathew Jackson

Staff: Jeff Coombs, Jamie Zwerin, Bryan Slade, Brad Gillies, Tracy Frailey, Ericka Jordt, Mamadou Tounkara

Public: Zac Kearney

| TOPIC | DISCUSSION/FINDINGS | RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS |
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| Welcome- <i>Chair</i> | Tom called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone. Roll call was taken. Board members and staff introduced themselves. | |
| Approve July 26, 2022, Meeting Minutes (Action Item) <i>Chair</i> | Tom entertained a motion to approve the July 26, 2022, meeting minutes. | Neil Critchlow made a motion to approve the July 26, 2022 meeting minutes, Anthony Howes seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion approved. |
| Board Member Assignment Reports (Information Item) <i>Chair</i> | Linda announced the Symposium will be held at the Homestead on April 26 th & 27 th . She suggested creating partnerships with community organizations. Linda commended the Health Dept. staff for holding the Budget Workgroup meeting last week, it was a great opportunity to ask questions about the proposed budget for 2023. Linda reported on a presentation she attended at the NALBOH conference on having a Strategic Plan at the local health department level by Dr. Eric Zgodzinski. Jeff explained that our strategic plan comes from data collected from our Community Health Assessment and Community Health Improvement Plan that includes asking what our priorities should be for the next five years. The community picks these priorities and then we include them in the Strategic Plan. The top community goals | |

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| | <p>drive funding and activities. Linda also stated that she learned at the conference to not present too much reading material because it is hard for the audience to read the material and listen to the presenter at the same time.</p> <p>Tom gave an update of the Opioid lawsuit. The settlement payout is being delayed due to the methods and procedures on how the money is going to be paid out. It has to be demonstrated how outside council will be paid and how much will be paid to the council. Our attorney has not received an email yet about the process and no one will get paid until every county gets their process set up. The state will receive 267 million dollars, of which they will keep half and the other half will go to the counties. A formula will be used to distribute the money to the counties. Tooele County will receive 2.223% of ½ of the 267 million dollars over an 18-year period. This money can be carried over from year to year for large projects.</p> <p>Anthony reported that his assignment is to attend public hearings for regulation changes. He attended the hearing for Regulation #12 Wastewater Disposal, he reported that no one from the public attended the hearing.</p> | |
| <p>Health Officer's Report</p> <p>COVID-19 Update (Information Item)</p> <p>Staffing Update (Information Item)</p> <p><i>Jeff Coombs</i></p> | <p>Jeff reported that COVID-19 case numbers and hospitalizations continue on a downward trend. Cases had plateaued with about 5 per day in Tooele. Jeff added that home test kit results are not included in reported numbers so reported numbers are not completely accurate. More hospitalization data is being tracked and it is showing that ICU usage is way down for Covid cases. We will continue to monitor the data in the state and across the country.</p> <p>Jeff shared a handout that showed how local health departments are funded per state code. He added that the funding has been the same since 1991. Jeff explained the funding formula and reported that the legislature has appropriated an additional 4 million dollars in funding. Another handout showed the breakdown of how much each county contributed per capita. The national average is 10-11\$ per person and the goal is to have each county get caught up to this average, Tooele is at \$13.07 per capita. This year we collected more funds from the Mil Levy because house values increased.</p> | |

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| | <p>Jeff presented Tooele County Residents Mixed-mode Survey Report. A new provider, Lighthouse Research & Development was used this year to conduct the survey through internet, in-person and phone calls. The survey questions were designed to capture resident perceptions on health issue in our community including community issues, health issues and situations and behaviors. 608 countywide surveys were collected with an oversampling of 39 Wendover respondents. Jeff commended Lucia Benitez and staff for their work in Wendover to gather participants to complete the survey in person. Jeff showed the results of the survey and summarized that the results showed two communities with two different stories. Ericka will send the report out to the group.</p> <p>Jamie gave a staffing update. Since Jamie accepted the Deputy Director position that left the Aging Services Director position open, of which Amy Bate has been selected to fill and Jamie Slade was selected to fill Amy’s vacant position of Health Promotion Coordinator. A new grant we received created a new position in Prevention Services, Stacy Smart will start as the Suicide Prevention Specialist on Oct. 10th. Amy Larsen was hired as an Activity Specialist at the Grantsville Senior Center, Linda Gregory as a Meals on Wheels Driver, Kristy Clark as a Community Health Secretary, Lisette Spalding as a Covid Support Worker, James Brower and Perry Beauchaine as Micro Transit Drivers, Mamadou Tounkara as the Population Health Director.</p> | |
| <p>Proposed Budget (Action Item)</p> <p>Financial Report (Information Item)</p> | <p>Brad sent the complete report to the board prior to the meeting. Tonight, he presented a summary of the 2023 Proposed Budget. The first draft of the 2023 Health Department budget was presented to the County Council on August 30th. The report provided tonight is the same report with a few corrections and modifications, primarily related to wages and benefits. He thanked Linda for attending the Budget Workgroup Meeting last week. Brad reviewed revenue sources including some increases and a decrease of about \$495,000 less in Covid contract funding than what was budgeted in 2022. Many Covid contracts extend out until 2024. With the Covid response winding down we are better able to project funding needed. We will need to draw about \$874,000 from our accumulated fund balance to cover expenses. Large capital expenditures include upgrading the audio/visual equipment for the entire building, replacing the emergency generator, replacing an older vehicle with a small truck, kitchen and auditorium remodel and purchasing modular furniture to accommodate different sized meetings. Some major items are covered by grants and some by the general</p> | <p>Nando motioned to accept to 2023 Proposed Budget, Mike seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion passed.</p> |

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| <p><i>Brad Gillies</i></p> | <p>fund. There was also some roll over money that wasn't spent last year in the Emergency Preparedness funds.</p> <p>He added that expenses are titled by category, but revenue is not due to how the Auditor's office prepares the report.</p> <p>Brad explained that Covid has been renamed to Population Health. Inflation has been a factor of increased expenses. Human Resources has proposed a cost-of-living increase of 6.7% for all county employees, they also suggested a 12.5% increase in insurance and benefits. Tom confirmed that the County Council approves these proposed increases. Tom asked about losing \$500,000 in Covid money and making up for it from the fund balance, Jeff explained that because of Covid some funds from other contracts and grants were not used and went in to reserve funds, this added to our fund balance which we can now use over the next couple of years. Brad added that some of the Covid contracts are available to use until mid-2024. Brad also explained that Covid funds were used to hire critical staff.</p> <p>Brad added that we are looking at taking money from capital improvement funds to install fencing and automatic gates in our back parking area to protect our work vehicles from theft and vandalism. Brad has received one bid so far. He asked the board for their approval to pursue this project. Tom said once he receives more bids to bring it back to the board for approval.</p> <p>Brad summarized the following for the Financial Report for the Eight Months Ended August 31, 2022 (67% of year)</p> <p>REVENUE- Operating revenue through Aug. 31, 2022 was about \$2,800,000 or about 56% of the annual budget. Payments for state contracts and grants were about \$2,010,000 or about 55% of budget. Contract payments from the State for July and August had not been received as of the end of the month. Fees for services were about \$790,000 or about 58% of budget. The receipt of fees for some services is seasonal, so we should be at or above budget by year-end.</p> <p>EXPENSES- Operating expenses were about \$3,800,000 or about 56% of the annual budget. All departments were under budget. It has not been necessary to spend all budgeted COVID related expenses, so expenses in this line are substantially lower than budget.</p> | <p>Neil motioned to accept the Financial Report as presented, Nando seconded the motion, all voted in favor, motion passed.</p> |
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| | <p>However, these budgeted expenses are grant funded so our contract revenue will also be less than budgeted.</p> <p>NET OPERATING- Net operating shortfall for the eight months was about \$980,000 or about 56% of what was budgeted for the year. This shortfall is covered by other budgeted sources including the County contribution of about \$455,000 for the year and about \$893,000 for the health tax levy. The 2022 budget also includes about \$368,000 to be used from the Department’s accumulated fund balance. However, it is anticipated that if funding is needed from the fund balance it will be much less.</p> | |
| <p>Environmental Health Update Proposed Changes to Onsite Wastewater Rule (Action Item) Test Effluent on Alternative Wastewater Systems (Information Item) <i>Bryan Slade</i></p> | <p>Bryan reported that a 30-day Public Comment Period and Public Hearing were held per the direction of the board to give the public the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to Health Regulation #12 Wastewater Disposal. No comments either written or verbal were received from the public regarding the change. The proposed change is to Section 3.2 – For new subdivisions in the unincorporated areas of the Tooele Valley proposing to use conventional septic systems for wastewater disposal, all lots within the proposed subdivision must be a minimum of 5 acres in size. (The Tooele Valley includes all land between the Oquirrh Mountains and the Stansbury Mountains east to west, and between the Great Salt Lake and South Mountain north to south.) Linda asked if this change applies to businesses, Jeff explained depending on the size of the business; if their water output is less than 5,000 gallons per day yes but if it is more than that they fall under the state’s rule through the Division of Water Quality. Neil stated he still feels like it is an overreach.</p> <p>For new subdivisions in the unincorporated areas of the Tooele Valley (now defined in the proposed change) proposing to use conventional septic systems for wastewater disposal, all lots within the proposed subdivision must be a minimum of 5 acres in size, lots less than 5 acres must use an Alternative Onsite Wastewater System as defined in section 9.0.</p> <p>Bryan reported that there are currently 27 alternative septic systems in use in Tooele County. Bryan has contacted the engineer who installed these systems to find out how they are performing. Since these systems are fairly new to our county there is not a lot of data yet. Some systems have been installed in newly built homes but have not been lived in yet. Bryan is going to learn how to do the sampling and will hopefully have data for the next meeting. This information will tell us if the system is performing up to the standard they</p> | <p>Nando made a motion to accept the proposed changes to Regulation #12 Wastewater Disposal, Mike seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.</p> |

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| | <p>claim. Jeff added that the target is to reduce nitrates in the groundwater. We will find out how much of a reduction in nitrates these systems produce. Once the information is collected and reviewed, we can make a decision based upon science driven data to determine if we can reduce the lot size to less than 5 acres or continue with 5-acre minimum lot size as the groundwater study done by Hansen, Allen and Luce recommended. Bryan shared data with the group from a new well that was recently drilled down to 400 feet on Cochrane Lane in Erda with 2.4 ppm of nitrates, which is less than the Drinking Water Standard of 10ppm, but we don't want to get anywhere near the 10ppm level. Bryan explained that nitrates are persistent, they can be diluted by the soil but not removed and it is very costly to treat.</p> | |
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| <p>Emergency Services Update After Action Report (Information Item) <i>Tracy Frailey</i></p> | <p>Tracy introduced Zac Kearney with Advanced Emergency Management. Zac was contracted to conduct an After-Action review and create a report detailing the good and the bad of our COVID response. The report focused on four areas: examination, key findings, opportunity for improvement and what's next. Staff and community partners were given the opportunity to share their views of the response. Zac commended Jeff for his fantastic leadership and participation in discussions across the state. Tracy added that this report will be included in our improvement plan and will help in continuous improvement. Zac has contracted his services for San Juan and Utah County as well as Tooele County.</p> | |
| <p>Population Health Update Monkeypox, Opioid & Suicide Dashboards (Information Item) <i>Mamadou Tounkara</i></p> | <p>Mamadou Tounkara introduced himself as the Population Health Director. He stated his role is to make sure we have reliable and accurate data as data shows evidence. Mamadou shared information from the state Influenza dashboard that is used to monitor flu cases in Utah. He also shared the Suicide Attempt dashboard; data is collected through emergency room data but only reflects about 60% of what is happening. Opioid overdose data was also discussed, this information helps determine where to focus intervention efforts. Information comes from 911 Dispatch calls and state data. Mamadou receives the information from these dashboards weekly. Jeff confirmed that only select staff have access to this data and any identifiable data is not shared.</p> <p>Mamadou gave a current case count of Monkeypox cases: 152 statewide, 2 cases in Tooele County, 7 hospitalizations statewide. There is currently one female case who was reportedly</p> | |

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| | infected outside of the United States. | |
| Board Member Comments and/or Concerns | No comments were given. | |
| 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 8:15 pm all were in favor, meeting adjourned. |

Attachments: Actual vs. Budget Eight Months Ended Aug. 31, 2022, Proposed 2023 Budget Summary, Proposed Changes to Regulation #12 Wastewater Disposal, All About COVID Response, General Legislative Local Health Department Funding, TC Mixed-mode Survey Report