

Summit County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Summit County Health Dept. Conference Room

650 Round Valley Drive

Park City, Utah 84060

Meeting conducted via Zoom

Monday, October 4, 2021 - DRAFT

| Topic | Discussion | Action or Summary |
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| Attendance | <p>Board Members Present: Chris Cherniak – Chair, Ilyssa Golding, Chris Ure, Doug Evans, Roger Armstrong, Marc Watterson, Dorothy Adams - <i>Absent</i></p> <p>Staff Present: Dr. Phil Bondurant - Director, Derek Moss, Louise Saw, Nate Brooks, Shelley Worley, Dave Thomas, Brian Craven, Jennifer Morrill, Emily Quinton, Katy Staley</p> | |
| | **WORK SESSION** | |
| COVID-19 Update | <p>The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bondurant shared that the biggest news is that Summit County has transitioned back into the moderate transmission index due to case decline. The State is in incidence decline and the Governor feels the State is on the backside of the Delta variant surge. Hospitalizations are declining. Summit County had their eighteenth death this week. Vaccination numbers are still going up. The County is administering the Johnson & Johnson vaccine again. • Louise Saw shared there is usually a two-week backlog for identifying the strain. Breakthrough numbers will be added to the dashboard. In the last 28 days there were 91 cases in vaccinated people and 265 cases in non-vaccinated people. • Dr. Bondurant shared there are not any schools in Summit County approaching the two percent threshold for the mask order to take effect. Ecker Hills has the highest number of cases of four in the last seven days. The majority of exposures are happening outside of schools. The Health Department is in contact with the schools daily for updates. The State dashboard is having a delay in updates for school case numbers. The Health Department is relying on the numbers directly from the schools and there are links on the Health Department website to the School Districts to check for COVID case counts. • Board Member Golding asked what the relationship is between the County guidelines and CDC guidelines. The CDC recommends wearing masks in schools, but the County is not following that recommendation. Dr. Bondurant answered that the State has delegated COVID protocol to local control and authority. Data have to support implementation of any recommendations. When a Public Health Order is created it has to be built to be defensible in court. Using thresholds to protect the community is not a new idea. There are benefits afforded by the high vaccination rates in Summit County that are leveraged with the case rates. The Legislature has limited the ability for the Health Department to take certain actions. Other Health Departments have implemented mask orders in Grand County and Salt Lake City. There are others who have thresholds similar to Summit County. • Dr. Bondurant shared that a vote on vaccine boosters is expected mid-October. On October 26th there will be a meeting to discuss the Pfizer vaccine being approved for 5 to 11-year-olds, with a vote expected on October 28th. Vaccines should be available to administer the following week. The estimated 3,000 5- to 11-year-olds that will get the vaccination should be able to get those vaccinations completed within thirty days of the vaccine approval. • Chair Cherniak stated that Sundance announced they will require all attendees to provide proof of vaccination. What role will the Health Department have with that requirement? Dr. Bondurant answered that he | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dr. Bondurant shared that Summit County has transitioned back into the moderate transmission index.</i> • <i>Hospitalizations are declining and vaccinations are still going up.</i> • <i>There are not any schools in Summit County that are nearing the two percent threshold for a mask order.</i> • <i>Vaccine boosters are expected to be voted on mid-month.</i> • <i>Vaccines for 5- to 11-year-olds are expected to be approved at the end of October.</i> • <i>Sundance has announced that proof of vaccination will be required at their events. The Health Department is involved in health and safety planning.</i> |

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| | <p>attends the Sundance health and safety meetings. The Health Department is intimately involved with planning, as well as Park City municipal. There will be COVID risk in everything for years, but the vaccine will help us get back to normal. Sundance has asked that their plans not be shared at this time. Some decisions will be made as the event gets closer. All plans will be at Sundance's cost. Health Department involvement will be the same as in previous years and no additional fees are necessary at this time. There is money available for COVID-related needs.</p> | |
| <p>Discussion of SB 195 & Local Health Department Authorities</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dave Thomas shared that the Health Department has the power with the consent of the County Executive to have orders of constraint like a mask mandate. Those orders must be strictly focused to achieve goals. The current order is in place in elementary schools because those children cannot currently get vaccinated. The middle schools are included because there is a gap in who can get vaccinated. Older children have significantly lower vaccination rates than adults. Herd immunity is also a factor that is considered. It becomes more difficult to mandate masks in high schools due to higher vaccination rates and no gaps in vaccination allowance. The Health Department has to follow the science to keep children safe in schools, keep schools open, and not reach the test-to-stay threshold. The current order remains in effect until the end of the year. A Local Health Emergency can be initiated by Dr. Bondurant and is separate from the Order of Constraint. An Order of Constraint can only be initiated during a Local Health Emergency. The County Council can terminate an Order of Constraint or curtail a Public Health Emergency but cannot put either into effect. Once canceled, the Public Health Official (Dr. Bondurant) cannot reinstitute the same order during the same emergency. It is important to have the support of the local Legislative body. The Utah Legislature can terminate any Local Health Emergency, but that should not happen in this case as long as the Public Health Official is responsible, and the Order follows the data. Board Member Watterson stated that the Legislature's ability to terminate a Local Health Order can only happen after thirty days. Dave Thomas stated that the Public Health Emergency is extended to the end of the year but can extend beyond that time. An extension will be discussed during a December County Council meeting. | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Dave Thomas shared how Orders of Constraint and Local Health Emergencies are initiated and terminated.</i> • <i>Summit County has a Local Health Emergency and Order of Constraint in place until the end of the year. County Council will discuss if an additional extension is needed at a December County Council meeting.</i> |
| <p>Park City Hospital Covid ICU and Hospitalization Update</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lori Weston shared that surgeries were delayed, but the hospital has started working back up with surgeries. • Park City Hospital is treating about four to six people a day for COVID. Level loading is being done throughout the state. The hospital has support of security and the local police for aggressive patients. There are problems with aggressive or disruptive patients two to three times per week. Signs will be put up stating there is no tolerance for aggressive or disruptive behavior. Education is needed to let people know to just be respectful to protect self and others. • Park City Hospital has lost a lot of nurses, and two more will be leaving soon. The nurses do not feel safe. The hospital is bringing on ICU travelers to help. There are many nurses choosing not to work as nurses anymore. | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Lori Weston shared a COVID-19 update for Park City Hospital.</i> • <i>Surgeries have started back up after they were delayed for a time.</i> • <i>The hospital is working with security and local law enforcement to handle aggressive patients. Education is needed to let people know to be respectful.</i> • <i>The hospital has lost a lot of nurses but is bringing on ICU travelers.</i> |
| <p>Health Department Budget Update</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bondurant stated that the Health Department has received the Budget Committee's recommendation. Tom Fisher will meet with the County Council to review the budget and make decisions. The Health Department budget will be presented on October 13th. • Shelley Worley shared the proposed budget compared to the budget for 2021. There is an 11.89% increase. There were cuts in 2021 due to COVID | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The budget committee recommendations were received. The budget will be presented to the County Council on</i> |

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| | <p>and the increase in 2022 is to get the budget back to pre-COVID. Six new positions are being requested, with one being fully by grant funding. Other positions were previously frozen. The increase in Sustainability is for one employee and the charging station warranty update. An additional five percent in County contributions is being requested.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no changes in fees for services. Those are done every three years. • Dr. Bondurant shared that a certain percentage of property taxes is allocated to Public Health. The amount can fluctuate based on priorities and what is needed. Dave Thomas shared that the health levy is in the General Fund and is allocated to the Health Department from the General Fund. These funds are not for the Health Department but specifically for Public Health. | <p><i>October 13th.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The proposed budget was shared and compared to the 2021 budget.</i> |
| <p>Sustainability Department Update</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emily Quinton shared the greenhouse inventories data that was used to measure progress towards County sustainability and climate goals. There has been an increase in the regularity of climate and health in the news. Climate change is said to be the biggest threat to public health. The County sustainability and climate goals resolution 2019-29 calls for greenhouse emissions reduction, renewable energy transition and availability by 2030, transportation goals for hybrid, electric, and alternative fuels, and alternate transportation. • There has been an emphasis on energy efficiency. Progress is measured through GHG (Greenhouse Gas Inventories) that are done at least every five years. The most recent GHG was done in 2019. • The 2020 government operations inventory results were shared. Solid waste is a significant contributor because the County owns their own landfills. The County is working to use lower carbon emitting sources. • Chair Cherniak shared that Park City is enacting a zero-waste campaign, which should have an impact on the County's solid waste. Board Member Armstrong stated that some buildings and facilities have been added to the County properties, which contributes to an increase in waste. It is important to observe the reasons for increases and decreases. Some changes are related to COVID. Emily Quinton stated that ways to mitigate the return to work post-COVID are being considered. • Board Member Evans asked where public utilities are being tracked. Water and wastewater are huge energy consumers. Emily Quinton answered that water and wastewater are captured within the community-wide inventory. • There is usually more focus on the environment's impact on public health, but climate change has had a great impact on individual health. Sustainability would like to look at climate risks and vulnerabilities to protect communities. Chair Cherniak stated there is a connection of direct impacts of wildfires on health. | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Emily Quinton shared a presentation about the Sustainability program.</i> • <i>The County has a resolution that states the County's sustainability and climate goals.</i> |
| | <p>**CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL**</p> | |
| <p>Approval of Meeting Minutes</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Board Member Ure made a motion to approve the minutes for the Board of Health meeting for September 13, 2021, as written. Board Member Armstrong seconded the motion. (Motion passed 6-0).</i> | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Minutes for the September 13, 2021 Board of Health meeting were approved.</i> |
| <p>Health Department Director's Comments</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Bondurant stated that the Health Department is lucky to have Emily Quinton and the Sustainability Department as part of the Health Department • The Health Department Staff are worn out, tired, and doing their best, but they are still committed to the fight against COVID. Staff needs to be recognized for all of their work behind the scenes. The Health Department | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Health Department is lucky to have the Sustainability Department.</i> • <i>Staff was thanked for all of their hard work.</i> |

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| | Staff are incredible! Things will get better and return to normal. We all just need to remain diligent. | |
| Board Member Comments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board Member Evans thanked the Health Department Staff and shared that he admires that the Health Department took on Sustainability. It would be beneficial to look into adding water and wastewater figures and Greenhouse Inventories to Sustainability. • Board Member Armstrong stated on behalf of the County Council that the County Council will continue to support the Health Department and a data-driven approach to COVID. There is a purpose behind every action that every person in Public Health is taking. | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Board Member Evans suggested that water and wastewater be added to Sustainability.</i> • <i>Board Member Armstrong shared the support of the County Council for actions being taken and their approach to COVID.</i> |
| PUBLIC COMMENT | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No public comment was made, and the public comment portion of the meeting was closed. | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>No public comment was made.</i> |
| Board Chairperson Comments | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Cherniak shared that the Board will be hearing about the SHARPS survey results at the next meeting from Aaron Newman and Pamella Bello. • Katie Wilson is the new Director of Health Promotion and will share a presentation in December. • There is a class held at Park City High School about the mechanics of happiness. Chair Cherniak would like to have the teacher make a presentation to the Board. | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Chair Cherniak thanked Dr. Province for sharing his experiences.</i> |
| Adjourn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meeting adjourned at 5:59 p.m. • <i>Board Members Golding and Watterson made a motion to adjourn. Motion passed 6-0.</i> | <p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 1, 2021 at 4pm.</i> |