

WCHD BOH Meeting

Thursday, June 27, 2024 3:05 pm

Present:	Dr. Neal Burton	Chair
	Dr. Sara Simonsen	Vice Chair
	Coleen Nielson	Board Member
	Jay Eckersley	Board Member
	Michele Ludlow	Board Member
	Britt Manning	Board Member
Staff:	Jonelle Fitzgerald	Health Officer
	Brett Woodard	Business Manager
	Tracy Richardson	Environmental Health Director
Excused:	Kendall Crittenden	Board Member

Opening Remarks/Welcome: Dr. Neal Burton
Invocation: Michele Ludlow
Pledge of Allegiance: Coleen Nielson

<i>Minutes</i>	Presentation and approval of the minutes from May 23, 2024 was postponed of to the July 25, 2024 Board Health meeting.
<i>Follow Up</i>	No follow-up. No representatives from the public were in attendance.
<i>Business Item 2</i>	Agenda Items 1) Program Reports a) Environmental Health (Tracy) (1) (Jonelle) Tracy has just accepted the position of Environmental Health Director, vacated by Dwight Hill. He has been with the Health Department for 28 years in a variety of positions including IT, environmental health scientist and business manager. We welcome him to his new role. (2) (Tracy) Immediate goals: (a) Fill staffing vacancies. Chris and Lewis are currently filling in. (b) Automate the permitting process (3) Groundwater quality studies update: (a) In line with the goals from the 2020 groundwater study, we performed a groundwater survey in fall 2023. (b) We have received the draft report of the results: (i) Overall trend: Water quality remains high.

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	(ii) Nitrates were down- perhaps because of a wetter year and/or more septic systems converting to central sewer treatment systems, but don't really know. (iii)(Brit) Does this reduce the probability of algae blooms in Deer Creek? (Tracy) No, Algae blooms are typically caused by phosphates in the water. (iv)We found DEET and Caffeine in the mid-level water samples from the new Charleston well. These are clearly human contaminants. 1. (Jay) Could the DEET be from mosquito abatement? 2. (Tracy) No. Wasatch does not have mosquito abatement. 3. We will continue to monitor these results. (v) PFA's were also found in the samples. The EPA has just issued guidelines on PFA's, so this will also be carefully monitored. (vi)(Jonelle) Are there any impacts to drinking water quality? (Tracy) Most of the drinking water wells are much deeper than our testing. There are no imminent risks to drinking water quality. (c) We have a goal to look at groundwater flow paths and had determined that the appropriate paths to focus on were: (i) Timber Lakes to Deer Creek and (ii) North Fields to Deer Creek. (iii)Due to high levels of development in the north part of the valley, we have determined to split the North Fields path into two studies. (iv)We will be looking at shallow water aquifers along these paths and sampling every 6 months to get flow data. (d) Our hope is to drill a second test well like the one in Charleston only on the east side below Timber Lakes. We are evaluating two sites currently. (4) (Britt) Were there any lasting effects of the truck roll-over into Deer Creek? (Tracy) No. The fuel tanks didn't rupture, and the small amount of released engine oil was captured. (5) (Britt) What is the level of the aquifer? (a) (Tracy) We really don't know. Utah Geological Survey monitors that.
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	(6) (Tracy) 9 wells weren't tested last fall and several were in the Timber Lakes transect. We're negotiating with Jacobs for additional samples and for the 6 month sampling on the transects. (7) (Jay) Have we set up a sampling cycle going forward? (Tracy) Yes. Every three years. (a) (Jay) We need a committed schedule to ensure the ongoing data validity and to demonstrate that the Health Department is the source of groundwater quality data. The data needs to be made public. (b) (Tracy) Sampling and other groundwater work comes with a cost. We currently have the funds to continue it. (c) (Jay) The Board of Health needs to approve changes (e.g., reductions) in the sampling regime. (8) (Neal) How should we publish results? (a) (Jonelle) Last time we used public meetings. We're looking at that again when the results are final. (b) (Tracy) We should also consider publishing in the annual report and on a website. (9) (Tracy) We have data management training this week. (10) (Jay) Is our water still classified as "pristine"? (Tracy) Yes. (11) (Neal) Is there any update on the Soldier Hollow school wastewater? (a) (Tracy) Last week they were on the edge, but still in compliance. They're precarious, and will likely become more so when they expand the school as planned. (12) (Jay) What position are we looking for the new environmental health hire? (a) (Jonelle) Depends on applicants. (b) (Tracy) Leslie has a pools and food background. We could use those skills more fully. 2) Financial Report- (Jonelle/Brett) Discussion/Action a) May, 2024 financials were presented i) Net surplus is reduced to \$209K, about \$42K lower than last month due to an employee retirement. (1) Under County policy, remaining value of vacation and ½ of sick leave is given to retiring employees, but this is not accrued over the years.
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	(2) The retiring employee had significant amounts of unused vacation and sick leave, so the retirement cost to the Health Department was high. ii) Note that grant revenues are about where we would anticipate and that wages are somewhat higher. iii) Overall, we are still on track to have a healthy surplus at year end. 3) Director's Report (Jonelle) Discussion/Action a) Legislative update: (1) Anti-vax "expert" recently presented to the legislature. We may get a legislative reaction- left over COVID response. (2) State code provides that any change in DEQ standards, rules, funding, etc. requires input from the local health departments utilizing a "Governance" process. We may have to push to get DEQ to comply. ii) The UALHD Board of Health member training is available online. (Jay) Do we all have to take it? (Jonelle) New Board members should. (1) (Jay) We should take it as a group. (Jonelle) It takes about a half hour. b) HVSSD complaints: i) Nothing new. There is a public hearing tonight at 6:00 which will just include updates. (1) Actual sampling is delayed until DHHS/HVSSD can get PPB monitor vs. its current ppm one. (2) There have been no complaints from the public this year to date received by the health department. c) Do we want a summer staff and Board party this year? Probably best after Board meeting either in July or August. i) The July Board meeting may need to include an appeal to the Board regarding a non-compliant septic system in Woodland and there could be some food permit regulations that need to have revisions approved, so be prepared and ensure a quorum for the July meeting.
<i>Business Item 3</i>	UALBOH Report (Jay/Jonelle) – Information/Discussion 1) Summary of reviews of the recent Symposium: a) Generally positive. b) One take-away was that lay Board members can have a great influence on the legislative process.

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	c) It's good to take some time with our representatives during the current "off cycle" period. d) (Brit) I would like the update on the Great Salt Lake to be an annual update.
<i>Business Item 4</i>	Annual Report presentations (Jonelle/ Dr. Burton) –Discussion/Action 1) We've made presentations to: a) Chamber of Commerce, b) Wasatch County (with Kendall), c) Midway City (with Sara). 2) Still need presentations to: a) Daniels Town – Scheduled July 1, b) Heber City – Scheduled July 2, c) Wallsburg – Scheduled July 11, d) Medical staff at IHC – Scheduled Aug 5, e) Haven't heard back from Charleston yet. 3) Jonelle asked for Board and staff support in the presentations.
<i>Business Item 5</i>	Q 5 Second Quarter Update (Jonelle) –Discussion/Action 1) Health Department monitors community health situation: a) We give monthly updates on communicable diseases. b) The Q5 derives from the Community Health Assessment. Objectives are based on those results. 2) We look at major causes of death and address causes and address them through programs encouraging increased physical activity and better nutrition. i) Heart attack, Cancer. ii) Wasatch County has lowest diabetes rate in the state. That is not the case with pre-diabetes. There is really no trend up or down. We offer information and diabetes management and prevention classes here. iii) Hypertension. Wasatch is low again, We offer preventative training through the CVD grant. 3) We target substance abuse, mental health and suicide prevention: a) Utah's depression and suicide rates are higher than the US average. b) Drug and overdose rates have climbed from 2019 when Utah was below the national average, to the point it is now above the average. Both the US and Utah rates have spiked (note that Wasatch is not large enough to have statistically valid results). 4) WIC participation and promotion are priorities. a) We have started advertising through religious organizations.

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	b) We have to be careful to not violate the terms of use for the Church of Jesus Christ app., so we are working with individuals in the Church that oversee needs based programs. 5) The US Surgeon General's report links most major health conditions to social isolation.
<i>Business Item 6</i>	Motion by Sara to close the public meeting and move to "Closed Door" session was seconded by Michelle and unanimously approved. The meeting moved to "Closed Door" at 4:38.
<i>Business Item 7</i>	Meeting returned to public at 5:12 P.M. Health Officer Evaluation report (Dr, Burton) –Discussion/Action 1) Comments by the Board to Jonelle as Local Health Officer: a) Coleen: i) Jonelle has good relationship with the LHD employees. ii) Recognized Jonelle's "open door" and approachable attitude. iii) Jonelle shows respect, even during hard times. b) Michelle: i) Jonelle has a good understanding of herself. ii) She is able to be both friend and boss. c) Britt: i) Sees a solid organization which runs well and serves well. ii) Goals are documented and are being met. iii) She is respectful to employees, but holds them accountable. d) Jay: i) No "Cons". ii) Jonelle has added to Randall's accomplishments. iii) I like her leadership language "I aim". iv) She uses HR and the Board Chairman well. v) Jonelle's leadership outside the Health Department adds to her value and the respect that the Health Department gets. vi) We sustain the idea that you have family needs and obligations outside the Health Department. e) Sara: i) Doing a great job. Her answers to the self-evaluation were good. ii) She respects the position and has a goal to serve. f) Dr. Burton: i) Jonelle is adjusting to the changing landscape of public health. ii) Good communication. iii) Uses technology well.

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	iv) Well regarded by the Board and others. v) She's training staff on an ongoing basis. vi) She has to learn to be bold. 2) (Jonelle) Note that we put in this evaluation system based on motivational interviewing.
<i>Business Item 8</i>	Adjourn. 1) Michelle motioned that the meeting be adjourned, the motion was seconded by Sara and the meeting was adjourned.
	Next meeting 3:00 P.M. July 25, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Dr. Neal Burton, Chairperson