

WCHD BOH Meeting

Thursday, January 22, 2026, 3:00 pm

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| Present: | Kendall Crittenden
Dr. Sara Simonsen
Janet Carson
Coleen Nielsen
Britt Manning
Dr. Tod Berg | Chair
Vice Chair
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member
Board Member |
| Excused: | Dr. Neal Burton | Board Member |
| Staff: | Jonelle Fitzgerald
Brett Woodard
Dale Blackwell | Health Officer
Business Manager
Immunology Tech |
| Others: | Jon Woodard | Wasatch County Assistant Attorney |

Opening Remarks/Welcome: Kendall Crittenden
 Invocation: Dr. Tod Berg
 Pledge of Allegiance: Dr. Sara Simonsen

<i>Minutes</i>	Minutes from December 18, 2025 Board of Health meeting were presented. Coleen Nielsen motioned that the minutes be approved, Dr. Sara Simonsen seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.
<i>Follow Up</i>	No follow-up. No members of the public were in attendance.
<i>Business Item 2</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Board welcomed new members Dr. Tod Berg and Janet Carson. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Dr. Berg is a life-long resident of Wasatch County. He retired last year from his profession as a medical doctor, most recently with Intermountain Health. b) Janet Carson is well known to the health department staff as she has trained employees for years in CPR and first aid. She is retired from Wasatch County EMS and Fire and has been active on the MRC. c) There were introductions around the Board. 2) 2025 Disease Investigation Report (Dale Blackwell) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Dale was hired during the pandemic and has worked for the health department since 2020. He is a registered nurse with a long career which includes time in the military and major hospitals. b) Flu cases started earlier than usual this year. We had 25 hospitalizations in Wasatch County in 2025.

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- c) Measles has subsided locally. There have been no indicators found in wastewater samples for the last 3 weeks. Wasatch County had 9 reported measles cases in 2025 with no hospitalizations.
 - d) STI's: Reported Chlamydia cases have been higher this year.
 - e) COVID is still present in the wastewater samples but is decreasing.
 - i) (Kendall) Will COVID and flu eventually be lumped together on the disease report? (Dr. Berg) No, because they are fairly different.
 - ii) COVID is still mutating, similar to the flu virus.
 - iii) We are now only tracking hospitalizations for flu and COVID.
 - f) (Dr. Berg) Are the reported Wasatch County infectious disease incidents occurrences for Wasatch County residents, or for those that reported the disease while they were in Wasatch County (e.g., a tourist)? (Dale) Wasatch County residents. Travelers and other out of county residents are not included.
 - g) (Jonelle) Wastewater reports are interesting, but questionable. Several of the LHD's have stopped wastewater testing due to the expense and the perceived lower need for the information.
 - h) (Dale) We are still testing two times a week
- 3) Financial Report (Brett)
- a) \$420K positive variance to budget to date, up from \$406K last month.
 - b) We are waiting for the property tax numbers from the county when they have completed 2025 collections. Final numbers will likely be available for the March Board of Health meeting.
 - c) Numbers other than property taxes are final.
 - d) Note that we are 15% above projected grant revenues for the year. Much of the variance in revenues is due to WIC passthrough funds being \$290K above budget.
- 4) Director's Report (Jonelle)
- a) Legislative Update
 - i) We're still seeing legislative efforts to limit government ability to control public health matters.
 - (1) Currently, vaccine education is required as a part of getting a vaccination exemption for school children. There is a bill which proposes to eliminate the education requirement.
 - (2) Note that the "on record" vaccination exemption enables selective quarantining of non-vaccinated children in the event of a major disease outbreak.
 - ii) The Utah governor's office is asking DHHS and DEQ to reduce their budgets by 5%. This has resulted in a proposal to reduce

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	<p>DEQ minimum performance funding by 5% and health department minimum performance funding by 5-10%.</p> <p>(1) DEQ funding is already inadequate to cover the costs of required environmental duties.</p> <p>(2) DHHS Minimum performance funding is currently ~\$185K, so a 10% cut in that would be significant.</p> <p>(3) Both DEQ and DHHS are working to hold funding to LHDs level and not pass on funding cuts from their departments.</p> <p>iii) There are a couple of raw milk bills, one that would allow raw milk producers to sell the milk through 3rd party channels.</p> <p>(1) Coleen) Is raw milk regulated?</p> <p>(2) (Jonelle) Yes, but through the Dept. of Agriculture. Health departments are charged with handling disease outbreaks if there is an issue related to contaminated milk.</p> <p>b) We still need to name a representative to UALBOH. Coleen expressed some interest, but the 10:00 am meetings are a problem for anyone still working.</p> <p>i) Jonelle briefly discussed what UALBOH does.</p> <p>ii) No urgency in the appointment, it can wait for a couple of months.</p> <p>iii) (Sara) When are the meetings and conference dates? (Jonelle will email a schedule).</p> <p>iv) Jonelle passed out an invitation to the upcoming conference which will be held in the Davis County Convention Center.</p>
<p><i>Business Item 3</i></p>	<p>Minimum Performance Standards Audit (Jonelle/Kendall) – Discussion/Action</p> <p>1) Last week Jonelle and Kendall went over the Minimum Performance requirements and health department compliance.</p> <p>2) Health departments are now audited by DHHS- 3 LHD’s this year.</p> <p>3) Jonelle presented slides which were included in the BoH packet</p> <p>a) History and framework for public health</p> <p>b) Wasatch County Health Department is responsible for all of Wasatch County, including all incorporated cities.</p> <p>c) Reviewed health department minimum requirements.</p> <p>d) WCHD organization chart was shared.</p> <p>4) Sara motioned that the minimum performance report be approved. Tod seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously.</p>
<p><i>Business Item 4</i></p>	<p>2025 4th Quarter Q5 Report</p> <p>1) The Q5 is a revolving plan- it’s revised quarterly</p>

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- 2) Jonelle reviewed progress in meeting Q5 goals and any proposed changes. There is a copy in the Board packet.
 - a) The Community Health Assessment is in process and should be ready for Board review at our next meeting.
 - b) Professional Development:
 - i) All directors have been through the IHC leadership course, plus several other employees who we thought would benefit from attending.
 - ii) We also include training as a part of our monthly staff meeting.
 - c) Board of Health Development is included as a part of the monthly meeting in addition to the training provided at the UALBOH conference.
 - d) Water: Tracy is currently attending the CLEHA meeting. The health Department is enforcing water quality rules.
 - e) Shared Services: We refer patients to Peoples Health Clinic that is in Summit County.
 - f) Department Image: Lana has been working hard to improve our website and increase our internet presence
 - g) Electronic Health Records: We use eClinical for health records, which interfaces with the state's USIIS database.
 - i) Interface with IHC records is diminished due to the new IHC records system
 - ii) We are still unable to automatically update to Epitrax
 - h) Individual/ Family Health
 - i) Our family outreach grant was extended, so services are funded for another year to at-risk families of children up to 8 years old. This is in addition to Targeted Case Management which has a similar focus, but a much smaller reach. Note that these services are not mandated as minimum performance requirements.
 - ii) Maternal mental health is a growing focus in public health.
 - iii) The SHARPS report is now available from the state for the previous school year. We intend to review the results with the Board at our next meeting.
 - iv) Mobile phones: There is a new bill before the state legislature to restrict mobile phones in schools for children under 16 years old.
 - i) COVID Reports: These are now rolled into standard emergency reporting.
 - j) MRC: Janet Carson is a member of the MRC.
 - k) There will be more next month on the Community Needs Assessment and the SHARPS report.

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<i>Business Item 5</i>	Dr. Tod Berg motioned that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Coleen Nielsen and passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:38 P.M.

Kendall Crittenden, Chairperson