

WCHD BOH Meeting

Thursday, February 26, 2026, 3:01 pm

Present:	Kendall Crittenden	Chair
	Dr. Sara Simonsen	Vice Chair
	Janet Carson	Board Member
	Coleen Nielsen	Board Member
	Britt Manning	Board Member
	Dr. Neal Burton	Board Member

Excused:	Dr. Tod Berg	Board Member
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Staff:	Jonelle Fitzgerald	Health Officer
	Brett Woodard	Business Manager
	Gina Tuttle	Head of Nursing
	Lana North	PIO

Opening Remarks/Welcome: Kendall Crittenden

Invocation: Dr. Neal Burton

Pledge of Allegiance: Janet Carson

<i>Minutes</i>	Minutes from January 22, 2026 Board of Health meeting were presented. Janet Carson motioned that the minutes be approved, Coleen Nielsen 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) Financial Report (Brett) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Expect 2025 surplus to be greater than \$543K b) Major contributors to the surplus: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Property tax income \$75K over budget ii) Interest revenue \$136K over budget iii) Grant Revenue \$331K over budget- unexpected grants and grant revenue accelerated from 2026 to 2025. iv) Salaries and benefits \$51 K under budget. v) Expenses \$ 39K under budget (primarily because there was no new ground water test well this year). vi) Partially offset by fee revenue \$84 K under budget. c) We will present a final 2025 report at the next meeting, with proposals to allocate the funds into contingency funds. d) January surplus \$84K, but primarily due to only one payroll in January and new year fee collections.

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- e) Dr. Burton motioned that the financials be accepted by the board as presented. Janet seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
- 2) Program Reports:
 - a) Clinical update (Gina)
 - i) Addressed a handout summarizing flu, COVID and pneumonia vaccination data.
 - ii) All three vaccinations have decreased over the last three years.
 - iii) We predict flu and COVID utilization each year and pre order the vaccines. This saves us money (which lowers the cost for the recipients). Up to 20% of the vaccines may be returned for credit if unused.
 - iv) The department has had a very low amount of wasted vaccines.
 - b) Gina overviewed the CARES program
 - i) 56 families have been helped through the program, which includes “in home” visits
 - ii) Focused on “high risk” families- not necessarily always low income.
 - iii) CARES leads come from the schools, WIC, mental health service providers and the community.
 - iv) (Janet) Do we use “Just Serve”? (Not yet).
 - v) (Jonelle) CARES connects people with needs to resources that can help.
 - vi) Promotions include Kids Day, Health Fair, etc. Also exploring a CARES based relationship with the public library.
 - c) Flu cases started earlier than usual this year, and the number of reported cases is higher than usual. There were 25 reported cases with 3 or 4 hospitalizations.
 - d) Measles cases are popping up throughout Utah, but Wasatch County has not had any cases this year. 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.
- 3) Director’s Report (Jonelle)
 - a) Calendar: Note the following:
 - i) Issues Conference 3/4/2026
 - ii) Self-Reliance Fair 3/21/2026
 - iii) UALBOH symposium 4/28~4/29/2026. (We do not have an agenda yet).
 - b) Legislative Update
 - i) There are a large number of bills potentially impacting health departments.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ii) Potential to re institute “Gold Medal” schools. Successful program around the time of the 2002 Winter Olympics. It was administered by health departments then, most likely by schools this time, if passed. iii) Rural Health Transformation will have a large federal award, some of which should come to the state’s rural health departments (not Salt Lake, Davis, Provo or Weber). iv) HB 88: Now circled, and creating a lot of controversy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Seeks to require proof of citizenship in order to get any public assistance. (2) This would impact WIC and other services currently available to economically disadvantaged people, (3) Likely it would have some carve-outs to partially eliminate spill-over effects of e.g., sick or untreated people increasing risks to the public at large and to reduce the impact on children. v) Body art bill: Health departments are currently required to permit body art services, but there are currently no license requirements for technicians. Scarifying services currently offered are especially concerning because they involve deep cuts which are susceptible to infections. vi) A School vaccination exemption bill proposes to eliminate the education requirement currently required prior to granting the exemption. Looks like this one has failed, but it could come back. vii) There are a couple of raw milk bills, one eliminating most of the Dept. of Agriculture testing. c) Measles <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Some additional cases in November and December, but none this year. ii) Utah has had 319 cases to date- 197 in the southwest. iii) Cases seem to have peaked in December. iv) Wasatch has had some ER visits, but no hospital admissions.
<i>Business Item 3</i>	<p>UALBOH Appointment (Kendall) – Discussion/Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) A meeting schedule was sent out to Board members 2) Janet has said she is willing to serve. 3) Sara motioned that Janet be named as our UALBOH representative. Coleen seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
<i>Business Item 4</i>	<p>Officer Elections (Kendall) – Discussion/Action</p>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Both Kendall and Sara indicated that they would be willing to continue in their roles and Chairman and Vice Chairperson respectively. 2) Sara motioned that Kendall be reelected as the Chairman of the Board of Health. Britt seconded the motion and it passed unanimously 3) Kendall motioned that Sara be reelected as the Vice Chairperson of the Board of Health. Coleen seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.
<p><i>Business Item 5</i></p>	<p>Community Health Needs Assessment (Lana/Jonelle) Discussion/Action</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Lana walked through base line data regarding the Wasatch County population, including demographics, economics and health status of the population, <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Data was comprised primarily of 2023 through 2025 samples. In some instances, data from prior periods was also included to strengthen the database. b) Data collection was through IHC, focus groups and state databases. 2) The presentation included statistics on key health status indicators including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Life expectancy b) Leading causes of death c) Chronic conditions Nutrition d) Physical activity e) Mental health f) Social isolation, which can impact health as much as physical problems g) Environmental health, including water quality and air quality. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) We closely monitor water quality through our groundwater program. ii) Air quality issues are mostly caused by wildfire smoke, with an occasional smog incursion from Utah County. 3) Further information was provided regarding: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Vulnerable populations including youth, immigrant populations, senior populations, disabled persons and low-income populations. b) Healthcare Access, including affordability. c) Food insecurity. 4) 2025 SHARP survey results were presented as a significant data source for the Needs Assessment. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Statewide data only right now. b) Student surveys for 6th, 8th, 10th and 12th graders with parental consent. c) Data goes back to 2003, so it is quite valuable for trend analysis.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Unfortunately, participation has been decreasing, so the recent data is not as robust as in prior years. e) The report includes screen time data. f) The report indicated decreases in vaping, cigarette use and alcohol use in youth, as well as decreasing suicide attempts. g) Along with the positive, there were concerns raised regarding body image, a large percentage (60%) reporting mild depression and increasing use of Zyn/nicotine pouches. h) Wasatch County youth steroid use is above both the state and national average.
<i>Business Item 6</i>	<p>Strategic Planning Update (Jonelle/All) – Discussion/Action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1) We went through a “Q5” update in the last board meeting. The term “Q5” was adopted to indicate that the plan was intended to be a continuous process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) “Q5” is broader than our division operating plans, so there are usually not highly specific deliverables as in the operating plans. 2) The question is “Are we still on the right track?” 3) Due to time constraints, we’ll go into this further at the next board meeting.
<i>Business Item 7</i>	<p>Janet motioned that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Coleen Nielsen and passed unanimously.</p>

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 P.M.

Kendall Crittenden, Chairperson