

Weber-Morgan Board of Health Minutes of Meeting May 24, 2021

The Weber-Morgan Board of Health held its regular meeting on May 24, 2021 in the Health Department auditorium at 477 23rd Street. The meeting is called to order at 4:02 p.m. with Frank Brown presiding.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Frank Brown	Ali Martinez-Phone	Alex McDonald	Bonnie Wahlen
Gage Froerer	Jer Bates-Phone	Ken Johnson	Kevin Eastman
Leonard Call	Neil Garner	Tina Kelley	

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jared Andersen Donna Chapman

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian Cowan	Michela Harris	Amy Carter	Autum Whitten
Bryce Sherwood	Heather Wilkerson	Jarelyn Cox	Jeralyn Perkins
Jesse Bush	Lekelsi Talbot	Lori Buttars	MaryLou Adams
Michelle Cooke	Norma Odeh	Scott Braeden	Sherrie Waters
Skyler Pyle	Summer Day	Troy Fuit	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Chris Crockett	Stephanie Hollist-Phone	Neil Garnet-Phone	Seth Cawley-Phone
Dane LeBlanc	Jessica Cawley-Phone	Jessica Cawley-Phone	
John Kowaleswski-Phone			

Welcome and Introductions-Frank Brown

Frank Brown calls the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. and welcomes those in attendance.

Approval of Board of Health Minutes of March 22, 2021

Motion Passes

A **MOTION** is made by **Kenneth Johnson** and **SECONDED** by **Kevin Eastman** to approve the minutes as written. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

Friend of Public Health Award – Lori Buttars

Information Only

Lori Buttars explains what the Friend of Public Health Award is and how the nominations are obtained. Weber State University was selected as this year's recipient. They continue to allow us the use of their building and their staff for our mass vaccination site for nearly six months. Award is presented to Dane LeBlanc, Weber State University's Director of Public Safety and founding member of the Pan-Flu Taskforce. **Dane LeBlanc** recognizes his staff and partners in this process.

COVID-19 Update- Amy Carter/Skyler Pyle

Information Only

Amy Carter updates board members on statistics of nation, state, and local COVID-19 numbers. Pandemic officially started March 2020 for the state of Utah. According to the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) website, there have been over 32,947,548 cases in the United States accounting for 587,342 deaths. At least one dose has been administered to 61.5% of adults in United States. There have been 16,679 hospitalizations in the state of Utah. The state reports having 404,625 cases with 2,292 deaths. There have been a total of 2,517,521 vaccines administered in Utah. Utah has

36.6% of its population fully vaccinated. The state of Utah is in a decline trend. Weber and Morgan counties have had a total of 30,742 cases and 220 deaths. Weber County has had 29,442, cases with 209 deaths and Morgan County has had 1,270 cases with 11 deaths. Weber and Morgan counties remain in the Moderate Level of transmission at this time. Weber and Morgan counties are in a plateau trend. **Kevin Eastman** questions antibodies vs. vaccination. **Alex McDonald** inquires about variants and quotations. **Amy Carter** gives details on vaccine breakthrough cases and variants. **Skyler Pyle** updates board members on vaccine distribution efforts underway and expresses thanks to our community partners for helping to carry out the plan and for the support given to the health department. Mass clinics continue to be held at the Dee Events Center on the Weber State University campus as well as in Morgan. Weber- Morgan Health Department administered its first vaccination on December 28, 2020. Weber and Morgan counties have given 197,133 vaccines including pass thru to partners. There have been 98,665 vaccines given by Weber-Morgan Health Department thru May 24, 2021. At least one dose given to 112,517 in Weber and Morgan counties with 91,203 residents who are now fully vaccinated. She explains how our partners, Dee Events Center, Utah National Guard, Weber Human Services, Intermountain Health Care, Midtown Community Health Center and more, have done a phenomenal job in helping the general public, underserved, homeless, homebound, and senior facilities with the vaccination process through mass clinics and mobile clinics. Weber-Morgan Health Department clinical services will begin to offer COVID vaccines starting June 1, 2021. These appointments will need to be scheduled by calling the nursing department or JIC line. The health department continues to use the vaccinate.utah.org website for scheduling appointments for mass and mobile clinics which has been a vital asset. Since March 2020 WMHD has over 360 volunteers with over 10,000 volunteer hours donated between the WMHD and the vaccination clinics. Weber-Morgan Medical Reserve Corp will be having an appreciation event on August 19, 2021. **Frank Brown** expresses both appreciation and gratitude to the health department staff and all of the volunteers for their hard work. **Frank Brown** asks what is plan to address the issues, what is projected in terms of vaccine reluctance and where will we be in August? **Skyler Pyle** indicates that projections are difficult and reiterates the continual work with partners to have more mobile clinics to have vaccine available to public.

Director's Report-Brian Cowan

Information Only

Brian Cowan explains the COVID-19 Transmission Index is used by the state to categorize each county's risk level as low, moderate or high. Even though this is no longer part of the Public Health Order, Weber-Morgan Health Department is using it as an educational resource to inform our community of the current risk level of contacting COVID while in public. This and the CDC guidance was used as part of our recommendation for mask use in our facilities, if

not fully vaccinated. He informs everyone that there have been many changes in the leadership team and other positions. The Administrative Director position has transitioned into a Deputy Director position which Michela Harris has filled. The Environmental Health Director Position was filled by Scott Braeden. Sherrie Waters fills the Environmental Health Program Manager position. MaryLou Adams, Nursing Director, is retiring next month therefore her position will be filled by Lekelsi Talbot. Stella Martinez replaces JoAnn Wengreen as Lead Office Specialist. The Health Promotions Director, Jesse Bush, announced his resigning. There are open recruitments for the following positions: Nursing Supervisor, two nursing positions, two nursing office specialists, Health Promotion Director and Environmental Health Scientist, and an Emergency Preparedness Planning position. Brian informs board members of the upcoming National Association of Boards of Health (NALBOH) annual conference which will be held virtually on August 2nd and 3rd and the Utah Association of Local Boards of Health (UALBOH) Symposium which will be held on 23 and 24 of September 2021 in Richfield at Snow College.

Update on Annex 2nd Floor-Brian Cowan

Information Only

Brian Cowan reviews progress made with plans to finish the 2nd floor in the health department Annex. Final architectural plans have been completed. A draft of the Request for Proposal (RFP) to finish the Annex is in progress and will be listed for contractor bids to complete the project. Anticipate discussing how to finance the completion of the Annex project in future meetings. He has been informed of new federal funding available for ready-to-go infrastructure development. The health department would be able to justify using a portion of that money towards the Annex project if it received funding. That option will be pursued.

Chair's Report-Frank Brown

Information Only

Frank Brown reiterates value of attending the National Association of Boards of Health (NALBOH) and Utah Association of Local Boards of Health (UALBOH) meetings.

Public Comment

There is no public comment.

The meeting adjourns at 5:59 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2021.

Board of Health Annual Meeting/Training

The annual meeting consists of a presentation of the 2020 Annual Report and Budget/Fund Balance by Brian Cowan. A review of the Open and Public Meetings Act by Chris Crockett. Weber-Morgan Health Department Division Directors outline their funding, budgets, and partners.

The annual meeting/training adjourns at 6:45 p.m.