

## Summit County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

Conducted Remotely through Zoom

**Monday April 5, 2021 - DRAFT**

Topic	Discussion	Action or Summary
<b>Attendance</b>	<p><b>Board Members Present:</b> Chris Cherniak - Chair, Doug Evans, Roger Armstrong, Ilyssa Golding, Chris Ure, Marc Watterson, Dorothy Adams - <i>Absent</i></p> <p><b>Staff Present:</b> Dr. Richard Bullough – Director, Dr. Phil Bondurant, Nate Brooks, Margaret Olson, Louise Saw, Emily Quinton, Brian Craven, Derek Moss, Derek Siddoway, Jennifer Morrill, Tom Fisher, Katy Staley</p>	
	<b>CLOSED SESSION - Personnel</b>	
<b>Welcome and approval of minutes</b>	<p>The meeting was called to order at 4:19 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Board Member Ure made a motion to approve the minutes for the March 1, 2021 Board of Health Meeting with changes suggested by the Board. Board Member Evans seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.</b></li> </ul>	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The minutes for the March 1, 2021 Board of Health meeting were approved as written.</i></li> </ul>
<b>Public Comment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No Public Comment was made.</li> </ul>	
<b>COVID Update – Cases and Trends</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Bullough shared a COVID-19 summary. The data have become increasingly stable. Thanks to the State Health Department for maintaining the central database. There has been a real impressive decline in positive cases in the County. There is a difference in the types of cases. Up until now most cases were in working adults and associated with family gatherings. Recently there are more cases in children, most with the UK variant. There is more spread among kids now. This trend is concerning, and there may be some implications for schools if the trend continues. Wasatch county is seeing similar changes in cases.</li> <li>• The positivity rate has generally stabilized below five percent. Summit County has been testing more than the surrounding counties. The higher testing volume is a good thing and allows for case investigation and contact tracing. The type of test is evolving. Tests are still available, but there are not dedicated drive-through sites. The 14-day trend of active positive cases is also trending downwards. There is a decrease in hospitalizations. There are more typical Emergency Department injuries and cases.</li> <li>• There is almost an equal number of COVID-19 cases on the East and West sides of the County, indicating an increase on the East side.</li> <li>• Vaccination rates for the first dose are among the highest in the country, with 68% of adults in Summit County receiving the first dose. Younger adults are seeking the Johnson &amp; Johnson vaccine. There is not a vaccine available in the County for residents under the age of 18, and a large number of the current positive cases are in that age group. The UK variant is more efficient in transmitting in young children. There has not been a single positive case in those 70 and older in March in Summit County. Nineteen percent of 16 and 17-year-olds have received at least one dose of the vaccine and there is an effort to get the Pfizer vaccine to that population. It is important to get some of the Pfizer vaccine in the County for those who do not have the means to travel. The Health Department is working to arrange clinics for the Pfizer vaccine. Board Member Golding shared the concern that the disease variants are harder on the younger population and more likely to cause severe diseases, but the children are not able to get vaccines yet.</li> <li>• Louise Saw shared that there has been an uptick in cases in those ages 3 to 12, but the cases are decreasing in 13 to 17-year-olds. The vaccines are working, but it is possible to still get COVID-19 after being vaccinated, so</li> </ul>	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The COVID-19 summary was shared and discussed.</i></li> <li>• <i>Case counts are dropping, but everyone still needs to wear masks and limit gatherings. Part of normalizing is to be vaccinated.</i></li> </ul>

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	<p>everyone still needs to be cautious. Dr. Bullough stated there are cases of reinfection and vaccination failure, but true reinfection is hard to document and vaccination failure is rare.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board Member Watterson would like to see a breakdown of County residents getting the vaccine inside the County versus outside of the County. Louise shared that 58 percent of vaccinations were administered in Summit County and 17.6 percent were administered in Salt Lake County. Board Member Armstrong shared his experience with recent airport travel and stated it will be interesting to see how effective the vaccines are on spikes due to increased travel.</li> <li>• Going forward, a database search can be done to determine if a positive case has already been vaccinated.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>COVID Update – Vaccination Program</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Derek Moss stated some people are not getting their second dose of vaccine because of reactions to the first dose or they change their minds because of rumors about reactions to the second dose.</li> <li>• Strong partnerships with the hospital, clinics, and others have been established. As we get closer to our vaccination goal, more issues arise. The Health Department is working to address barriers to the vaccinations. More partnerships need to be established. Work is being done to get the vaccines out among the community and outside the Film Studio. So far, the response has been fantastic. There are three clinics a week at the Film Studio. Summit County has fewer no-shows than the majority of the State, but there is starting to be an increase in no-shows. Strategies to address barriers include discussing when it would be appropriate to scale down vaccinations at the Film Studio, increasing partnerships, and start to administer the Pfizer vaccine. There have been minimal side effects. Volunteers have been fantastic.</li> <li>• There is not any data for tracking study participants long-term. It is unknown when boosters will be needed. Dr. Bullough stated that there is an effort around vaccinating kids before the next school year. The vision is that one day the Health Department and People’s Health Clinic will have COVID-19 vaccine doses on hand as a disbursed effort similar to the flu vaccine. Derek Moss stated there is a significant training component for providers to administer the vaccine. Once progress is made past mass vaccination, there will be only one dose. Plans of action need to be developed. Correct knowledge needs to be increased, and people need to know where to get accurate information. The biggest difficulty is government distrust.</li> <li>• Dr. Bullough stated that there is a concern that future rates of vaccinations will not be adequate to keep herd immunity.</li> <li>• Concerns about extreme side effects from the vaccine were discussed. Derek Moss shared that the most common side effects seen in the County are tingling in the face, anxiety, and redness or rash. There have not been any anaphylactic reactions reported. Physicians are on-site to help with any side effects.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Vaccine distribution was discussed.</i></li> <li>• <i>There will be a shift to scale down vaccinations at the Film Studio and increase partnerships to administer vaccines.</i></li> <li>• <i>There is an effort to administer the Pfizer vaccine in Summit County.</i></li> <li>• <i>Plans of action need to be developed for future COVID-19 vaccinations.</i></li> <li>• <i>Concerns about side effects were discussed.</i></li> </ul>
<p><b>HB 294 and Mask Messaging</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dr. Bullough shared that House Bill 294 lifts the State mask mandate at midnight on April 10, 2021. Local Health Orders are allowed. The stipulations for a continued mask mandate include a case rate over 191 per 100,000 population, ICU patients being more than 15% COVID cases, and when the State reaches an allocation of 1.633 million doses of vaccine. At the last County Council meeting, based on the three indicators and the effort to protect the high-risk population, it was recommended that the local mask order not be extended. The County Council agreed.</li> <li>• Board Member Armstrong stated he has concerns about lifting the local mask order and would like to keep the order in place during the shoulder</li> </ul>	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Dr. Bullough shared that it was recommended to and agreed on by the County Council to not extend the local mask order.</i></li> <li>• <i>Concerns were raised by Board Members Armstrong and Golding about not extending the</i></li> </ul>

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	<p>season. If there were another surge in cases, Summit County could still be a principal source of spread to other areas. The mask order could just be applied to tourist-rich areas. Many businesses are relying on the County to help enforce mask wearing. Board Member Golding agreed that it is hard to walk things back and suggested that the mask order be extended as long as it is legal to do so. Dr. Bullough answered that businesses shoulder the burden of enforcing their respective mask orders. The mask mandate is not currently being followed in some areas anyway.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board Member Watterson shared some additional provisions of the bill. Mask orders for schools are still in place until the end of this school year. Businesses can still require masks. The State can still draw on FEMA funds. Board Member Watterson loves the County’s focus on vaccinations. There is a need to continue the emphasis on vaccinations, which is a better focus than the divisive fight over masks. The spacing requirements remain in place dependent on the County’s transmission level and until the three thresholds have been met.</li> <li>• Board Member Ure stated the responsibility needs to be given back to the businesses and get the government out of everybody’s lives. Some people will still wear masks. This is about freedom and property rights. Who would enforce a continued mask order? We need to move on.</li> <li>• Derek Siddoway shared that there have been several conversations about continuing to message why masks are important. The messages would be similar to those for using seatbelts and not smoking and would become something that people regularly talk about. Everyone needs to show respect to individuals and businesses. Messaging will now focus on reemphasizing the importance of the vaccine and reiterating the data.</li> <li>• Board Member Evans shared his concern that up until now decisions have been based on the data, but now the Legislature just chose a date to end the mask order. It does not seem like the decision is based on data. Chair Cherniak stated that the County’s decision has already been made by the County Council, based on Dr. Bullough’s recommendation.</li> <li>• Dr. Bullough stated that the Health Department can help develop new signage and provide masks for businesses. Please contact the Health Department for help and reach out. It is hoped that people will still remain vigilant.</li> </ul>	<p><i>mask order. Other Board Members were in favor of not extending the mask order.</i></p>
<p><b>UALBOH Update and other Board Discussion Items</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board Member Watterson stated there is no UALBOH update. Everyone’s continued service is appreciated.</li> <li>• Board Member Ure shared with the Board that a green cemetery is being proposed by the Weber River, and there is concern that there would be some river pollution from the cemetery. Board Member Evans stated that green cemeteries are conservation cemeteries. There is a parcel that Summit Land Conservancy is looking to purchase. The cemetery would be on a higher part of the land. Green cemeteries bury people in biodegradable materials with natural embalming. There would be about 300 people buried per acre. There is quite a demand for that type of burial. There are several questions that would need to be answered before a green cemetery was approved. Dr. Bullough stated that the Health Department has not heard anything about the proposal and due diligence needs to be done. The Health Department will need to be sure that the soil will perc and filter. Board Member Evans stated that the proposal has been presented to the City Council and Utah allows this type of cemetery.</li> <li>• Chair Cherniak stated that next month Connect Summit County will focus on mental health awareness month.</li> <li>• Board Member Evans stated that Oakley’s Planning Commission approved turning the Oakley School into a residential treatment facility for youth with</li> </ul>	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>No UALBOH update.</i></li> <li>• <i>There is a proposal for a green cemetery near the Weber River that Board Member Ure expressed some concerns about.</i></li> <li>• <i>Next month is mental health awareness month.</i></li> <li>• <i>The Oakley School has been approved to be turned into a residential treatment facility for youth with behavioral issues.</i></li> </ul>

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	behavioral issues. It will not be a boarding school. The Conditional Use Permit requires that the treatment facility partner with the local Health Department and Connect Summit County.	
<b>Adjourn</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.</li> <li>• <b><i>Board Member Ure made a motion to adjourn. Board Member Watterson seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.</i></b></li> </ul>	<p><i>Summary:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The next regular meeting will be scheduled on Monday, May 3, 2021.</i></li> </ul>