



# UTAH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

151 SOUTH UNIVERSITY AVENUE  
 PROVO, UTAH 84601

## MINUTES July 22, 2019

Members Present:			
Mayor Jeff Acerson, Chair	X	Teresa Tavares, Vice Chair	excused
Gaye L. Ray	excused	Erin Faraclas	X
Superintendent Rick Nielsen	X	Ryan Schooley	X
Dianne C. Carr	X	Commissioner Bill Lee (by phone)	X
Mark Donaldson, MD	X		

**Others present:**

Ralph L. Clegg, EHS, MPA      UCHD Executive Director  
 Julie Dey                              UCHD Secretary

Number of people in attendance – 15

1. Welcome by Jeff Acerson
2. Approval of the minutes from March 25, 2019 and May 20, 2019

**MOTION:** Rick Nielsen made the motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Ryan Schooley and passed by unanimous vote.

3. Introduction of the Executive Director of the Utah Association of Local Health Departments and the Utah Association of Local Boards of Health – Jill Parker.

Jill Parker introduced herself. She explained that she is the Executive Director of the Utah Association of Local Health Departments (UALDH = 13 Health Officers throughout the state of Utah), and the Utah Association of Local Boards of Health (UALBOH) which means she works on behalf of the Utah County Board of Health. Jill explained the three goals of UALBOH are: 1) to strengthen the role of local board of health members through education, training and communication, 2) to provide a forum among local boards of health to exchange ideas, and advance solutions to common public health concerns and, 3) to advocate for public health through local officials, state departments, the state legislature, and the citizens of Utah.

Jill invited all board members to attend the UALBOH Symposium, September 5-6 in Midway, UT. UALBOH establishes a path of communication for local boards of health to talk to one another which is done through the symposium. Utah County Health Department will cover the registration costs and UALBOH will reimburse for mileage.

Teresa Tavares serves as Utah County Board of Health's representative on the UALBOH steering committee. As a board, you will decide a legislative liaison. The legislative liaison will participate in a weekly call or email to talk about legislative priorities. Sometimes board members will be asked to reach out to representatives and senators to educate them on a particular issue.

#### 4. Epidemiology Report – Lisa Guerra

Lisa Guerra, Public Health Nurse Supervisor, Epidemiology, Utah County Health Department gave a presentation on Epidemiology in Public Health. At the Utah County Health Department in Epidemiology, we work together with the Utah Department of Health, the CDC and the World Health Organization. Using examples of prior experiences in Utah County such as the Saratoga Spring Campylobacter Outbreak in May 2010, Lisa explained how the Epidemiology Division worked with the Environmental Health Division to identify the source of the outbreak and the solution. Lisa explained that intervention or preventative measures stops the spread of disease such as whooping cough. Lisa also shared:

- a. Uses of Epidemiology
- b. Epidemiology in Practical Use
- c. Investigations Affecting Public Policy, Awareness, Public Preparedness, Medical Policy, Identifying Source of Contamination and Halting an Outbreak

#### 5. Short Reports

##### a. School Nursing Update by Ralph Clegg

Ralph Clegg explained that the state provided some funding to local school districts to help with suicide prevention, mental health and other things. As part of that funding some of the school districts have asked for extra school nursing support. Alpine School District has asked for and are paying for 10 additional school nurses. This will bring down their student to school nurse ratio quite a bit. Nebo School District has asked for half a nurse. In addition to that, there are some other nursing requests that were asked for that Utah County is splitting some of the costs with the district on. The bottom line is that school nursing efforts will be increase by about 12 nurses throughout the three school districts which is a positive thing for the students, the school districts and for the health department.

##### b. Pleasant Grove Pool by Jason Garrett

Ralph Clegg explained regarding the Pleasant Grove pool, we have been working with the state health department for some time to get them to update their pool rule to require

equipment to prevent this type of occurrence. The state hasn't chosen to do that yet, we hope they will. But down the road, our board of health may want to look at something along those lines if the state decides not to act.

Jason Garrett, Bureau Director, Environmental Health, UCHD explained to the board the situation at the Pleasant Grove pool has happened before at other pools in the state. Approximately 70-80 percent of pools do have an automated system that reads chlorine and pH and tries to keep pools balanced. There is within the state rule for new construction pools a requirement for a system like this to be installed. An interlocking system meaning that when the circulation pump shuts down for any reason, the pumps that feed both acid and chlorine into the system shuts down as well.

With the Pleasant Grove pool what happened was a power bump occurred and shut the main circulation pump off which has to be restarted manually. During that time (and no one knows exactly how much time it was) the chlorine pump and acid pump continued to put chemical in. When you put both chemicals together and they sit there in a pipe, it creates chlorine gas. Once it was discovered the pump was off, the maintenance personal reset and turned it back on without removing patrons from the pool. The way this pool was configured, the first part of the chlorine gas to exit the pipe and to reach the pool was in the shallow area, so the chlorine gas was released right in that area where children were.

An inspection had been done before the incident and after the incident. After the incident, the pool added two layers of protection to make sure this couldn't happen again in the future.

Newer automated systems have a low-flow detection system device that will shut off if there isn't a minimum flow and also there is a separate box that hooks into the pump drips that stops feeding everything. In doing research, this isn't an expensive thing for the pools to do. It is a between \$350-\$700 to add the extra protection piece.

We (Environmental Health) are working with the state. They are adding some clarifying language to require the extra protection piece be installed as well as removing any type of grandfathering clause for existing pools. Hopefully in the next few months, that will be in place. After that, we can do an appropriate assessment of how many pools actually have the appropriate interlocking systems and the ones that do not. Our assumption right now is that it is not a large problem, and we think that Pleasant Grove was the last municipal size pool that did not have the protective equipment. When we talk about the homeowner's association pools and hotel pools, I would guess that we are at about 80 percent who have the correct protective equipment installed. We intend to get this in place with the state rule and then follow up by inspecting the pools.

This is the third similar incident that I am aware of that has happened in the state. To the best of my knowledge, Pleasant Grove Pool has taken the steps to install the protective equipment.

## 6. 2018 Program Cost Report – Eric Edwards

Eric Edwards, Deputy Director, UCHD presented the 2018 Program Cost Report to the Board. This report is presented annually to the board and is a helpful document as it helps us see expenses and costs broken out by revenue. The report is divided up by divisions within the Health Department. The revenues are received through fees, contracts, taxes and surplus depending on what funds have been used by the Utah County. It is helpful for UCHD division directors to see if their fees are keeping up with the costs. If the fees are not keeping up, fees for services can be raised to cover the costs. The board of health reviews and approves the fee schedule annually.

Ralph Clegg explained that looking at the program costs of the Mosquito Abatement division, you can see that Mosquito Abatement is almost entirely funded by local tax dollars. If you look at Women's Infants and Children (WIC) you will see that it is entirely funded by federal government contracts. The Vehicle Emission Program is entirely funded by fees. Some programs are funded by all three types of revenue fees, contracts and taxes.

A short description of the programs run by the health department was distributed to the board members.

## 7. Lehi/Traverse Mountain Air Study

Ralph Clegg reviewed the Lehi/Traverse Mountain air study with the board. This is been an important issue at for the north portion of the county particularly as the gravel pit there desired to expand its operation.

An air study was requested to see what kind of silica or heavy metal contaminations may come off the site which might affect the residents in the area. Ralph was able to speak to Lehi Mayor Johnson in February regarding the study. In February, Ralph was approached about approving a study by the Utah Department of Health - Environmental Health Epidemiology and understanding the resident's concerns which Ralph approved. Some have assumed that Ralph is in charge of the study, but that is really not the case. The state Health Department (UDOH) is in charge of the study; however, they request Utah County Health Department's authorization because they know that we are going to get a lot of questions about it. They want to make sure we are willing and ready to respond to concerns before they proceed. This is a process we follow when we see cancer cluster study requests for neighborhoods which we often receive at the health department.

In late February 2019, college student interns were hired to help with the study. There is not really an ambient air 'standard' for silica dust. There are a few standards for heavy metal dust. The interns are accessing what the information was out in the research community. The UDOH began work in February and March to map the homes to see what the potential exposed population would be. During the same time, they were documenting the readings from the Purple Air website ([www2.purpleair.com](http://www2.purpleair.com)). From this website, individuals wear air quality monitors that give readings to the Purple Air website so they can see by neighborhood the air

quality. The Purple Air monitors do not meet the requirements for air monitoring that the state has to meet for EPA, but it gives them a general idea of things.

A public meeting was held at the Traverse Mountain area of Lehi. The state presented good information. The state received a lot of feedback from residents on what the residents would like to see happen. The data the state is collecting is nearing completion. The map of the homes helped identify those that are from 500-5,000 meters from the gravel pit. Proximity maps are being used to find lung cancer data and risk ratios in the area. In June, sampling was begun with three air monitors south and north of the gravel pit. The air monitors are being sampled every other day for 24 hours over a two-week time period. Once the samples are ready, they will be sent for analysis of content. Soil samples have also been collected from the site and expansion site and will be sent for analysis. An additional two weeks of air monitoring will be done in August to collect additional data.

The goal is to have the process completed by December 2019 or January 2020.

Erin Faraclas recommended that the Utah Department of Health be asked to attend a Utah County Board of Health meeting and discuss the findings of the study when completed.

There were questions and dialog regarding the topic between concerned citizens and the board.

8. Annual Report

Ralph reviewed the Health Department's 2018 annual report and answered questions.

9. Other business

UALBOH Symposium, September 5-6, Midway, UT

If board members would like to attend the symposium, please let Julie know by August 10<sup>th</sup>.

10. Employee Changes

Employee changes are routine.

**MOTION:** Rick Nielsen made the motion to adjourn which was seconded by Mark Donaldson and passed with unanimous vote.

  
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Ralph Clegg, EHS MPA  
Director / Local Health Officer  
Utah County Health Department

  
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Jeff Anderson  
Chair  
Utah County Board of Health