

**Weber-Morgan Board of Health  
Minutes of Meeting  
November 30, 2020**

The Weber-Morgan Board of Health held its regular meeting on November 30, 2020 by conference/teleconference call in the Health Department auditorium at 477 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. The meeting is called to order at 4:06 p.m. with Neil Garner presiding.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Neil Garner	Frank Brown	Ken Johnson	Gage Froerer
Tina Kelley	Ali Martinez	Jer Bates	Roland Haslam
Cole Brinkerhoff	Jennifer Bodine		

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Donna Chapman	Leonard Call	Kevin Eastman
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**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brian Bennion	Brian Cowan	MaryLou Adams	Jesse Bush
Michela Harris	Jarelyn Cox	Skyler Pyle	Michelle Cooke
Amy Carter	Bryce Sherwood	Lori Buttars	Summer Day
Logan George	Melissa Freigang	Summer Finch	Mandy Webb
Bethsa Becerra	Heidi Niedfeldt	JoAnn Wengreen	

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Chris Crockett	Jeremy Shinoda	Ernie (no last name listed)
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**Welcome and Introductions-Neil Garner**

Neil Garner calls the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. and welcomes those in attendance. He reads the Authorization to Conduct an Electronic Meeting Without an Anchor Location document.

**Approval of Board of Health Minutes of September 28, 2020      Motion Passes**

A **MOTION** is made by **Ali Martinez** and **SECONDED** by **Cole Brinkerhoff** to approve the minutes as written. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

**2021 Budget Approval-Brian Cowan**

**Motion Passes**

**Brian Cowan** shows a summary of the requested 2021 Budget submitted to the county and the estimated 2020 Budget. The county has reviewed and approved the tentative budget for 2021 and will hold a final budget meeting December 15. He explains how COVID-19 funding has affected this years' budget with an increase of \$1.5M through both state contracts and CARES Act funding. Total revenue for 2020 is estimated at \$12,967,583 and estimated expenses at \$12,325,799 leaving \$641,784 to go into the health fund balance. Requested 2021 budget of \$11,404,862 is more in line with a typical year without COVID-19 response although state funding is anticipated which will change this amount. A 2% wage increase as well as a 1% one-time bonus based on performance has been approved by the county which in turn increases the expenses to \$11,942,853 with plans to use \$537,992 of the fund balance. He answers questions about money for salary increases, the health fund balance, and plans for 2021 COVID-19 response. A **MOTION** is made by **Ken Johnson** and **SECONDED** by **Tina**

**Kelley** to approve the 2021 tentative budget. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

**2021 Fee Schedule-Brian Cowan**

**Motion Passes**

**Brian Cowan** informs board members of changes needed to the 2021 fee schedule. Immunization adjustments are reflective of cost increases incurred by the health department. Special project vaccines are available for adults free of charge and addressed on an individual basis with fee waivers given if warranted. Additional changes include deleting fees for services no longer provided, clarifying a service name, and updating fees that were amended in 2019. A **MOTION** is made by **Roland Haslam** and **SECONDED** by **Ken Johnson** to approve the 2021 Fee Schedule. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

**Approval for E-Cigarette Regulation to go to**

**Motion Passes**

**Public Hearing-Bryce Sherwood**

**Bryce Sherwood** informs board members the new 2020 legislative session mandated an update to the E-Cigarette Regulation dated August 27, 2018. Minor changes were needed to bring language into updated legal language as well as bring the regulation into alignment for code and statute adjustments. Major changes include reflecting age 21 as the legal age to purchase or possess a tobacco product, restricting flavored e-cigarette products (with the exception of mint, menthol, or tobacco) to a retail tobacco specialty business, and removing the restriction that anyone selling the product had to be old enough to use the product (this was preempted through the 2018 regulation). Other updates include a new section on requirements for the sale of tobacco products which includes an electronic age verification system with an itemized receipt. Penalty fees and descriptions were taken out and referenced to Utah Code 26-62-305 and Utah Code 26-62-402. He asks for approval to go to public comment hearing and bring it back to the Board for approval in January. A **MOTION** is made by **Ken Johnson** and **SECONDED** by **Cole Brinkerhoff** to take the E-Cigarette Regulation to Public Hearing with Weber-Morgan Health Department designating a hearing officer. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

**COVID-19 Update-Brian Bennion/Amy Carter  
Jesse Bush/Skyler Pyle**

**Information Only**

**Amy Carter** updates board members with national, state, and local statistics of COVID-19 cases. Utah ranks seventeenth as far as highest rates with 75.2 cases per 100,000 population at this time. Utah has had 871 deaths to date with a mortality rate of 0.4%. It is anticipated that there are about 60,500 active cases statewide presently with the state hospitalization ICU rate currently at 82.6%. As of this morning, Weber County has 13,124 cases with a positivity rate of 24.3% and Morgan County has 514 with a positivity rate of 28.8% with the goal to be less than 10% but ideally between 3-5%. There have been 54 deaths in Weber County and 3 in Morgan County putting the mortality rate at 0.38% for Weber and 0.61% for Morgan, which is better than the national average of 2%. About 50% of the cases in Weber and Morgan counties have been exposed by a known contact with household contacts coming in first at 28% with a social contact

at 8% and work related at 6%. The highest rates of contacting the virus remains in the 15-24 year olds. The Hispanic/Latino population continues to rank the highest as they account for 30.2% of the cases while making up 14.2% of the population. Worksites, Long-Term Care facilities, homeless shelters, schools with a total of 13 schools that have had to transition to online learning temporarily. There is one high school currently on the second round of online learning. A surge in July kept the health department staff extremely busy as well as opting to recruit temporary staff to help keep up with case investigations and contact tracing. She explains the change in October from a color index (Red, Orange, Yellow, and Green) to a transmission index (High, Moderate, and Low) which correspond directly to case rates, positivity rates, and ICU utilization. Both Weber and Morgan counties are currently at the High level. She refers board members to [www.coronavirus.utah.gov](http://www.coronavirus.utah.gov) and [www.webermorganhealth.org](http://www.webermorganhealth.org) for current information. **Jesse Bush** explains the duties of the five Community Health Workers (CHW) and how they are funded, their essential role working with targeted populations, and the progress that has been made in five short weeks in connecting individuals who have been impacted through COVID-19. This team has trained and collaborated with other organizations who have hired CHW as well. Through case investigations, they identify and reach out to those who are in need assistance for rent, mortgage, utilities, insurance, or food with state and local resources. In the past four weeks, 573 individuals and 179 families have received assistance with 92 food pantry deliveries. Coordination calls are twice a week to ensure they are not duplicating efforts and using time efficiently. This has been a huge success especially in relation to the Multi-Cultural Task Force which has brought us together. He provides a breakdown by race/ethnicity. The Associated Press reached out last week which provided a way for more people to see who CHW's are and what they do. **Skyler Pyle** gives a timeline and overview of the COVID-19 vaccination planning and distribution in which vaccination would be administered at a Point of Dispensing (POD). She provides maps showing how vehicles will enter the POD area as well as the flow throughout the grounds and inside the building. There are two companies expected to have approval of vaccinations, each with specific ways to order, store, handle, and administer. She answers questions about adverse reactions, staffing, and how many vaccines could be given in a day. Board members commend staff on their work and ask about efforts to test. Schools and business are being trained to test with a strategy received from the state.

#### **Director's Report-Brian Bennion**

#### **Information Only**

**Brian Bennion** says flu clinics held at the schools were very successful with high numbers of students participating. He informs board members of his plan to retire the end of February 2021 and expresses what an excellent opportunity this has been for him and how he will miss working with those he has come to respect. **Neil Garner** thanks him for all he has done for the health department these past seven years and asks any board members interested in being part of the hiring committee to contact him. **Brian Cowan** explains how the position has been advertised. A timeline is given

with Brian staying on until the end of February to help the transition to a new executive director run smoothly.

**Chair's Report-Neil Garner**

**Information Only**

**Neil Garner** thanks staff for their efforts with COVID response and looks forward to the new step in offering the vaccine.

**Public Comment**

There is no public comment.

The meeting adjourns at 5:53 p.m.