

**Weber-Morgan Board of Health**  
**Minutes of Meeting**  
**June 22, 2020**

The Weber-Morgan Board of Health held its regular meeting on June 22, 2020 by conference/teleconference call in the Health Department auditorium at 477 23<sup>rd</sup> Street. The meeting is called to order at 4:02 p.m. with Neil Garner presiding.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Neil Garner	Frank Brown	Ken Johnson	Gage Froerer
Donna Chapman	Jennifer Bodine	Tina Kelley	Kevin Eastman
Ali Martinez	Leonard Call	Jer Bates	Roland Haslam

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Cole Brinkerhoff

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Brian Bennion	Brian Cowan	Amy Carter	MaryLou Adams
Michela Harris	Jesse Bush	Lori Buttars	Cathy Bodily
Colleen Jenson	Michelle Cooke	Melissa Freigang	JoAnn Wengreen

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Chris Crockett	Doug Jones	Richard Jex	Jeremy Shinoda
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**Welcome and Introductions-Neil Garner**

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

**Approval of Board of Health Minutes of April 29, 2020**

**Motion Passes**

A **MOTION** is made by **Ken Johnson** and **SECONDED** by **Jennifer Bodine** to approve the minutes as written. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

**Request for Wastewater Variance for Doug Jones-  
Michela Harris**

**Motion Passes**

**Michela Harris** explains requirements pertaining to lot size and slope for an onsite wastewater system and why the variance has been requested. She refers to a summary prepared on the properties and answers questions on ongoing maintenance and permits, whether power will be needed, and the requirement to have a variance be recorded on the property deed.

**Richard Jex**, representing Jex Environmental Solutions, LLC, explains that approval is needed on 2 variances for these properties. A **MOTION** is made by **Gage Froerer** and **SECONDED** by **Ali Martinez** to approve both variances for the property. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

**COVID-19 Update-Brian Bennion/Amy Carter**

**Information Only**

**Brian Bennion** informs board members of the number of positive cases in Weber and Morgan counties and the challenges that accompany such large numbers. Weber-Morgan's case number is at 684 lab confirmed cases (Morgan County having 17 and Weber County having 667) with 271 of those

recovered. There have been 9 deaths in Weber County. He reviews the transitions from red 'high risk', to orange 'medium risk', and now to yellow 'low risk' and what each entails. The health department staff has been busy investigating cases and contacting and monitoring close contacts. This is hours of phone calls for each case with additional hours daily to reach out to those a positive case was in contact with. Staff has been working extremely hard in an attempt to keep up with the workload. The state realized the burden on local health departments and discontinued active monitoring last week (daily contact to those exposed to a positive case for 14 day period). Even with this burden lifted, it is impossible to stay on top of calls to contacts as the numbers are so high for each positive case and each of the calls are very time consuming. Environmental Health continues to work with businesses and others to give guidance and review submitted plans to safely reopen. The Hispanic/Latino population is at 15% statewide yet have 42% of the cases. **Ali Martinez** clarifies that there are greater barriers than language in our underserved population. She states that this is a work force population with no safety net if testing is needed. If they test positive, they do not get paid time off or receive other benefits or options to work from home. She says there is no easy solution on how to make an impact with this population but it needs to be addressed. Employers need guidance on what they can do to slow the spread. **Tina Kelley** says she is making masks and would be happy to help coordinate getting some to those in need. **Ken Johnson** notes he is seeing people relax in vigilance in regards to masks and social distancing. **Amy Carter** says it is a very difficult challenge in battling those with 'coronavirus fatigue' who are not following recommendations. She points out the wording 'low risk' should be 'low restrictions' in order to send a clearer message. She says 45% of the cases in Weber-Morgan are of the Hispanic/Latino population. The highest percentage of case counts per age is the 25-44 year olds who make up 35% of all Weber-Morgan cases. Fall school openings and mandatory mask wearing is discussed.

### **Budget Update-Brian Cowan**

### **Information Only**

**Brian Cowan** updates board members of the expenses and revenue for COVID-19 response. The health department has received three grants from the Utah Department of Health totaling \$850,222. This funding is to be used towards COVID-19 related expenses and is intended to last to the end of the calendar year. As of the end of last week, the health department has used \$515,000 of that grant money for payroll related expenses as well as equipment and supplies. Two additional grants totaling \$135,000, will be used to hire a full-time epidemiologist. This is a two year grant. Weber County has committed to \$900,000 of CARES Act funding which will be spent on creating a COVID-19 team made up of twenty time-limited positions to work on case investigations and contact tracing. Other state and federal grants have approved shifting to COVID related activities. Loss of revenue is estimated to be \$50,000 to \$60,000 due to reduction of mass gathering, temporary events, and food handler permits. We will schedule a meeting with the Board Finance Committee in the next two months.

**Update Interlocal Agreement for Center of Excellence-  
Chris Crockett**

**Information Only**

**Chris Crockett** informs board members of the need to draft a change to the interlocal agreement concerning the operation of the Center of Excellence. It is currently operating as a division under the health department and will be set to operate as a department under Weber County with costs being divided equally between Weber County, Weber-Morgan Health Department, and Weber Human Services. He will continue working with the county on making these changes.

**Agreement between Weber County and Weber-Morgan  
Health Department Buildings-Chris Crockett**

**Motion Passes**

**Chris Crockett** explains an interlocal agreement between Weber County and the Weber-Morgan Health Department that sets up a long-term lease agreement for the parcel of land and two buildings the health department currently operates on. The health department will continue to pay the bond off and once the building is paid for, the rent for the agreement will be \$1 per year for 50 years. Restricted health department dollars were used for the property and buildings. There is an option included to sublease portions of the buildings with the health department required to cover insurance. Other services provided to the health department through the county will be formalized such as personnel services, accounting, legal, etc. with health department employees subject to Weber County policies and procedures. This is also being reviewed by Weber County Commission. A **MOTION** is made by **Leonard Call** and **SECONDED** by **Ken Johnson** to approve the interlocal agreement between Weber County and Weber-Morgan Health Department on the Weber-Morgan Health Department buildings and property. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

**Director's Report-Brian Bennion**

**Information Only**

**Brian Bennion** reports the Strategic Plan has not been given priority since the beginning of the current pandemic and gives an update on what has been achieved. Working through each phase, training staff and others for case investigations, active monitoring, and contact tracing, building a COVID team, and planning distribution of vaccines for when it becomes available, are some of the things the health department has worked through. He thanks Chris for his work on the interlocal agreement. He says Cathy Bodily, Emergency Services Program Manager, will be retiring. **Jennifer Bodine** informs board members that the university has the capacity to work on the health department sustainability initiative. This will be pursued once staff returns to their regular duties. The second floor of the annex is in the design phase with proposals being reviewed. He expresses appreciation for support from staff, Weber County Commission, the community, and the Board.

**Chair's Report-Neil Garner**

**Information Only**

**Neil Garner** reminds board members to contact Tina for masks if they are interested. He commends Cathy Bodily on the job she has done and says she has represented the health department very well. He says in this historical time, he appreciates the diversity and balance of the Board and

feels it has made them stronger. He expresses appreciation to the health department staff, especially the Nursing, Health Promotion, and Environmental Health staff for all their efforts at this time. He says he is very proud of the health department and the innovative ways being used to meet the needs of the community. He says even though it is very hard at this time, we will be able to look back at all the good things that have been done. He asks to be kept informed of testing sites as board members can promote them as they serve as ambassadors to the health department.

**Public Comment**

Board member **Donna Chapman** thanks the health department for all the hard work they are doing and says she appreciates the partnership between the health department and the hospital.

The meeting adjourns at 5:24 p.m.