

Weber-Morgan Board of Health Minutes of Meeting August 22, 2022

The Weber-Morgan Board of Health held its regular meeting on August 22, 2022, in the Health Department auditorium at 477 23rd Street.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. Frank Brown	Dr. Kenneth Johnson	Gage Froerer
Angela Choberka	Cheryle Allen	Dr. Lee Schussman
Dr. Doug Jacobs	Kevin Eastman	
Jason Boren	Bonnie Wahlen	

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Leonard Call, Jared Andersen, Ali Martinez

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian Cowan, Michela Harris, Scott Braeden, Jarelyn Cox, Amy Carter, Michelle Cooke, Summer Day, Lori Buttars, Elvira Odeh, Brandan Quinney, Sherrie Waters, Bryce Sherwood, Camy Sullenger.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Nate Wood, Kent Singleton, Jeffery Glum, Miyako Uehara

Welcome – Dr. Frank Brown

Dr. Frank Brown calls the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m. and welcomes those in attendance.

Approval of Board of Health Minutes of June 27, 2022

Motion Passes

A **MOTION** is made for approval of the June minutes. **Jason Boren** makes a motion to pass June minutes and **Dr. Lee Schussman** seconds the motion. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

Hentag Presentation

Information Only

Kent Singleton presents the family history of owners of Taggart Campground property. Kent Singleton is now property owner of part of Taggart Campground which is located at 1100 Taggart, Morgan, UT. 84050. Kent Singleton reports that there are groups of people who float the river and exit through his private property, also drug and alcohol use on the property. Kent Singleton states that this is an area that frequently sees unsupervised children who have twenty-four-seven access to what is now known as "Dope Road". After years of formal complaints to the Weber-Morgan Health Department, He was only recently responded with: "We are not Morgan County", "We have no jurisdiction", "We don't know of any insurance", "We don't know who is in charge", "We don't talk to Morgan County",

"There's not adequate legislation", "There are no criteria for Porta-Toilets and trash in the river" and trash cans, in spite of EPA recommendations, "We have no intentions to investigate anything about the unsupervised daily mass gatherings ... trash ... feces on the ground, or porta-toilets in the Weber River". Kent Singleton is coming to the Board to discuss that WMHD management and staff have no intention to conduct any study or investigation about the people who are coming to Summit County via the Weber River and exiting the river onto his property in Taggart. Kent Singleton states he has realized the jurisdiction does not enforce No Trespassing signs and from experience, no proper investigations on accidents, drug, and alcohol use have been done. Kent Singleton would like to partner with Weber County through the interlocal agreement to do the right thing on Dope Road. Dr. Frank Brown requested for Kent Singleton to summarize the main areas he has concerns, related to public health issues, but not public land rights because that is not a health department issue. In terms of issues of mass gatherings, the health department can discuss based on the regulations what is considered a mass gathering. Kent Singleton explains this is a part of his private property that is being used and many times blocked by vehicles. Jeffery Glum also a Weber county resident argues that it is not necessarily health issues but the way WMHD responded to their concerns. Jeffery states there has been no proper testing in the river and more than 6,000 people visit the river, he continues to state that the board has responsibilities as elected officials to protect and defend and step up to the plate. Dr. Frank Brown responded that Jefferey Glum has identified two more issues in terms of the EPA, water quality, and environmental impact issues. Dr. Lee Schussman requested an exact location of where the property is located. Jefferey Glum stated it is in Taggart and per Weber County, because of the river, it is free to public access. **Angela Coberka** asked what authority is being contacted for trespassing. **Kevin Eastman** asks a question in regards to GRAMA requests, Jefferey Glum states that GRAMA requests have been submitted to Morgan County and they have not responded. **Brian Cowan** speaks about the complaints WMHD has responded to and explains that WMHD is granted authority through the legislative process. Health department responses to public health emergencies. Mr. Singleton has requested GRAMA requests for all mass gatherings, and responses were given. Mass gathering is a single event that is given to one single entity that creates a mass gathering and that is who we work through, these activities at the Weber River are the same activities as Causey or Pineview reservoir. Morgan County owns a portion of the property along the river and has agreed to provide dumpster and porta-toilets for the public who are recreating on the river, and when the WMHD is alerted of issues we respond to ensure proper clean up, but those actions cannot stop people from recreating. Garbage cans that are overflowing are being cleaned up weekly. Samples are being taken frequently and do not have data to support closure. WMHD will actively monitor and work with the property owners in regards to complaints. Brandan Quinney asserted that there is a separation of powers here and we have multiple jurisdictions and different authority over different aspects or different activities and it's a multi-layer problem for property owners but can be addressed by proper channels. The health department has a role but Morgan County has land use and zoning, and the Sheriff, and Forest services are also involved. The Interlocal agreement between Morgan and Weber County narrowly sets the establishment of the health department and is a collaborative effort between Weber and Morgan County. This is a result of the collaborative effort but it does not expand the health department's authority anywhere beyond what the state law already provides and that includes issues with surveying or code enforcement or criminal violations. Dr. Lee Schussman expresses, board members are wanting to help but it is not in our purview. Brian Cowan states we will continue to work with property owners. Kevin Eastman asks if the WMHD can refer Kent Singleton to the proper authority. Dr. Douglas Jacobs sympathizes with the property owners. Dr. Frank Brown states no action because of meeting rules but can offer advice. Dr. Lee Schussman makes a comment we

can refer him to proper entities. Brian Cowan offers to reach out to Morgan County in an effort to help. **Dr. Douglas Jacobs** asks what data is available through GRAMA request. Brian response is that GRAMA requests pertain to records that we keep. In some occasions, we do not have data and the statute does not require us to create a record we don't have. Some issues with records are they may be from different entities and some information is protected. Dr. Douglas Jacobs makes a comment that the WMHD is responding to GRAMA requests and is sharing information that is able to be shared. Brandan Quinney speaks about the appeal process. Ken Johnson makes comment that the Health department employees work hard and states there is no intention for the health department to ignore or be unsympathetic. Angela Coberka makes comment that there has been a lot of conversation and investigation about the matter. Brandan Quinney states he will forward the memo from previous meeting to board members. Dr. Frank Brown thanks Brandan Quinney and requests an update for next board of health meeting.

VRRAP Program

Information Only

Sherrie Waters gives Report on VRRAP Clean Car Clinic event that was held on July 15, 2022. VRRAP program is usually restricted mainly to vehicles that have the check engine light on, but event was a success resulted in 44 free emissions tests given on-site, 40 Vehicles failed, and 4 vehicles passed the pre-screen. During this clinic there was 44 applications were submitted with 11 vouchers qualifying for replacement voucher, 26 qualified for repair voucher, and 7 applications denied for various reasons or cars passed emissions test at event. The VRRAP vouchers vehicle owner will qualify for up to \$1,000 of repair systems so there was \$24,000 worth of vouchers approved for repair, for replacement the amount available was \$6,250 and \$73,750 allotted for replacement which makes the total of \$97,750 that was given. The VRRAP program was a success it has helped increase public awareness increased participation in the program prior to the event the VRRAP program was only receiving 1 applicant a week and now 4 applications a week are being submitted. The VRRAP program is now helping a lot of vehicle owners receive needed assistance for repair or replacement of vehicles. **Bonnie Wahlen** asks how VRRAP program is being advertised, Sherrie Waters states that program is being advertised through the website, 1000 mailers were mailed out, 23 gas stations were advertising on the media screen, and social media was also a source for advertising. **Brian Cowan** informs that the VRRAP program is funded through a grant by the EPA to assist the public in getting their vehicles to compliance and customers will have to qualify for vouchers.

Monkeypox Update

Information Only

Amy Carter shares information about current situations in the United States and Weber County in active cases and efforts being done for Monkeypox. Amy informs monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with Monkeypox virus. Monkeypox is part of the same family of viruses that cause smallpox. It was discovered in 1958 when two outbreaks of pox-like disease occurred in colonies of monkeys kept for research. Despite its name, the source of the disease remains unknown. Rodents and non-human primates (like monkeys) might harbor the virus and infect humans. The first case was discovered in 1960 and was previously reported mainly from western and central African countries. Cases outside of Africa are mainly linked to international travel. Signs and symptoms are rashes, fever or chills, swollen lymph nodes, muscle aches, headache, exhaustion, and respiratory symptoms. Monkeypox is similar to smallpox, it's milder and rarely fatal. Symptoms usually start within 3 weeks of exposure its spreads mostly through close inmate contact and can be infectious from

symptoms onset until the rash is healed, scabs have fallen off and fresh skin formed usually 2-4 weeks. Monkeypox is not new to the U.S and is not typically reported have been reported in the US in 2003, with 47 cases from imported prairie dogs, 2021 separate travel-associated cases, and now in 2022. Outbreaks across countries that do not report monkeypox infection, including the U.S. but now reporting cases. Current cases; globally 41,358, the U.S reporting 50 of the states with 114,115, Utah alone reporting as of Friday, 85 cases, and Weber County 7 cases. Amy explains two approved vaccines, one is the smallpox vaccine used in the past called A-2000. Jynneos is currently prescribed to patients. The challenge is that WMHD has a very limited supply. WMHD has a small allocation, numbers based on a formula utilizing the prevalence of HIV within the communities, also the majority of cases WMHD is seeing are associated with bi-sexual, gay, populations with men having sex with men. There are two criteria to receive vaccination, one is post-exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) the other which is the majority of vaccination in the state if PEP++ essentially is you haven't had a known exposure to a case of monkeypox but have had a known exposure to high-risk situations and therefor want to try to get you protected and get vaccinated before that exposure. On August 9th, 2022 the Weber-Morgan Health department was able to open appointments for Monkeypox vaccination. Monday, August 29th, 2022 the WMHD will have a monkeypox event and are hopeful to vaccinate 200 people. Flyers were made to take to events to help educate the public and encourage people to come in and get vaccinated. **Dr. Doug Jacobs** asked if there is a specific group that is at high risk and how well you advertise and how do you get these people to get vaccinated. Amy responds at this time we go to the point of education and the state has done a wonderful job to educate. Amy stated that they will communicate with the LGBTQ+ community to educate and also with medical providers to send people to the health department to get vaccinated. Lori makes a comment stating that event on Monday the WMHD will be working with the Ogden Diversity Commission, and Weber State inclusion committee has communicated their interest in participating in spreading the word. **Angela Coberka** asks if flyers are also available in Spanish. Amy stated that unfortunately at this time the flyers are not offered in Spanish but the state website does have available information in Spanish. **Cheryl Allen** asks what vaccine is the WMHD using at this time. Amy responds; that the vaccine the WMHD is using is Jynneos which was initially created and approved for smallpox and has had a lot of clinical studies for use in smallpox. Jynneos has also proven to be safe to use for individuals with HIV, atopic dermatitis, or other immune suppressive conditions as well as clinical consideration to provide it during pregnancy, which is great because those individuals are at higher risk. Jynneos also has emergency use authorization and has just been approved to vaccinate under 18 years old. **Dr. Lee Schussman** asks if WMHD has testing available. Amy states the WMHD has limited capacity for testing and has encouraged individuals to test with a physician because these symptoms can present similarly to many other infections. Limited testing at the health department for those individuals who do not have a provider or do not have insurance.

NALBOH Update

Information Only

Dr. Ken Johnson gave an update on the NALBOH symposium that was held in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Found very interesting a presentation that was given by the public law center regarding tobacco used in mental health treatment. Data was given showing a number of people who smoke who are being treated for mental health issues. The quote that stood out was, "most individuals who receive mental health or substance abuse treatment will die from the consequences of tobacco use rather than

any mental health or substance abuse problems.” They spoke about limited treatment for behavioral facilities and lack of resources. Massachusetts implemented a new tobacco control law to help reduce the use of tobacco and nicotine in youth and help users quit. Massachusetts data shows the use of youth using tobacco has dropped. The law is being enforced on businesses giving fines, and suspension of licenses. Dr. Ken Johnson explains how attending these conferences has helped him get to know the commissioners and some board members. Next year’s meeting will be in Tacoma, Washington, and encourages all board members to attend. **Bonnie Wahlen** expresses she too enjoyed attending NALBOH and states she also listed data given, 3/10 smokers have mental health problems and 4/10 have severe mental health problems. Speaker also states how dangerous flavored tobacco is, more than regular cigarettes, and how staff needs additional training in mental health, especially when doing home visits. Bonnie complements the Weber-Morgan Health Department for their hard work as well as Brian Cowan and Michela Harris.

Director’s Report

Information Only

Brian Cowan gives an update on Covid-19 numbers for Weber and Morgan Counties. Still busy with 1,323 active cases, over the last 2 months we have been seeing active cases declining, in July 1st we were averaging 102 new cases a day to today averaging to 46 new cases, but hospitalizations staying between 17-27 hospitalizations a day and ICU staying 0-3 per day. Still offering Covid-19 vaccinations, 66% of our population that has received at least one dose, and 59% fully vaccinated, having received both doses and boosters. Pediatrics vaccination really slow but with school starting, we have seen a little bump. Brian Cowan states he is excited for the open house for the Morgan facility schedule next week for the 31st from 11:30-1:30 pm. There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony and Kevin Eastman, Brian Cowan, and a few members of the cities commissioners will speak and give tours of the facility. Brian states the most important part of this grand opening is that we now have a location out in Morgan to better serve the community. Budgets information for cycle 2022 and prepare new budget for 2023 are due September 6, 2022, and will meet with commissioners and discuss budgets. The BOH finance committee meeting will also meet to discuss budgets for 2023. WIC held their first Annual Breastfeeding Fair, this was an educational and outreach opportunity to expecting mothers in the community, and this is the first time WIC has held this event in the result to increase the number of participants in the WIC program. We have seen a decrease in participants and would like to turn that around. This event has helped us with having 50 expected mothers attend but they also brought friends and we were able to have four apply for benefits. Health Promotions just wrapped up distributing funds for a couple of community grants, about 570,000 total that we receive to give to partners to create new or add to substance abuse programs. Health Promotion organized a Raptors game for outreach to focus on tobacco and substance abuse prevention HP also set up a 5K run for prevention as well. Dr. Ken Johnson asked if there was any anticipation offering a Covid-19 booster vaccination. Brian responds we anticipate similar to influenza where each year we will have a formulation.

Chair's Report**Information Only**

Dr. Frank Brown states he has little to report but would like the board members to take a look at email from NALBOH that would be helpful for board members if they have questions about their roles and responsibilities. Dr. Frank Brown recommends reviewing and if members have any feedback please reach out. Dr. Frank Brown reminds members of Utah One Health Symposium being held in West Jordan, Utah, November 3, 2022 encourages members to attend. Dr. Douglas Jacobs expresses appreciation towards Dr. Frank Brown and thanks him for his leadership and keeping it focused on the health department items.

Public Comment

There are no comments

The meeting adjourns at 5:38 pm.