



**NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING
OF THE WEBER-MORGAN HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Notice is hereby given that the Weber-Morgan Board of Health will hold its regularly scheduled meeting at the Weber-Morgan Health Department **Annex Building**, 455 23rd St, 2nd Floor Auditorium, Ogden, Utah commencing at **4:00 p.m.** on **Monday, September 25, 2023.**

Agenda for the meeting will consist of the following:

Welcome	Ali Martinez
Information Items	
1) Introduction of New Employees and Promotions	Brian Cowan
Action Items	
2) Approval of August 2023 Meeting Minutes	Ali Martinez
3) 2024 Budget Approval	Michela Harris
Information Items	
4) Covid-19 Guidance Update	Lekelsi Talbot / Kim Quintana
5) Waste Water Management Discussion	Dr. Lee Schussman
6) Director's Report	Brian Cowan
7) Chair's Report	Ali Martinez
8) Adjourn	

*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals needing auxiliary Communication aids or other services for this meeting should contact Elvira Odeh at eodeh@webercountyutah.gov giving at least three days' notice.
Dated this 22nd September 2023.*

**Weber-Morgan Board of Health
Minutes of Meeting
August 28, 2023**

The Weber-Morgan Board of Health held its regular meeting on August 28, 2023, in the Health Department Annex conference room at 455 23rd Street. The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm. With Ali Martinez presiding.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ali Martinez	Cheryle Allen	Sharon Bolos
Angela Choberka	Jason Boren	Lee Schussman - Virtual
Bonnie Wahlen	Dr. Ken Johnson	Jared Andersen - Virtual
Dr. Frank Brown	Kevin Eastman	Dr. Andy Jensen - Virtual

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Leonard Call

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brian Cowan	Michelle Cooke	Summer Day
Michela Harris	Kristen Anderson	Scott Braeden
Lori Buttars	Jarelyn Cox	Sherrie Waters
Lekelsi Talbot	Sean Hansen	

OTHERS PRESENT:

Brandan Quinney

Welcome and Introductions- Ali Martinez

Ali Martinez calls the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. and welcomes those in attendance.

Introduction of Dr. Andy Jensen

Information Only

Brian Cowan introduces **Dr. Andy Jensen** who is filling in the remainder of the term for Dr. Douglas Jacobs who has retired. Dr. Jensen expresses he is happy to be a part of the Weber-Morgan Health Department Board. All board members introduce themselves and welcome Dr. Andy Jensen.

Retirement of Michelle Cooke

Information Only

Michela Harris announces Michelle Cooke's retirement. Michela continues to share some thoughts from her staff, written for the Pickett Webb Award nomination on her behalf. This award is one of the most prestigious awards presented by the Utah Environmental Health Association and was presented to Michelle to recognize her outstanding achievement, hard work, and dedication to the Weber-Morgan Health Department. The Department thanks her for her years of service and will miss her.

Approval of Board of Health Minutes of May 22, 2023

Motion Passes

A **MOTION** is made by **Dr. Frank Brown** and **SECONDED** by **Bonnie Wahlen** to approve the minutes as written. The **MOTION** passes unanimously.

Accreditation

Motion Passes

Brian Cowan introduces **Sean Hansen** who presents the public health accreditation options. Sean explains that Accreditation is a way for the department to benchmark its performance outcome, identify disparities, and how to improve them. This program will show the public we are holding ourselves to high standards. There are five Departments in Utah, Bear River, Salt Lake City, Davis County, Tooele County, and the state health department that have participated in the accreditation program. The process includes 10 standards that every applicant has to reach. The standards include foundational public health services such as Equity, Community Partnership Development, Organizational Competencies, Policy Development and Support, Communications, Emergency Preparedness and Response, and Accountability and Performance Management. Other than Accreditation, there is a Pathways Recognition program. Pathways assesses health departments on their performance of the 34 foundational Capabilities. This is ideal for health departments that are not yet ready to apply for accreditation, but still want to enhance performance improvement and other capabilities. Sean continues to explain the difference between Accreditation and Pathways. Both will require and readiness and training fee, application fee, and documentation and review. The benefit of Accreditation is it will increase our reputation in the community, and improve the ability to identify and address gaps in employee training and workforce development. Sean states that the WMHD has already started doing some processes. All the divisions are working together to collect and update documents and data. Emergency services is completing Project Public Health Ready, the Community Health Assessment was recently updated and has been published on our website. The health department is working on major documentation some being completed or near completion. These include the Strategic Plan, CHA, and CHIP. Sean states if the Board wishes the Department to go forward with either Accreditation or Pathways, the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) will require a letter of approval. If Accreditation is chosen, a few members of the board will need to be available during a future site visit. If neither are chosen the WMHD plans to continue with its efforts to be accreditation adjacent. Some board members state they are concerned with the cost and ask what the risk would be if the health department does not pass the accreditation. Other board members request more information as to the pros and cons as well as what PHAB provides to the community. Ali Martinez makes a suggestion to start the Readiness and Training assessment at a cost of \$1299 to see where the department's readiness stands before deciding to move forward with either Accreditation or Pathways. Dr. Ken Johnson comments stating the Readiness and Training assessment can be done and stop if the department isn't ready to continue. A **MOTION** is made by **Jason Boren** to start the Readiness and Training assessment and reevaluate in a year. The motion is **SECONDED** by **Angela Choberka**. Roll call vote is taken and all were in favor with the exception of **Bonnie Wahlen**, with a nay vote. The **MOTION** passes.

2023 Budget Update/ 2024 Budget Projection

Information Only

Michela Harris states that health department staff are in the process of completing

the 2024 budget for submission to Weber County on September 8th. Financials for half of 2023 as well as the projections we have for grants and fees in 2024 are presented. The midway mark (as of August 1st) for revenue is at 47% and expenses are at 46%. Michela explains some revenue accounts show 0% collected because they're not invoiced until the end of the year. The I/M program consent agreement was not budgeted but we have taken in some funds so revenue is showing. With everything factored in at 6 months, the health department is in a good position and on track to end in good standing for 2023. The fund balance shows where we will end based on the revised budget. The target is for the balance to be between 25-35% of operating costs. This is subject to change based on 2023 actuals. Michela continues with predicted revenue loss and gain for 2024. The health department has been notified of several Community Health grants that have been reduced or discontinued and is losing COVID-19 grants by mid-2024. New funding sources and savings include paying off the bond for the main building in 2023, an APC Fee increase, a community health replacement grant, an environmental health fee adjustment, and a public health infrastructure grant to help with lost revenue. Michela states that from the totals and the estimates the budget looks good and the health department will be able to absorb some of the losses. Michela notified the board of the BOH Finance Committee meeting on September 6, 2023 at that time there will be a finalized budget, and we'll come back to the board with an update of what was submitted to Weber County.

Directors Report

Brian Cowan shares that the first week of August is breastfeeding week. During that week on August 8, 2023, WIC received the Breastfeeding Gold Award of Excellence from the Food and Nutrition Service and the US Department of Agriculture, being the only WIC program in the state to receive that award. From July 10th through 13th he attended NACCHO 360 in Denver along with Dr. Johnson and Michela Harris. He attended the NALBOH conference in Tacoma, Washington Dr. Johnson attended as well. Brian gives an update on COVID-19, As of today, they are estimating 450 to 500 active cases, 5 to 10 new positive cases a day that identified through healthcare providers and emergency room departments. The emergency room visits from June 19 to July 19 was at a low of .49% and now at 1.5% a bit low but still circulating. XBB variant is responsible for between 40% and 60% of positive cases that are serotyped. The others are the mixtures of the omicron variants that are out there with the exception of the BA2.86 variant identified by the World Health Organization. There have been 3 cases identified in the United States but no cases of that in Utah. We are expecting vaccine guidance and recommendations which will be released as soon as it is available.

Information Only

Chairs Report- Ali Martinez

Ali Martinez has no report
The meeting adjourns at 5:18 pm.

Information Only