



UTAH COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

151 SOUTH UNIVERSITY AVENUE
PROVO, UTAH 84601

MINUTES

July 27, 2009

Members Present:

Name	
Erin Maughan, PhD	✓
Clyde Nielsen, RPh	excused
Doris Baker, BA	✓
Dennis Hess, MD	✓
Saundra M. Huff	✓
Chris Sorensen	✓

Name	
Viola Ramos, MRC	✓
Jerry C. Washburn, Mayor	✓
Gary Anderson, Commissioner	excused
Joseph K. Miner, MD, MSPH	✓
Ralph L. Clegg, MPA	excused

Others present: Ashley Tramel, Karly Mathews, Megan Carr - Interns, UCHD - Nicole Davis, Robert Mower, Lynn Flinders, Jason Garrett, Dave Johnson, Eric Edwards, Daily Herald - Heidi Toth

1. Welcome - Mayor Jerry Washburn, Vice Chair
2. Approval of Minutes - May 18, 2009

MOTION: Doris Baker made the motion to approve the minutes from May 18, 2009, which was seconded by Superintendent Sorensen and passed by unanimous vote.

3. Add the word “recirculating” water to the Interactive Water Feature Regulation - Jason Garrett from Environmental Health explained that this was implied but needed to be explicitly stated. We only want to regulate recirculating water, not all water features. Dr. Miner explained that since the change is only a clarification of what should have already been understood, it will not require a public hearing.

MOTION: Mr. Sorensen made the motion to approve the inclusion of “recirculating” to the interactive water feature regulations, which was seconded by Erin Maughan and passed by unanimous vote.

4. Discuss the Employee Immunization requirement Policy revision for adoption - Dr. Miner explained that the policy was updated to include mandatory immunizations for employees who work with newborns and pregnant women. We had a scare with an employee who thought she had chicken pox and was giving immunizations to newborn babies. Fortunately it turned out she did not have chicken pox. Because of this, we feel we should ensure that all employees who work with newborn babies and pregnant women in the Immunization and WIC Clinics and on home visitation are immunized against tetanus, diphtheria, whooping cough, measles, mumps, rubella, and influenza, including the new H1N1 flu when it is available this fall. Several board members expressed interest in including work with all children in this policy, so this policy was changed to include all children.

MOTION: Erin Maughan made the motion to accept the revision to the Employee Mandatory Immunization Policy, which was seconded by Superintendent Sorensen and passed by unanimous vote.

5. Update on H1N1 Flu - Dr. Miner

H1N1 has definitely been a pandemic, even though it has not been as deadly as first feared. After first hearing of the problem in Mexico everyone panicked and all the panic took place before we had any outbreaks in Utah. By the time it did reach us, the panic had passed and people weren't as careful as they could have been. Still, any flu is a very serious illness and we've had many outbreaks this spring among school age children and young adults.

The Missionary Training Center struggled with it for several months, and with all their measures it still took quite a while for them to get it under control. It showed how difficult it is in residential or correctional facilities, nursing homes, and schools to control influenza. Once influenza starts spreading, it has such a short incubation period that by the time any cases are identified you already have many more exposed. There were also major outbreaks at youth camps. There was one case where a newborn was probably infected before birth from the mother.

In the regular flu season in the southern hemisphere (South America, Australia, etc.) they've experience a lot of severe influenza. We expect another major resurgence during the regular flu season in the fall, and are hoping for a Novel H1N1 vaccine by mid to late November. The details are not complete yet, but we hope to have the private clinics assist the health department with the administration of the flu vaccine when it becomes available. The H1N1 vaccine will probably require two shots. The regular seasonal flu vaccine may be available in August, and the health department will start administering it as soon as it arrives.

Mayor Washburn asked if there was a difference in the severity and incubation period between normal flu and H1N1 that the public should be aware of. Dr. Miner explained that pandemic flu typically is worse because there's less general immunity in the population. Currently H1N1 is not showing to be deadlier than just regular seasonal flu. Still, it's a very serious

illness. And the problem with pandemic flu is that if a lot more people are infected because of less immunity and more susceptibility out there, then even though it's no more deadly than regular flu, you will have more deaths because a lot more people are becoming infected. Even though sometimes flu screening tests will show negative, if high fever and myalgias are present, chances are good that it is the flu. The nausea and vomiting or "stomach flu" is rarely the flu unless there is a high fever.

Dr. Miner explained what people can do to avoid exposure, including staying home when you're sick, wearing an inexpensive surgical mask, and frequent hand washing. Regarding youth camps, if your child was ill the week before, do not send them to camp.

Mayor Washburn expressed appreciation to Lance Madigan for the ongoing information that he gives to the media and how it keeps the public educated. He said that public education will be crucial to this because there may be some who will feel if they've had their flu shot that they won't need the H1N1 vaccine also. Superintendent Sorensen asked if there could be a directive just for schools to help them educate parents, PTA groups and students. Dr. Miner said that the health department will have clear guidelines for the schools.

6. West Nile Virus / Mosquito Control Update - Bob Mower, Director

Mr. Mower gave a presentation explaining that as of July 21, 2009 there have been 14 human cases in the U.S. Service requests are high due to the wet spring. Mosquito Abatement received almost 200 service calls during the first week in July; more calls than they've had in the 4 previous years. The mosquitoes this year are an aggressive biting species. This spring, the numbers of the West Nile or Tarsalis mosquito were very high. The office is performing testing in their own labs so they can get results back the same day. To date they have processed over 300 samples. The question was asked if the products that Mosquito Abatement uses are available for public use. Mr. Mower said they are not, but that the products available in a garden shop would help.

Mr. Mower explained that the West Nile mosquitoes are most active between 9:00 p.m. and midnight, so beware of sleeping outside, wear long sleeves, and use mosquito repellent. Make sure you don't have stagnant water. Mosquito Abatement has products that are safe for use in ornamental pools. They also have packets of insecticide available free of charge that you can put in these pools.

7. Utah Association of Local Boards of Health, Annual Seminar - September 25 in Richfield, Utah. Dr. Miner gave everyone a handout explaining the event. He encouraged the board to attend so they can meet with other boards of health members, compare notes, and become informed on legislative issues that affect us. Please let Debbie Eyre know no later than September 12 if you would like to attend.

8. New Employees - Dr. Miner read the list of new employees. All except one are part time/temporary (1,000 hours). Senior Services/Foster Grandparents are now part of the health department. Foster Grandparents help in schools and the senior companions help give support to other seniors with companionship, visiting, help with shopping, etc. Volunteers have to be 60 years old or older, and they are paid a small stipend.

9. Other Business

The annual employee appreciation picnic is scheduled for September 15 at 6:00 p.m. in the Orem Senior Center pavilion. Admission is free for employees and immediate family members living at home. All board members are invited.

10. Next meeting - September 28, 2009 at 4:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Joseph K. Miner, M.D.
Executive Director
Utah County Health Department

Dennis Hess, M.D.
Vice Chair
Utah County Board of Health