



MINUTES

September 26, 2011 - 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Name	
Erin Maughan, PhD	✓
Clyde Nielsen, RPh	excused
Henry Yeates, MD	✓
Vernon Henshaw	✓
Viola Ramos, MRC	✓

Name	
Mayor Jim Dain	✓
Doug Witney, Commissioner	✓
Diane Lohner	✓
Dianne Carr	excused

**Others present:** Dr. Joseph Miner - Executive Secretary, Debbi Solen - Board Secretary, Ralph Clegg - Deputy Director, Dr. Dennis Hess

Utah County Health Department: Lance Madigan, Debbie Shoemaker, Toni Carpenter, Dave Johnson, Lynn Flinders, Pam Bowers, Joy Holbrook, Steve Alder

Benjamin Witt-Alternative Onsite Systems, Tug Gettling-North Utah Valley Animal Services, Mike Morgan- South Utah Valley Animal Services, Sam LeFevre-UDOH, McKell Drury-UDOH, Craig Dietrich-UDOH, Fairfield Mayor Mike Burch, Colleen Withrow

1. Welcome and introduction of New Members

Dr. Erin Maughan welcomed new members, Dr. Henry Yeates and Dianne Carr. Debbi Solen was introduced as the new Administrative Secretary for the Utah County Health Department (UCHD).

2. Recognition of Outgoing Members

Dr. Maughan and Dr. Miner thanked Dr. Dennis Hess for his service on the Board of Health from 2003-2011, and presented him with a commemorative plaque. They also recognized Sandy Huff and expressed thanks for her service from 2006-2011.

3. Approval of Minutes of the July 18, 2011 meeting

**MOTION:** Vernon Henshaw made the motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Cmsr. Witney and passed by unanimous vote.

4. Election of Vice-Chair

Tabled until next meeting for action.

5. Consider approval of an alternative waste water disposal system variance for an existing home in North Fork Provo Canyon.

Dr. Miner presented background information for this matter. State law states existing homes that are on a lot that can not support an approved septic tank are allowed to have a holding tank. This is an existing home with a holding tank that has a hole in it and is leaking sewerage. It is very close to the river and could be potentially going there. This home is approved for a holding tank, but compliance is often poor because they are very expensive to maintain.

Ben Witt, Alternative Onsite Systems, is working with the home owner and described the situation. There is no room to get on the hillside to install another holding tank. The existing holding tank is plastic and when the tank is not full of water it implodes and then cracks. The requirement for an alternative system installation is that it be 50 feet from the stream and the drainage slope must be 25%. The best they can do on this lot is 45 feet from the creek so they need a 5' variance. The 35% slope of the lot doesn't allow an alternative system to be approved and there is an issue with ground water. There are 2 alternative systems in Utah County. The other systems met the requirements and did not require a variance. The State DEQ only gets involved with variances on new construction.

Members discussed granting the variance with the stipulations that the existing home could not be expanded and the neighboring unbuild able lot could not be used for any building intended to use this alternative system. Dianne Lohner added that it is with the understanding that all paperwork is in place with the State and recorded on the Deed. Viola Ramos requested written verbiage with details as to the plan for this system. Ms. Lohner indicated that the variance should be approved so that the current leaking tank system can be removed from service.

**MOTION:** Cmsr Witney made the motion to grant the variance with the stipulation that no additions will be built on the house or no additional structures added to this alternative waste water disposal system. A further stipulation was added to the motion that no additional bedrooms could be added to the existing home and that all paperwork with these stipulations be recorded with the deed. The motion was seconded by Dianne Lohner and passed by unanimous vote.

6. Citizen Appeal of Penalty Fee charged for operating a food business without a permit

John Fotheringham was not present.

7. Presentation and Request for Support of the Utah County Animal Shelters' proposal to immunize dogs for rabies – Mike Morgan and Tug Gettling

Tug and Mike raised the concern that owners pick up their dogs and purchase a voucher to immunize their dog, and 40% do not follow through. Tug is looking for support to change this so that the animal shelter will administer the immunization for the dog, unless proof is shown that the animal is immunized. The State veterinarian office agrees that animal shelters should be able to administer the rabies vaccination with indirect veterinarian supervision and not direct. Mike indicated that it will not require an administrative rule change. The rabies vaccine has to be bought under a veterinarian's license. Staff at the animal shelters will be trained to administer the vaccine, and to complete vaccine

tracking paperwork. The \$10-\$12 fee is paid by the dog owner, it is documented and records would be kept at the animal shelter. Tug doesn't foresee a cost increase to the dog owner to pay for the veterinarian. The shot would not be given until the dog owner is present and pays for it. The vaccine has to be refrigerated. The animal shelter carries liability insurance and is covered for giving the rabies vaccine.

Dr. Yeates asked about the feasibility of changing the law. Tug Gettling says the law already gives the shelters permission to give the rabies vaccine.

**MOTION:** Cmsr. Witney made the motion to send to the animal shelters a letter of support for animal shelter staff to administer the rabies vaccine to dogs, which was seconded by Dr. Yeates and passed by unanimous vote.

#### 8. Report of Fairfield City Mine Tailings Contamination Investigation

Dr. Miner introduced Sam LeFevre, McKell Drury, and Craig Dietrich, from the Department of Environmental Epidemiology of Utah Department of Health and gave a brief overview of the Fairfield Manning Canyon Mill site and information regarding the investigation. Mike Burch, Mayor of Fairfield Town, which requested the toxicology research is present.

Contaminant report indicates drinking water from wells does not contain harmful levels of arsenic, thallium or mercury. Seasonal standing surface water located in the first 700 feet of Big Creek Ditch, east of Hwy 73, does contain unhealthy levels of arsenic and thallium, but no mercury.

Soil-Residential: Levels of arsenic that could pose a health risk after long term (>1yr) exposure exists on some residential land.

Soil-Non-Residential: Some properties contain levels of arsenic that could pose a health risk after a short-term exposure. Air does not contain arsenic.

Sections of Hwy 73 contain very high levels of arsenic that could pose a health risk after short exposure, but these are covered with asphalt and are contained.

Cmsr. Witney asked how many homes were tested and the state said all of the residential areas were tested. There is a health concern if you eat the soil or breath the dust; growing root crops in home gardens should be avoided. The contaminated soil is 2 inches deep. The zoning for the land now is agriculture.

#### Recommendations:

Non-drinking surface water - Parents should reduce or eliminate any children's exposure to surface water streams or puddles and annual sampling should be conducted to ensure contaminant reduction.

Soil - Reduce exposure to contaminated soils in yards. Coordinate with EPA and UDEQ to monitor contaminant levels. Prior to development of contaminated areas the land must be cleaned. The town of Fairfield should consider zoning and institutional controls (i.e. soil ordinance, land use control) to limit exposure.

High levels of thallium can cause hair loss, nerve damage, nausea and vomiting followed by the failure of multiple body organs, brain injury, and death.

Arsenic can cause nausea and vomiting, decreased production of red and white blood cells, abnormal heart rhythm, damage to blood vessels, sensation of pins & needles in hands and feet. High level can cause sore throat, irritated lungs, mild birth defects, can result in lower IQ in children, risk of skin,

liver, bladder and lung cancer. Arsenic is used in the treatment of some forms of leukemia and may be a therapy for certain forms of brain and connective tissue tumors.

The population is too small to determine effects. The citizens have been notified of the symptoms and are able to get in touch with the State for testing. Dr. Yeates asked about a way to divert the water or clean up the soil; perhaps funding for clean up could be found as Fairfield is a historical site. Mike Burch said the RR trestle saved the springs. This environmental study is available on the State website.

9. Annual Review and Approval of Health Department Fees.

Board members discussed the fee schedule and the recommended changes from Environmental Health.

**MOTION:** Cmsr Witney made the motion to approve the UCHD fee schedule with the changes in fees as recommended by staff, which was seconded by Dr. Yeates and passed by unanimous vote.

10. Community Assessment Activities and Presentation of Cost Analysis of Measles Investigation in Utah County – Toni Carpenter

Toni indicated the UCHD is moving forward with community health assessments. Data from BYU and United Way will be used to do the assessment. A model of the Community Assessment for Public Health Emergency Response (CASPER) will be used to gather information from the community.

Toni presented a UCHD cost analysis, with hand out, for the 2011 Measles outbreak, even though there were no cases in Utah County. There were 10 suspect cases costing \$11,704.50, 613 surveillance investigations costing \$4,336.60, 43 exposures to confirmed cases costing \$2,637.34, 29 contacts of suspected cases costing \$1,777.95. The total cost was \$20,456.39. The fee for a child immunization waiver is \$25 for the entire school career of up to 13 years. There are approximately 1,250 waivers per year in Utah County.

11. Letter sent to schools recommending they have faculty and staff immunization records on file for future outbreak investigations.

Dr. Miner noted that at a prior Board of Health meeting, the Board recommended a letter be sent to school districts recommending immunization records be kept for faculty and staff to expedite the process of determining who can remain at the school during outbreaks. He reported the letters were sent to the 3 school districts and to the charter schools in Utah County.

12. Report of National Association of Local Boards of Health Annual Meeting

Ralph reported that feelings on accreditation are mixed from local health departments, but national agencies have bought into it and are pushing for it. Cost is a major factor for local health departments. Accreditation is voluntary, but if you want future funding you have to be accredited.

He attended the Environmental Health sessions and reported that 75% of seafood is imported, 15% of overall food is imported. There have been over 1,200 recalls for food, most recalls are from American companies. A new rule for FDA is that if foreign food countries will not allow inspections, then importing of food from that country can be stopped.

13. Utah Association of Local Boards of Health Annual Symposium September 29-30 at Daniel's Summit

Erin reiterated that Thursday night is a training especially for Local Boards of Health members, please attend. Board of Health member, Clyde Nielsen will be speaking on Prescription Abuse. Friday sessions are on measles, legislative update, and obesity.

Cmsr. Witney asked Erin Maughan to bring back information for the Board members.

14. Board Member Feedback from Constituents

None

15. New Employees

A list of employees that have been hired or that have separated from the UCHD was reviewed.

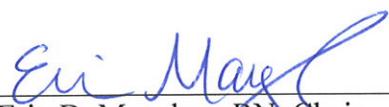
16. Other Business

Dr. Miner informed the Board that Substance Abuse, which due to state statute functions much like a separate department, is now a separate County department from the Utah County Health Dept. Board members are invited to the UCHD Employee Annual Appreciation picnic on 9/27/11, 6 pm, at the Senior Pavilion in Orem.

17. Next meeting - November 28, 2011 in the H&J Building, Suite 2500.  
(Note: Changed to November 21, 2011 in Suite 1600)

Meeting adjourned at 6 pm.

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

  
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Erin D. Maughan, RN, Chair  
Utah County Board of Health