

TO: Summit County Board of Health
Scott Vargo
Jeff Huntley
FROM: Lori Dwyer
RE: BOCC and BOH Joint Work Session of February 2, 2021
DATE: February 2, 2021

Attendees:

Elected Officials (via conference phone): Elisabeth Lawrence, Tamara Pogue and Josh Blanchard – Commissioners
Jaime FitzSimons – Sheriff

Staff (via conference phone): Scott Vargo, County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Cameron Turpin, Assistant County Attorney; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Sarah Vaine, Assistant County Manager; Marty Ferris, Finance Director; Amy Wineland, Public Health; Nicole Valentine, Public Health Public Information Officer; Molly Boyd, Human Resources Director; Hannah Wynd, Environmental Health Specialist; Brian Bovaird, Director of Emergency Management; Joanne Sprouse, Social Services; April Paige, Executive Administrative Manager and Lori Dwyer, Administrative Assistant.

Guests (via phone): Ashley Kubiszyn, Alys Macias, Blair McGary, Tara Olson, Kelly Owens, Carol Kresege, Luke Macias, Helen Cospolich, Hal Vatcher, Katie Knoll, Libby Stanford, Peter Siegel, and others that did not sign in.

I. Standing Agenda Items/Updates

a. Public Health Director Updates

i. Local and Regional/State COVID Case and Hospitalization Statistics and Trends

Amy Wineland noted that with the new dial that the State is working on, COVID-19 Cases Per 100,000 people will be considered in terms of the past 7 days instead of the past 14 days. She noted that Summit County Government's website will include the new dial as soon as the final version is released.

ii. Local Testing Statistics and Program Update

Ms. Wineland noted that testing is going well and demand is increasing, with close to 400 tests performed per day this week. She noted that Public Health is working with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and local testing partners to test for the new COVID-19 variants. The State's goal is to be able to sequence at least 5% of cases for new variants. School based rapid tests will be included in our local data. Individuals who buy their own test kits are

advised to report results locally but it is not required. Ms. Wineland noted that anyone who tests positive with an at-home kit should call Summit County Public Health.

iii. Vaccine Distribution Update

Ms. Wineland gave an update on the upcoming change to vaccine distribution, which will allow school district employees, childcare workers, after school care employees and individuals that are 65 or older to receive vaccinations. The State will decide which percentage of vaccinations will go to each group and is confident that all individuals within this group will be able to receive their first dose within the next three weeks. Ms. Wineland noted that they will learn more about the vaccine distribution plan in the next week.

iv. Transmission Trends

Ms. Wineland noted that in contact tracing, staff is seeing transmission at ski resorts at employee housing, at resort businesses and within the community. The Contact Tracing team looked back at previous data and noted that within the last 2 weeks, 26 individuals went to work with symptoms and assumed it was a cold or something other than COVID-19. She noted that it is critical that employers continue using symptom trackers for their staff members. She reminded members of the public that if they have any symptoms or have had exposure to infected individuals, they should get a test. Staff is concerned about the upcoming Super Bowl weekend and noted that they continue to see a high incidence of gatherings.

b. Communications Update and Discussion

Nicole Valentine noted that community is very eager for the next phase of vaccine distribution. Staff is encouraging everyone with questions to visit the Summit County Government website to view updated phase info and sign up for SC Alerts. She noted that a postcard campaign targeted at the local population aged 65 and over will go out next week. She gave an update on the upcoming Super Bowl messaging, which will include reminders to socialize with only one other household and safer options like meeting outdoors, increasing ventilation and having virtual event. She noted that most bars and restaurants will not be showing the game.

c. Emergency Management Update

Brian Bovaird noted that the White House has announced that all COVID-19 eligible expenses for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) public assistance will be covered at 100 percent. He gave an update on the Silverthorne testing site and noted that while the new owner of the building is closing on the sale at the end of February, the new buyers have every intention to honor Summit County's use of site. Demolition of that site will not happen until at least April.

II. Critical Topics Not Covered Above


Commissioners and staff discussed the State's upcoming dial changes and noted that while the State is currently reviewing comments, we should know more later in the week.

III. Open BOH/BOCC Discussion, As Needed


The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:


Lori Dwyer, Deputy Clerk




Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair