



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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Breckenridge, CO 80424

TO: Summit County Board of Health
Sarah Vaine
Jeff Huntley
FROM: Sara R Lopez
RE: BOCC and BOH Joint Work Session of February 4, 2021
DATE: February 4, 2021

Attendees:

Elected Officials (via Zoom): Elisabeth Lawrence, Tamara Pogue and Joshua Blanchard – Commissioners
Jaime FitzSimons - Sheriff

Staff (via phone or Zoom): Sarah Vaine, Assistant County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Cameron Turpin, Assistant County Attorney; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Marty Ferris, Finance Director; Molly Boyd, Human Resources Director; Amy Wineland, Public Health Director; Brian Bovaird, Emergency Services Director; Nicole Valentine, Communications Director; April Paige, Executive Administrative Manager and Sara R Lopez, Administrative Assistant.

Guests (via phone or Zoom): Ashley Kubiszyn, Blair McGary, Corry Mihm, Don Parsons, Hannah Wynd, Helen Cospolich, Katie Knoll, Libby Stanford, Peter Reeburgh, Peter Siegel, Peyton Rogers, Tara Olson and others who 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 gave an overview of the latest case data with cases, hospitalizations and deaths are overall declining in the state. Information continues to come in about the different virus variants; some seem to be resistant to the vaccine, while the UK strain appears to be deadlier than the original virus.

Key Messages

- Infection prevalence remains high at 1 in 123 and is equivalent to that at the April peak.
- Infections are estimated to be increasing in the Central Mountains, Southeast and West.
- On the current trajectory, statewide hospital demand and cases will continue to decline, but it will be more than three months before hospital demand and infection prevalence reach levels comparable to last summer.

Public Health reviewed information collected from positive individuals from November 2020 through February 2021. They found that 29% of these individuals went to work while symptomatic.

Commissioner Pogue expressed concern with employees going to work sick and asked about finding a way to communicate to business owners the importance of allowing/encouraging their employees to stay home if sick. She also worried about visitors not following the guidelines and asked if lodging Property Managers or owners could communicate to visitors the importance of following the rules.

Commissioners and staff discussed the difficulty for small businesses to keep employees at home and pay them. Contact tracers have found that most people, who continue working when sick, are afraid of losing their jobs and need the paycheck.

ii. Local Testing Statistics and Program Update

Ms. Wineland said the state will release the new Dial Guidelines on Friday, February 5, 2021. Summit County has been selected as a surveillance location for the state to track transmissions of the new variants due to the number of visitors to the county.

iii. Vaccine Distribution Update

Starting February 8, 2021, the state will allow a new segment of the population to be vaccinated. They include people over 65 years old, pre-K-12 educators and childcare workers in licensed child care programs.

Commissioner Blanchard has heard of concerns that some individuals, after being vaccinated, will no longer follow the guidelines. Ms. Wineland noted that even after being vaccinated, many people can still catch the virus and may not have symptoms. She asked that everyone to continue following the Six Commitments, especially with the new virus variants that are on the brink of becoming prevalent in the state and the country.

iv. Transmission Trends

No updates

b) Public Health Order Update – Discussion of Any Changes

The Governor's Office will release the updated COVID-19 Dial Guidelines on Friday, February 5, 2021 at 1pm. Information about the changes will be provided at the Town Hall scheduled for Friday, February 5, 2021 at 4:00pm.

c) 5 Star Program Update

Sarah Vaine said that any new information applicable to businesses participating in the 5-Star Program will be shared at the Friday, Town Hall.

d) Communications Update and Discussion

Commissioner Lawrence congratulated Nicole Valentine on her new position as Communications Director for Summit County Government.

Ms. Valentine said Public Health has a radio and digital ads campaign informing residents of new vaccine opportunities and will send out information on the new group eligible for vaccination. These ads will also remind locals and visitors of the two-household rule, especially with the Super Bowl coming up on Sunday. Ms. Valentine also expressed excitement that FEMA funds will be available for COVID communications.

The next Town Hall, organized by the Chamber of Commerce, will be held on Friday, February 5, 2021 at 4:00pm; the focus will be on changes to the COVID-19 Dial.

e) Emergency Management Update

Brian Bovaird gave an update on the upcoming vaccination PODs and said his team has already received an increase in phone calls as people have heard the changes to vaccine eligibility.

Commissioner Pogue said she has heard from people having difficulty getting through to the state's vaccine hotline. She asked if Summit County shares that number with the community. Mr. Bovaird said his department pushes the local numbers and their goal is to provide personal service to all callers.

f) Economic Recovery and Support Program Updates

Bentley Henderson gave an update on the Small Business Relief. The application process is open through February 7, 2021 and he encouraged eligible business owners to apply for this assistance.

g) Community Indicators and Programs

Sarah Vaine gave an update on the work Human Services (HS) is doing to reach people eligible for vaccines. HS has also reported that food services assistance has remained steady and some assistance services are waiving eligibility requirements or increasing assistance amounts.

II. Critical Topics Not Covered Above

III. Open BOH/BOCC Discussion, As Needed

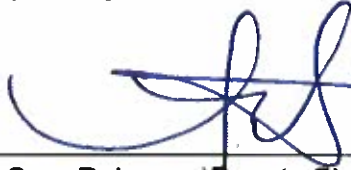
Summit County's Public Health Orders and latest information is available at www.summitcountyco.gov. Click on *Get COVID-19 Info and Updates*.

IV. Discussion of Confidential Information related to Public Health Investigations. (Public Health Dept., Attorney) (Executive Session Recommended).

Jeff Huntley and Sarah Vaine requested an Executive Session to discuss Public Health Orders, Investigations related to COVID-19 and legal advice relating thereto.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pogue and seconded by Commissioner Blanchard to discuss Public Health Investigations related to COVID-19. The BOCC voted 3 to 0 to go into Executive Session per CRS 24-6-402 (4) (b)(c)(d) with special reference to 25-1-122 and 24-72-204. The motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara R. Lopez, Deputy Clerk



Approved by:



Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair