

SALT LAKE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT
Special Meeting of the Salt Lake County Board of Health and
Salt Lake County's Legislative Delegation
MEETING MINUTES
December 19, 2019 – 7:30 AM
County Government Center
Suite S1-1200

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Dr. William Cosgrove, Chair
Russ Booth
Kalina Duncan

Mimi Shen
Dr. Dorothea Verbrugge

EXCUSED/ABSENT:

Councilmember Arlyn Bradshaw
Scott Brown
Clare Coonan
Michele Corigliano
Mayor Robert Dahle

Brooke Hashimoto
Roderic Land
Lavanya Mahate
Leticia Medina
Dr. Ruedi Tillmann

LEGISLATORS PRESENT:

Rep. Cheryl Acton
Rep. Patrice Arent
Rep. Steve Christiansen
Rep. Steve Eliason
Rep. Craig Hall

Rep. Brian King
Rep. Marie Poulson
Rep. Susan Pulsipher
Sen. Kathleen Riebe
Sen. Todd Weiler

GUESTS/STAFF:

Gary Edwards, Exec. Dir.
Dagmar Vitek, Deputy Dir.
Dale Keller, EH
Debby Vanetti, Admin

Dorothy Adams, Deputy Dir.
Royal DeLegge, EH Dir.
Justin Stewart, SLCo Mayor Office
Heather Edwards, Admin

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:30 AM by Dr. William Cosgrove, Chair, of the Salt Lake County Board of Health.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Dr. William Cosgrove stated that this is an official meeting of the Salt Lake County Board of Health and asked for brief introductions from those present. He thanked legislators for taking time to join the Board today to discuss Board of Health legislative priorities.

2019 HEALTH DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS:

Gary Edwards, Executive Director, welcomed and thanked legislators for their participation. He distributed a handout outlining Board of Health requirements; 15-member body appointed by the Salt Lake County Mayor confirmed by the Salt Lake County Council, members are community residents and include health care professionals, members of the regulated industries, and individuals residing in the unincorporated and incorporated parts of the county, includes one municipality mayor, and includes one representative from the county council.

Gary reviewed the 2019 Health Department facts and figures included on the handout; celebrated the 50th anniversary as a combined city-county department; was recognized as *Local Health Department of the Year* by the National Association of County and City Health Officials; opened the new downtown Salt Lake Public Health Center in January; declared a two-year hepatitis A outbreak over after investigating 194 cases and providing 13,000 vaccinations; worked with county municipalities, law enforcement, the Utah Department of Transportation, and other partners to abate 766 transient encampments; monitored closely the rise of sexually transmitted disease in youth 15-17 years old; and, investigated 68 cases of vaping related illness and visited over 500 tobacco retailers to distribute signs warning on the harmful effects of vaping unregulated THC. Gary informed legislators that in October the Board of Health adopted a resolution to protect the public against the dangers of electronic cigarettes and distributed a copy to those present.

For more detailed information, please see the hardcopy of the handout and resolution included in the Board of Health meeting folder.

LEGISLATIVE/POLICY ISSUES OF INTEREST TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH:

Gary asked each of the legislator's present to discuss any topics identified for the upcoming legislative session, which included: air quality, tobacco, vaping, mental health, suicide, and opioid/overdose. Board members asked legislators to inform them what areas of assistance they could offer to assist with legislative priorities during the next session and the recommendation was for direct contact with legislative delegation. Gary informed the legislative delegation that any questions regarding public health issues could be directed to Board of Health members or the health department.

QUESTIONS:

Dr. Cosgrove thanked everyone for participating in the discussions and stated that legislators should look to Board members as a resource on public health issues. He adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:35 AM.