

TO: Summit County Board of Health
Scott Vargo
Jeff Huntley
FROM: Lori Dwyer
RE: BOCC and BOH Joint Work Session of May 13, 2021
DATE: May 13, 2021

Attendees:

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

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

Guests (via phone or Zoom): Corry Mihm, Hal Vatcher, Helen Cospolich, Don Parsons, Peyton Rogers, Jenna deJong 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 update on the latest case data. She noted that cases and percent positivity have begun to decline but are variable across the state. More than 70% of cases since mid-April are due to the UK variant. Case rates are highest among middle and high school students, but all age groups have declining positivity. Hospitalizations are decreasing but it is still too soon to know if that will be a persistent downward trend. All resort counties are experiencing a downward trend in cases.

The State continues to look at the correlation between 7-day COVID-19 case rates and vaccination rate.

Summit County continues to see a downward trend in 7-day cumulative incidence rate and 7-day average positivity. Ms. Wineland noted that today, Summit County has opened to the 12-15 age group to vaccination and the website has been changed to reflect this. Because of the increased population that may be vaccinated, the percentage of vaccinated eligible individuals has gone down.

ii. Local Testing Statistics and Program Update

Ms. Wineland gave an update including the Centura site changing labs, which has created a delay.

iii. Vaccine Distribution Update

Ms. Wineland gave an update including availability for vaccinations for the 12-15 age group. She noted that opportunities for vaccination are listed on the SummitCountyco.gov website. Additional

opportunities include a clinic at the high school, the CDPHE vaccine bus, the Arapahoe Basin event on May 16, and the Community Care Clinic.

iv. Transmission Trends

Ms. Wineland noted that the Contact Tracing team has reported several cases of individuals that went to work while infectious. Many recently contacted cases were delayed due to the backlog of tests with the Centura lab change.

b) Public Health Order Update – Discussion of Any Changes

Scott Vargo noted that the most recent Public Health Order generated some confusion around mask usage. He suggested mirroring the State’s order regarding masks, with the exceptions for children between the age of 2 and 11, as they are unable to be vaccinated at this time.

Commissioners and staff discussed the CDC’s new guidelines for mask wearing and the timing of a potential revision to the Local Public Health Order.

c) Communications Update and Discussion

Nicole Valentine noted that current messaging includes upcoming vaccination events at Arapahoe Basin and the CDPHE bus. New messaging includes the 12-15 vaccination age group, community updates on vaccination, Summit County’s Level Green status, Dish with the Commish, Commissioner’s Corners on vaccination and the Level Green status, and a volunteer appreciation event next Thursday. Ms. Valentine noted that the Arapahoe Basin vaccination event has received coverage from the New York Times, Yahoo News, and CBS Denver.

d) Emergency Management Update

Brian Bovaird gave an update on continued support of vaccination clinics, and de-mobilization of the incident including what PPE to keep on hand. Mr. Bovaird noted that the federal declaration of emergency is likely to end in September.

e) Economic Recovery and Support Program Updates

Commissioner Pogue noted that she would like to get information about the comparison of unemployment pay versus average wages in some of Summit County’s key industries.

f) Community Indicators and Programs

II. Open BOH/BOCC Discussion, As Needed

Commissioner Lawrence noted that there will be an update on the Tuesday, May 18th Work Session related to Public Health, but the May 20, 2021 Joint Board of County Commissioners and Board of Health meeting is canceled for a volunteer appreciation event.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:


Lori Dwyer, Deputy Clerk

The seal of Summit County, Colorado, is circular. It features a central illustration of a mountain range with a snow-capped peak and a river flowing through a valley. The text "SEAL OF SUMMIT COUNTY" is written around the top inner edge, and "COLORADO" is at the bottom. In the center, it says "Established 1861".


Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair