

TO: Summit County Board of Health  
Scott Vargo  
Jeff Huntley  
FROM: Sara R Lopez  
RE: BOCC and BOH Joint Work Session of August 24, 2021  
DATE: Tuesday, August 24, 2021 @12:00 p.m.

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**Attendees:**

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

Staff: Scott Vargo, County Manager; Jeff Huntley, County Attorney; Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager; Marty Ferris, Finance Director; Molly Boyd, Human Resources Director; Amy Wineland, Public Health Director; Nicole Valentine, Communications Director; David Reynolds, Assistant Finance Director; Adam Kisiel, Public Affairs Coordinator; April Paige, Executive Administrative Manager and Sara R Lopez, Administrative Assistant.

Guests (in person or via Zoom): Andrew Pappas, Jenna deJong, Peyton Rogers

**I. Standing Agenda Items/Updates**

**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.

The Delta variant is undergone a mutation that is believed will cause a higher viral load that will cause additional symptoms. Commissioner Lawrence asked if every case is being tested for the different sequences, and Ms. Wineland said the state decided to sequence every test and that's how they are finding the variants. The at-home tests are not sent out for sequencing.

Cases are rising across the state, equal to what was seen in the spring. This is a big concern as the hospitalizations are increasing along with positive rates. Summit County is among the counties experiencing a high number of positive cases. She asked for everyone to continue to wear masks especially with the new variants that are extremely contagious.

The concern with school getting back in session is the increase of Colorado's Pediatric case rates. This is the first time during the pandemic in CO that the 6-11 year olds have surpassed 12-17 year olds in positive cases. Of course these are the ages ineligible for vaccination. There have also been increases in hospitalizations among 0-5 year olds.

The Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV) is anticipated to peak early this year. Normally in February but could be seen in October of this year given the current trends. The reason for the return of RSV, which was almost non-existent last year, is the lack of mask use. RSV and other cold bugs will be competing with COVID this year.

Ms. Wineland gave an overview of states with a low vaccination rates like Georgia and Indiana, and their pediatric infection rates.

The FDA has fully approved the First COVID-19 Vaccine and the hope is that those individuals not wanting to get the vaccine because it did not have full FDA authorization, they can now feel better about being vaccinated.

Visitor rates have decreased as it happens this time of year and this should see a decrease in cases.

ii. Local Testing Statistics and Program Update

The number of testing locations was increased last week due to the high incidence rate. The rate of tests has decreased this past week but it could be because people have the information they need and are protecting themselves.

Commissioner Lawrence shared that the comments they have been received is the long wait for test results. This can be frustrating for people who have been fully vaccinated but still show COVID symptoms. Ms. Wineland said that overall the reason for the delay is that the cases are going up, and the test samples for Mako are not even tested within the state. She noted that even those who have been fully vaccinated and are experiencing symptoms should be tested and remain isolated as there have been breakthrough cases, meaning that someone fully vaccinated catches the virus.

She also shared the state is offering the Binax Now at-home test to schools but does not know if Summit School District will take advantage of this. She also noted that if someone has symptoms and uses the at-home test but tests negative, they should get tested at a testing site to confirm their status.

To find a testing location or to register for a test please visit:

<https://www.summitcountyco.gov/1324/Testing>

iii. Vaccine Distribution Update

Free Covid Vaccine Clinic at the Dillon Amphitheater on Friday, August 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> from 12:30pm to 8:00pm. \$100 Walmart gift cards will be given away.

For additional information on vaccine clinics, please visit:

<https://www.summitcountyco.gov/1423/Scheduling-Vaccinations>

iv. Transmission Trends

### CTT Trends

- Increase in cases among 60+ year olds
- Increased hesitancy to be interviewed
- Increase in establishments on the outbreak radar
- Most exposure types listed are workplace, household and community.
- Increase in demand for testing
- Lots of cases working multiple days while sick
- Increase in use of Binax Now at home testing

Cases in June = 23 Confirmed

Cases in July = 194 Confirmed (>8 times the case volume as June)

- 0-11: 15
- 12-19: 24
- <18: 29
- 20's: 70 (28%)
- 30's: 40 (16%)
- 40's: 37 (14.8%)
- 50's: 27
- 60's+: 37 (14.8%)

Ms. Wineland also discussed the flu vaccines and noted how important it is for everyone in the community to get their flu shot. The local health providers may have already gotten their vaccines and once Public Health receives their vaccines, they will put out communications.

### **Public Health Order Update**

No changes to the current order. It will be extended through September 30 2021.

### **Communications Update and Discussion**

Commissioner Lawrence thanked Adam Kisiel for the messaging that has gone out regarding testing. He shared the latest information and promotions they have been sending out. The information on booster shots for immune-suppressed individuals will be shared on the county website.

The Communications Department has been working with members of the community to update COVID-19 Business Resources on the county website, and information for the Spanish-speaking community.

They have been also working with Summit Daily News on their longevity project, but always keeping an eye on COVID.

### **Emergency Management Update**

Brian Bovaird gave an update on the number of tests that have been seen at the different locations as well as the number of phone calls to the hotline, mainly asking about quarantine. They are also

starting to get calls about booster shots. The county is doing well on PPE supplies and Emergency Operations have stocked up on the supplies needed.

**II. Critical Topics Not Covered Above**

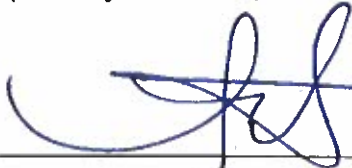
No updates.

**III. Open BOH/BOCC Discussion, As Needed**

Summit County's Public Health Orders and latest information is available at [www.summitcountyco.gov](http://www.summitcountyco.gov). Click on *Get COVID-19 Info and Updates*.

Meeting Adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Sara R. Lopez, Deputy Clerk



Approved by:



Elisabeth Lawrence, Chair