

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
November 20, 2018

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, November 20, 2018 in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Nancy Potter, John Burke, Dr. Gregory Healey, Todd Wells

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Andrew Williams, Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith, Dr. Kathleen Terrence

OTHERS PRESENT: Dana Olzenak McGuire, Director; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant; Brigitte Sanderson, Kindra Cousineau (Public Health Staff).

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Dr. Andrew Williams, President, and Jessica Scillieri Smith, Vice President, John Burke called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by N. Potter, and seconded by G. Healey, the minutes from the October 16, 2018 meeting were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

At the September 18, 2018 Board of Health meeting members were given a copy of the “Board of Health Policy for Public Comment” for review.

Upon motion by K. Terrance, seconded by J. Burke, and unanimously carried, members accepted the Board of Health Policy for Public Comment as written.

Lead Update:

Case study update on child with lead levels in the upper 60s – level went down to 37, but is now back up and has remained in the 40s. The NYSDOH has completed (2) home inspections which shows the home environment is lead free. The child is attending a preschool program, which is also lead free. It is unsure what will be done at this point – lead tests will be repeated.

Communicable Disease Update:

Update on latent Tuberculosis infection (LTBI) case of an individual that was incarcerated. The Judge has released the individual from jail even though Probation advocated for having the individual remain in jail until the completion of the LTBI treatment, he had received 3 doses of the 12 week treatment. In order for him to enter rehab he needs to complete treatment. It has been (3) weeks. He has not shown up to his probation appointments and he is unable to be

located. He has not received further treatment. It was noted he is not infectious to the community at this point.

We have received notification of an active case of TB. The individual has recently left the state, which makes the investigation a challenge. Rochelle Pratt has identified (18) close contacts which had PPD's given and are all negative, with the exception of the individual's spouse. Two of the contacts are pregnant individuals. There has been a lot of confusion regarding testing of these individuals. The OB felt it was better to have a chest x-ray rather than having a PPD. The State Health Department contacted the OB provider and had a lengthy conversation regarding standard of care and best practice guidance was sent to them through email. John asked if TB could be passed to the fetus. Kindra said yes. Rochelle Pratt has suggested providing educational information to the providers on these topics from the Board of Health Providers. This guidance information is also on the CDC website.

Immunization Update:

A Hotwash was held regarding school exclusions. (see attached)

There are students entering schools who have never had immunizations – they have (30) days before being excluded. Guidance counselors have not been informed of these rules. In the future, guidance counselors will be included with the superintendents and principals when education is provided regarding school exclusions; providers will also receive education as to the laws of school exclusions.

Overall, the immunization clinics were a success. Providers were able to get students in sooner so they were not excluded. As a result, additional training will be provided to school nurses, additional immunization clinics will be scheduled sooner (August), and a procedure will be developed for the Public Health Department on what it means to be excluded and how the clinics should run. Suggested providing more media notifications regarding immunizations in the spring/summer and possibly report on how this year ended up.

School exclusion time period clarified: Any child turning (11) years old has (14) days from their birthday to get their immunizations during the school year.

It was noted it is critical that nurses are ready and trained to work in the immunization of children. Education to the schools will continue. Since Public Health has been providing education to the schools, we have received several invites. Staff has attended the Canton Central School Staff Development Day to speak about exclusions and answer questions and Lisbon Central School orientation night. Massena Central School has invited staff to the Health and Wellness Expos on December 10, 2018.

Staffing:

There is currently a vacant Registered Nurse position within the Early Intervention Program and a Public Health Nurse position within the Immunization Program (requires BSN degree). We have received permission to “under fill” the Public Health Nurse position with a Registered Nurse and then promote to the Public Health Nurse when the degree is achieved.

Walk with a Doc: The next Walk with a Doc is scheduled for Saturday, November 24, 2018, in Potsdam at the Cheel Arena at 10:00 am. Lead doctor will be Dr. Healey who will be speaking regarding physical activities – “Start Small.” Brittany Terpstra, PA and Matt Jenson from CPH

may also be in attendance. It was asked if the providers have been recruiting any of their patients to attend the walks? Noted the press has been doing a good job advertising.

The Walk with a Doc Subcommittee is working with the media to highlight the practitioners who have participated thus far.

Dana noted it has been (1) year this Saturday since the first discussion of Walk with a Doc. She is hoping to have a story with the doctors to come out the first of the year. It was suggested to video Dr. Healey's presentation and use it for advertising.

Opioid Grant Update:

Dana was hoping to have a speaker present tonight, but was unable to coordinate schedules. This speaker will provide education for BOH members and she is hoping to include some hospital administrators. Possible dates for the speaker to attend are December 4, 2018 or December 11, 2018 – Dana will resend the Doodle Poll to members to get their feedback. Part of the Opioid Grant is to get more waiver trainings in the county. The speaker will provide more information on what the trainings are and may also be able to do some Grand Rounds with the hospitals hopefully in January and hold the trainings in March. Members in attendance were agreeable to having the BOH take place on December 4, 2018. This will be a questions and answer session.

A Request for Proposal (RFP) was sent out for the county assessment and action plan and Fort Drum Regional Health Planning Organization (FDRHPO) has been selected. Focus of the assessment will be to increase surveillance for the crisis – meet with law enforcement and coroners; implement ODMAP to know where things are happening; monitor and track more; have a resource list.

Dana has been in contact with the US Attorney's Office. They are currently showing the "Chasing the Dragon" documentary in schools. They hold a panel of about (10) people, to include individuals in the recovery process, family members and law enforcement – in conjunction with showing the documentary. The initial Opioid Task Force Meeting will be forthcoming. Dana will let members know the date/time if they are able to attend – will also be including the SLC District Attorney, Sheriff, EMS staff and all partners – hoping to get the Board of Legislators to attend.

Shared the new Emergency Preparedness Coordinator started yesterday.

Local Sanitarian Code:

We do have a draft code, but it is from Clinton County, which is a full service county. It will be modified for St. Lawrence County. The full draft code has already been approved by the County Attorney. Dana is hoping to have it modified and completed by the next meeting to share and be approved by members and then it will go back to the Board of Legislators for final approval.

Dana noted there has been (2) interviews for the Sanitarian position. One individual was offered the position today – will know on Monday if they accept.

Other items:

Flu season: there have been (2) weeks of reports from November. So far (26) counties have had the reports. St. Lawrence County has had only one case early on this season. There has been (1) death of child in New York State.

We received notification of the Emergency Preparedness Drill scheduled for February 27, 2019. This will be a Strategic National Stockpile Drill. The Sheriff's Department will be the receiving site and we will work with Buildings & Grounds to ship supplies out to the facilities. There is a December 4, 2018 meeting in Watertown that will provide more information about the drill.

OTHER BUSINESS

No Other Business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2018 at 6:00 pm.