

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
February 27, 2018
(rescheduled from February 20, 2018)

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, February 27, 2018 in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dr. Andrew Williams, Dr. Gregory Healey, Dr. Kathleen Terrence, Todd Wells, Nancy Potter, John Burke, Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT:

OTHERS PRESENT: Dana Olzenak McGuire, Director; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant; Brigette Sanderson, Wil Neves, Kindra Cousineau, Renae Johnson and Rebecca Allen (Public Health Staff), Ellen Villafuerte, Michael Bova and Phillip Sander (State University of New York Upstate Medical University – medical students).

Dr. Williams welcomed Dana, Public Health staff members and State University of New York Upstate Medical University medical students.

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Andrew Williams, President, called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Dr. Healey, and seconded by Dr. Terrence, the minutes from the January 16, 2018 meeting were approved as amended.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

DIRECTORS REPORT

First 2 Weeks: Dana gave an overview of her first two weeks at the Public Health Department. Noted she reviewed the previous Board of Health minutes for topics that have been discussed. She has been meeting with programs and partners. Recently met the Public Health Director from Jefferson County.

Dana shared that a call was received over the weekend to help Franklin County with a flooding issue and assistance for a tetanus clinic. Dana, and (4) staff members were scheduled to provide the help, County Attorney Stephen Button was needed. The agreement was created by County Attorney Stephen Button, but there was no one available to sign it on Sunday in Franklin County, so staff were unable to provide the help. Dana will meet with the County Attorney to see what can be added to the agreement and meet with all other counties on our borders (Jefferson, Lewis, Franklin, Hamilton, and Herkimer) to be ready for future situations. The Director from Jefferson County thought this was a great idea. She also shared we had a hard time knowing if our county was in an emergency status like Franklin County as we share the Reservation – there were lots of people out of town – unsure who we are to contact in these situations.

She will meet with Mike LeCuyer and Mike Cunningham for future direction. Overall, it was a good learning experience and we found out what was needed to be able to help out in the future.

She continues to work to get up to speed on things within the department. Noted the Article 6 State Aid application is due tomorrow, but she has asked for an extension.

Public Health Detailing: Kindra shared they are looking for topics related to the CHIP/CHA (Community Health Improvement Plan/Community Health Assessment). One strategy is to provide support for changes within clinical practices. We would need to have data available to give to the provider's offices to support the changes. Topics discussed were fluoride varnish, LARC (Long Acting Reproductive Contraceptive), and Back to Sleep. A description of fluoride varnish was distributed to members. She feels this would be helpful in the county and useful to providers. We could begin small with just the pediatrician's offices. Noted we are required to do a follow up assessment/evaluation at 6 months and 12 months for each project. Once completed, another project would begin. The State provides the some options to choose from for the projects, but the decision is up to our department. Staffing issues related to carrying out public health detailing have been discussed with Dana.

Dana suggested setting a (5) year goal that is measurable to see if we accomplished the changes by the milestones. She will discuss with staff what areas would be good. A meeting with the provider's themselves would need to take place.

Public Health Detailing (PHD) started around the State over a year and half ago and NYSDOH has allowed counties to slowly implement the topic/program in their departments. The State has provided different topics to choose from and educational materials. They provided a link to NYCDOH, who has been using PHD with success. The Public Health Detailing begins April 1, 2018. There are some counties who have been working on this for over a year, but St. Lawrence County Public Health has not been. It was suggested we reach out to the NYSDOH office for guidance. Dana will meet with other Directors to see what they are doing and how they have implemented.

Dr. Terrence thought the fluoride varnish was a good idea. Dental providers won't see children until age 3 years – 4 years. She mentioned the possibility of incentives/awards to be given to participating parents. Dental varnish as a detailing area would fit with our CHIP goal related to obesity.

John Burke asked if there was any data regarding children born with lifelong disabilities due to opioid use by the mother. Dr. Terrence shared mothers are drug tested in the first trimester and on labor/delivery.

Renae noted there are higher rates for unintended pregnancies. The MCH (Maternal Child Health) program is seeing more babies born addicted or with some form of substance in their system. There are more children within the EI (Early Intervention) program with neonatal abstinence or alcohol/fetal alcohol syndrome – more with global delays (75-80% have global delays (delays in at least two areas)). They are working on training for the NYEIS program to deactivate/inactive children who are not showing for years.

Kindra noted under the new IAP (Immunization Action Plan) Public Health is required to start Public Health Detailing on April 1, 2018 related to immunizations. In this year's work plan, the State will be identifying which Public Health Detailing topic we will need to do related to immunization. Dr. Healey suggested we work on HPV with providers. This could be a detailing project we can implement, but we will need to wait to see what NYSDOH picks first. Of note, we currently have the lowest rates of immunizations in NYS. We would be able to choose immunization as a general public health detailing area as long as it was a different immunization performed for the IAP detailing. We discussed the

possibility of detailing on HPV. When the guidelines for IAP detailing are provided it will be easier to know what other topics may be done.

Medical Countermeasure (POD) Exercise Update: Becky shared the Emergency Preparedness Program is required to perform a Medical Countermeasure exercise each year to meet the program deliverables. This year's exercise will be a Point of Dispensing (POD) exercise – last year was Isolation and Quarantine. The exercise will take place on April 26, 2018 at the Human Services Building. The POD will take place in a 2 hour time frame (1:00 – 3:00). Nothing can be set up until we receive notification. The agent for this exercise is unknown at this time, but her guess would be Hep A – there are 11 objectives to this exercise. The goal is to push 42 patients through per hour. Becky will be checking to see what she has to do legally to in order to invite volunteers to participate. She is trying to collaborate to use county employees as participants. Dr. Healey will be on the incident command team as a Medical Specialist. Wendy Wais, Nurse Practitioner, will be on site and we have 5 nurses participating (awaiting response from 1 more). A couple members of the Health Provider Coalition have offered to participate. Office for the Aging has been contacted for help along the language line. Ben Gratto and Nancy Ward from Canton-Potsdam Hospital will be here as evaluators. Board of Health members were urged to attend is possible. A hot wash will take place the following morning referencing an action report and assessment of the objectives. Becky will be attending and participating in another county POD on March 28, 2018 to provide guidance. Feedback regarding the POD exercise will be shared with the Board of Health members.

Kindra asked Todd Wells, if Kinney's might have some expired saline they could use for simulation during the POD exercise. Todd will check.

Influenza Update and Discussion: The Governor sent a letter referencing imminent threat. There was discussion regarding submitting an article noting there is still time for individuals to receive a flu shot. According to the last report from the State it shows the number of flu cases are going down. This information is received statewide from the labs receiving reports from the hospitals. It was noted some hospitals had ran out of flu test kits so numbers may not be accurate.

Dr. Healey stated he was unaware of any meaningful data that proved the flu shot was ineffective.

Todd Wells shared per a letter from the Governor, Kinney's can now vaccinate children ages 2 years+.

There was a discussion regarding the different views on the use of the Gardasil immunization.

Fluoridation Update: Brigitte mailed out questionnaires to 19 dentists. She received 5 responses – 4 came back with a completed questionnaire. There were 3 dentists in support of fluoridation and 2 have written to the Town of Potsdam. She received a verbal response from her own dentist who didn't want to return the questionnaire with his name on it. He does not support fluoridation.

Dr. Williams said the Town Board is given a time frame to reach out this subject, but believes the State can overrule what the village decides.

Dana will inquire as to the status of the Town of Potsdam on this subject.

Dr. Terrence noted Ogdensburg, Massena and Gouverneur still have fluoride. Canton does not. Noted the fluoride varnish can be done in the office.

Dr. Williams noted there is the dental sealant program at the Community Health Center.

Obesity: Dana asked members if they were familiar with the “Walk with a Doc” program. Felt this was something to think about for the community. Asked if members were interested in more information. Another option would be to assemble a walk for a spring time activity – start at Partridge Knoll and create a small loop. Dr. Terrence noted kids at school do this. It was noted Potsdam School has a “walk to school day.” Edwards-Knox kids walk around the whole building. It may also be beneficial to create a link that would provide information on indoor sites for walking throughout the winter months. Dana will provide more information on Walk with Doc and other walking programs at the next meeting. It was mentioned the North Country Now Calendar should provide options for events that are happening – when/where/time. There was a brief discussion on where there are any large indoor spaces available for walking. Public Health has been invited to attend the monthly Superintendent’s meetings - Dana will attend these.

OTHER BUSINESS

No Other Business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2018 at 6:00 pm.