

# ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

## May 15, 2018

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, May 15, 2018 in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dana Olzenak McGuire, Director; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant; Brigette Sanderson, Wil Neves, Richelle Cisco, Kindra Cousineau (Public Health Staff); Anne Marie Snell (Health Initiative); Ron Sheppard, NYSDOH Regional Office.

### CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Andrew Williams, President, called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Upon motion by J. Scillieri Smith, and seconded by T. Wells, the minutes from the April 17, 2018 meeting were approved.**

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment

**Ron Sheppard/NYSDOH Regional Office presentation: Highlights of activities and collaboration with SLCPHD:** Ron provided handout regarding Environmental Health – Permits to Operate and gave an informative overview of the various programs and services provided by the NYSDOH.

### **Public Health Updates:**

#### **Village of Potsdam Fluoride update:**

Dana contacted Greg Thompson from the Village of Potsdam. They are currently conducting a study to collect data – there are 4 to 6 weeks remaining of the study process. Once completed they will come up with a plan – there will be a public hearing – and then their final decision. Dr. Williams asked Dana to inform members of when these meetings will take place. Feels it would be good for the BOH members and members of the Medical Society to attend. There has been no acknowledgment of the letter previously sent by the BOH members regarding this issue.

#### **PH Detailing: Update and Presentation:**

Richelle will be PH Detailing Nurse who will oversee the fluoride varnishing piece of the PH Detailing. She will be providing educational outreach and doing unscheduled visits to provider offices. She will introduce herself, explain the importance of fluoride varnishing and check current processes. Dr. Terrence volunteered her office for a “trial visit.” Dr. Healey suggested

bringing fluoride kits for providers to see – he offered to provide some. Dr. Healey’s office is currently providing fluoride varnishing – noted it is an easy and fast process and is covered by health plans. Richelle noted there are links to webinars she can send to providers and once the trainings are completed they are able to receive reimbursement from insurance companies. Dr. Williams noted Dr. Schussler had said he would be willing to participate. Dana noted we need to consider all the stakeholders – pediatricians being primary, but also dentists. There was a discussion regarding the possibility of sending a letter to stakeholders inviting them to attend the next BOH meeting for a presentation and also presenting at the Dental Society meeting. Certified Daycare Centers were suggested as another stakeholder. Dana noted if the process goes well with the “trial visit” and fluoride varnish process at Dr. Terrence’s office, she would like to do an interview/press release. Dr. Terrence agreed to this.

### **Follow-up on Superintendent’s Letter:**

Dana noted there had been no response from members regarding the content of the letter. Asked for their thoughts about sending the letter. Dr. Williams asked for clarification as he was not in attendance at the last meeting. John Burke explained the situation, noting the only action from the BOH was to acknowledge receipt of concern and pass it on to Tom Burns, Superintendent, St. Lawrence-Lewis BOCES. It was noted for future items sent to the BOH members there should be a deadline included in the email to ensure all members respond in a timely fashion. It was decided that Board members will be provided (5) days to make comment. If no feedback is received, the action in question will move forward as discussed.

### **POD Exercise Outcomes:**

Becky reported all (11) exercise objectives were met during the POD exercise. Those performed without challenges included:

- Developed CDMS preregistration event base on exercise scenario.
- Completed drills to track metrics associated with the exercise through the Health Electronic Response Data System (HERDS).
- Completed briefings for all assigned POD staff and role specific “Just In Time” training for dispensing activities.
- Simulated administration of countermeasures to the affected population meeting our thru-put requirement for a 2-hour period. Our thru-put for this site was 86. We were able to move through 93 individuals. Did not provide signed certification for immunization - no portable print capacity.
- Performed quality control checks every 30 minutes into dispensing activity and immediately following demobilization. Reports did not allow for time tracking and/or assessment of accuracy of weight calculate dosing.
- Demonstrated cold chain management – evaluators noted when cooler malfunctioned it was immediately addressed (Gold Star!). \*Need to look at purchase of new coolers.
- Provided situational updates to the Regional Health Emergency Preparedness Coalition, including public information messaging and updates, CDMS reports, etc.
- Demonstrated availability of language support services. (IT staff doubled as Spanish interpreter).
- Demonstrated capability to support an individual in a heightened emotional state (staff member from Community Services). \*Public Health Staff trained in Psychological First Aid.

Of the 11 exercise objectives, there was (1) performed with some challenges:

- Demonstrate the ability to accommodate individuals with access and functional needs (long wait in line – average 20 mins.). Need to identify and offer assistance – need to train staff throughout the POD in being attentive and responsive to persons with functional needs.

POD Exercise Highlights:

- We were one of the counties to do a full simulation exercise, to include weight and dose calculation, drawing up mock vaccine, patient education and quality assurance protocol, sharps disposal and hazardous waste management, cold chain storage and temp logs, medical screening and observation.
- Staff and volunteers were outstanding and amazing – some volunteers were former staff members. Rochelle did an awesome job – Wil helped with CDMS entry (1 individual per 20 mins down to 1 individual per 6 mins throughout the exercise). Job descriptions were followed – some individuals had multiple jobs. Shannon did “Check In” of staff and volunteers – checked information, provided vests and job descriptions and “Check Out” of staff and volunteers – vests were returned. She also did the quality control checks every 30 minutes. Kindra had multiple jobs as well. Wendy Wais was our medical screener. Overall, the exercise went very well. The use of volunteers was a real plus – we now have a resolution in place to be able to use volunteers so we can recruit for the future. Members of the Sheriff’s Office were on site all day as safety officers for the exercise and Building & Grounds staff helped with parking. Staff from CPH were able to take this opportunity to plan for things on their end. Dana noted if there were a real emergency – we are prepared!
- An After Action Report (AAR) needs to be completed within 90 days. An Improvement Plan will be done in conjunction with the ICS (Incident Command Staff) to guide revision of the Medical Countermeasure Clinical Operations Plan. A draft policy will be created for staff training and general Public Health Preparedness.

**Walk with a Do update:**

Dana presented the resolution at the Services Committee last night and it will go to the Full Board to be finalized on June 4, 2018.

Brigette shared the first walk will take place on Saturday, June 30<sup>th</sup> (Canton loop). All walks will take place on the last Saturday of the month - 6 locations have been chosen/2 walks at each site (Canton, Potsdam, Gouverneur, Waddington, Ogdensburg and Massena). They are looking for rain and snow locations also. Dana noted they are trying to get a doctor from each area where the walk is taking place to attend. Dr. Williams offered to coordinate doctors to attend the walks. A doctor from Waddington as confirmed attendance for that walk. Doctors will present for 3-8 minutes on a specific topic prior to the walk – there will be a list of topics to choose from. A flier created for the doctors can be sent to Dr. Williams to distribute. Dr. Williams asked about t-shirts for the doctors. There was a discussion on how to prepare for individuals who may not be able to complete the walk – are their areas to rest along the way? A way to transport them from the trail? Brigette will check to see if a golf cart can be available if needed.

### **Rabies Program update:**

Kindra shared that Wil has created spreadsheets so we are able to collect data. In 2018 thus far, there have been 55 animal submitted – 52 were negative/3 were untestable - 54% of them were raccoons. There have been (7) individual treated for rabies post exposure – (1) individual refused treatment. There have been (107) animal bites thus far – 76 dog bites/31 cat bites and it doesn't seem to be slowing down. Animal bites broken down by towns: Ogdensburg 14%, Potsdam 12%, Massena 13%. The animal rabies clinics have been busy. Jessica Scillieri Smith asked about the possibility of collecting data by Dog Control Officer – it was noted if they don't report the bites (the Hospital reports), it will be difficult to collect the date to run a report.

### **Communicable Disease Program update:**

Kindra noted the flu is still here. The State has not declared it over – NYSDOH continues to report widespread - masks still need to be worn by those who did not receive the flu vaccine. There has been another pediatric death, making the total (6). E.coli outbreak nationwide has been linked to Romaine lettuce – (30) more cases reported – total of (149) cases and (1) death. Our department has no cases associated with the outbreak. There have been (5) cases of Campylobacteriosis in the past two weeks. Ebola outbreak has been reported again in the Congo – (39) cases with (19) deaths. The State Health Department has not made any changes in their guidance at this time. NYSDOH performance measure this year is Legionella, there have not been many cases in our County – past cases were individuals living in their own home using a nebulizer or air conditioner. They were not exposed to a cooling tower. If a case is identified we will be working with NYSDOH District Office for the investigation. The Public Health Department will receive a small amount of funding for the performance measure as we have very few cases.

### **Sanitarian Code:**

Dana had a call with legal counsel at the State level regarding writing new code. The law (Section 1300) is the guidance we need to put code in place. St. Lawrence County does not have at this time. It was suggested by NYSACHO that she contact Schoharie County to match a code we need. She has spoken with Schoharie County and learned their process. She will ask additional questions to check and see if this is a countywide process or done by township. She is working County Attorney, Stephen Button on the first stage.

Wil shared the Gouverneur sewage issue he reported on at the last meeting has been corrected. There have been no further complaints – file has been closed. He will be conducting a dye test with Code Officer in the Town of Fine on May 17<sup>th</sup>. He has been dealing with a garbage issue in Madrid since February (showed pictures). The occupant was given a 15 day recheck vs. a 30 day recheck. Noted there is no health home program to pay for a dumpster to remove the garbage – issues like this could go to the BOH to reassess before the penalty phase.

Dana shared a brochure has been made to distribute to the townships that use Public Health as a Health Officer (all but four counties). Canton started this year – she and Will have met with Mary Ann Ashley.

### **Other Items:**

Kindra shared it was noted during an audit of the Children with Special Health Care Needs (CSHCN) program that the BOH members are required to receive the same annual trainings as the Public Health Department staff. A packet containing the forms needing completion and

signatures was given to all members – an email will be sent with the required trainings. Completed forms need to be returned prior to or at the June 19, 2018 BOH meeting.

Dana shared (5) vacancy requests passed during the Services Committee last night – (3) are nursing positions and (2) are fiscal positions. The Deputy Director position was changed back to the Director of Prevent Services.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

No Other Business.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session began at 8:12 pm. All non-members were excused.

#### **ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING**

**Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for June 19, 2018 at 6:00 pm.**