

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

September 19, 2023

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, September 19, 2023, in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rita Curran, Dr. Gregory Healey, Nancy Potter, Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith, Dr. Kathleen Terrence, Dr. Andrew Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mark Deavers

OTHERS PRESENT: Carly Zimmermann, Deputy Director; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant; Anne Marie Snell, St. Lawrence Health Initiative; Dr. Zachary Mashaw, MD (PH Medical Consultant); Joseph Lightfoot, Legislator; McKenna Boula, St. Lawrence Health /Clinical Research Department/Clinical Research Coordinator; Autumn Thompson, St. Lawrence Health /Clinical Research Department/Clinical Research Assistant

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Andrew Williams, President, called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by J Scillieri Smith, and seconded by K Terrence, the minutes from the June 20, 2023 meeting were approved. (No meetings held in July or August).

PUBLIC COMMENT

McKenna Boula, Clinical Research Coordinator and Autumn Thompson, Clinical Research Assistant, from St. Lawrence Health Clinical Research Department attended to observe and learn more about what the community is struggling with in terms of health. They currently have the following clinical studies: TRITON Study to find better treatment options for future sufferers of COPD and RECOVER-Vital that studies the possible treatment for adults who have Long COVID.

Slideshow Presentation (double click below): Carly Zimmermann



Board of Health

September 19, 2023



Lead Update: Carly Zimmermann

Monthly Stats	June	July	Aug
Total Number of Lead Tests Conducted	107	121	140
New Tests - Well Child Visits	101	114	127
Retests – CLPPP Cases	6	7	13
Active Cases	78	79	81
% Tests Elevated (Current)	5%	12%	10%
% Tests Elevated (Future)	10%	14%	15%
New Cases	2	1	2
Future New Cases (3.5ug/dL+)	5	4	8

Members noted it would be interesting to know the number for children tested who are 1 and 2 years of age. A NYSPHC Fellow (Detailing) started on Monday, September 18, 2023 and will be going out to meet with providers.

COVID-19 Update Presentation: Dr. Williams



9 COVID update
BOH 9-2023.pptx

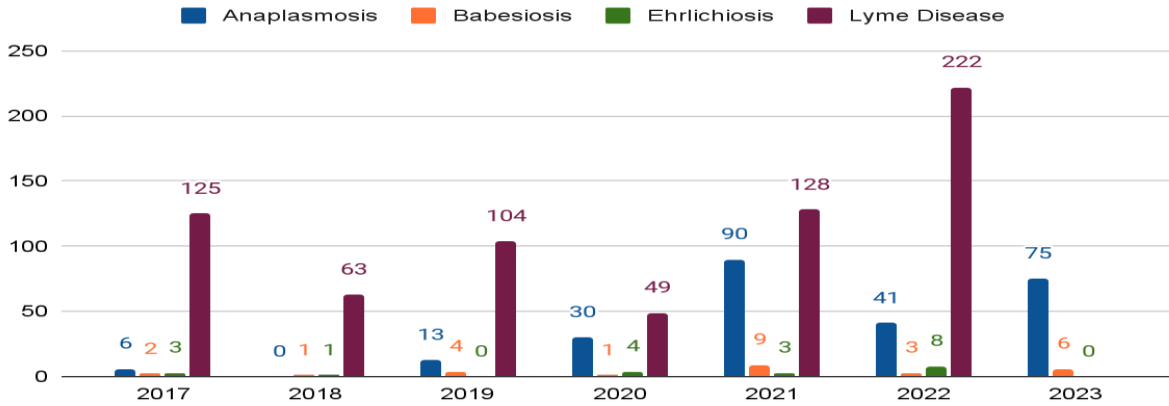
Dr. Williams will check with area pharmacies regarding the availability of Paxlovid and if there is an inventory system within the pharmacies to show which pharmacy has what medication available.

Sanitarian Update: Carly Zimmermann

Environmental Health Calls	June 2023	July 2023	August 2023
Living Conditions/Housing	2	0	0
Water Quality	6	1	7
Septic	4	2	1
Mosquitoes	1	0	0
Trash	0	1	1
Indoor Air Quality (Mold)	0	1	2
Living Conditions/Pests	0	0	2
Total Calls	13	5	13

Tick Borne Illnesses: Carly Zimmermann

Number of Tickborne Cases in St. Lawrence County



- 20% of reported Lyme cases are selected at random by the NYSDOH ECLRS system, in addition to 100% of physician reported cases for investigation.
- The State has not finalized the 2023 Lyme cases.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) Update: Carly Zimmermann

Public Health put out a press release on August 29, 2023. The poster below will be going out to the Amish Bishops and cattle sale barns – we have also reached out to Jefferson County.

Dr. Scillieri Smith shared there are cases of EEE almost every year, usually around the St. Lawrence County/Jefferson County border area, mostly due to unvaccinated Amish horses. The first positive case in the entire state was here in Heuvelton, NY. Clinton County reported a positive case two weeks ago in a horse imported from Northern Vermont illegally. Noted this has been a bad mosquito season this year and that some cases of EEE never get reported. There was a discussion of the required vaccinations for horses and if there is any help for the Amish community to vaccinate their horses. Dr. Scillieri Smith noted years ago the Public Health Department held a rabies clinic for unvaccinated horses – it is the same rabies vaccine used for small animals, but a larger dosage.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis in our Region

2 horses have tested positive for EEE in Brasher Falls and 1 tested positive in Morristown earlier this month. In our neighboring county 1 horse was positive for EEE in Moira.

The red horses on the map show where the positive cases were in our area.

Signs to watch out for in your horse:

- Horses with EEE can resemble horses with rabies
- Impaired vision
- Aimless wandering
- Head pressing
- Circling
- Inability to swallow
- Irregular gait
- Weakness and paralysis
- Convulsions
- Death
- Many horses have a fever
- Muscle twitching

If your horse is sick, contact a veterinarian and the LHD.

For more information: (315) 386-2325

Maternal Child Health (MCH) Update: Carly Zimmermann

- Two Public Health Nurses have taken over the program
 - Will be pursuing their Certification in Lactation Consulting (CLC) (waiting on approval from grant funding budget)
 - Once they receive their CLC, we will be able to bill for lactation visits.
- Looking to increase referrals
- Collaborate with WIC and The North Country Prenatal/Perinatal Council (NCPPC)

Public Health currently provides the one-time home visit to new moms. Dr. Terrence requested our contact information for this program. Dr. Williams suggested Public Health provide a presentation to St. Lawrence Health (SLH) and Claxton Hepburn Medical Center (CHMC) on this program. Anne Marie provided information on services provided by NCPPC and she will connect Dr. Williams with Tina Cobb, Executive Director.

Dr. Williams shared only specific area hospitals perform births and noted some individuals in the Amish community want at least (3) visits. Community Health Center (CHC) wants to start providing prenatal services (midwife model) for all, but specifically for the Amish community.

Rita mentioned a proposed resolution (NYSAC meeting) regarding “Douglas” noting Medicaid would cover the cost (\$1,920). Dr. Williams noted midwives are too expensive for the Amish community.

Walk with a Doc (WWAD) Update: Anne Marie Snell

- September walk took place in Gouverneur, hosted by Bridget Terpstra/CHCN – (16) walkers in attendance.
- October - No walk scheduled due to the Breast Cancer Walk planned for October 7, 2023.
- Noted the WWAD Committee is working on the walk schedule for 2024, with the first walk to take place on January 13, 2023 at the Gouverneur Middle School (CHCN hosting).
- The Public Health Department and Bridge to Wellness handle the organization of the walks – there is no funding. They are looking for potential funding sources.
- \$1,980 tentative budget for 2024
 - Snacks (\$50)
 - (100) t-shirts
 - (1) banner
 - Yard signs
 - Health Initiative pays \$250 yearly for insurance coverage

Suggestions: T-shirts with the upcoming walk dates and locations on them and posters to share at each walk.

- As WWAD sells the t-shirts, will have look into if they allow additional printing/information to be on them. Will follow up.

Bridge to Wellness Fair takes place on October 21, 2023.

Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan: Anne Marie Snell

A PowerPoint presentation will be prepared for the October 17, 2023 meeting.

- Shared the August full coalition meeting was held at the CHC in Ogdensburg. Chronic Disease Intervention was highlighted.
- Noted <https://getthehealthynoco.org/#/> has workshops available for patients with chronic diseases (in person/live/telephonic). This is listed on the CHIP and provided by multiple organizations. They will be able to give data on participation outcomes (will soon provide a live AHI Data Portal). She noted they would like to see an increase in providers who give referrals.
- The Community Health Survey for 2023 was released. Anne Marie will take some time to analyze and share feedback with the full Board of Health at a future meeting.
- Suicide Prevention Strategy: Chalk the Walk, Have the Talk, first annual weeklong event coming up! Please participate and consider posting to social media.

- At a previous meeting, BOH requested greater involvement in the planning of the CHIP, outside of Bridge to Wellness meetings and subcommittees. Anne Marie suggested an increase in the size of the meeting location during planning years so community partners who do the bulk of the work could be present.

Unfinished Business: N/A

OTHER ITEMS AND QUESTIONS

Rita mentioned proposed resolutions discussed at a recent NYSAC meeting:

- Requiring mandatory reporting of varicella (chicken pox) in the NY.
- Requiring adults to have their immunizations reported to the NYS Immunization Information System (NYSIIS).
 - Individuals would have to opt out if they do not want their information listed.

Rita noted there has been no indication that NYSDOH would not be mandating masks or COVID-19 vaccinations this year.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session began at 7:55 pm.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm. Next meeting will take place on October 17, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

ACTIONS ITEMS FOR FOLLOW UP

N/A