

# ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

## February 20, 2024

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rita Curran, Mark Deavers, Nancy Potter, Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith, Dr. Kathleen Terrence, Dr. Andrew Williams

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dr. Gregory Healey

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Carly Zimmermann, Interim Director; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant; McKenna Boula, St. Lawrence Health /Clinical Research Department/Clinical Research Coordinator; Autumn Thompson, St. Lawrence Health /Clinical Research Department/Clinical Research Assistant; McKailey Lyndaker, St. Lawrence Health /Clinical Research Department/Clinical Research Assistant;

### CALL TO ORDER

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by R Curran, and seconded by K Terrence, the minutes from the January 16, 2024 meeting were approved.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

Dr. Scillieri Smith shared, prior to the start of the meeting that she feels the Lead and Sanitarian Updates do not need to be shared monthly – suggested maybe sharing the information quarterly.

**Slideshow Presentation (double click below): Carly Zimmermann**



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**Countywide Smoking Policy: Carly Zimmermann**

Smoking Local Law from Wayne, Cattaraugus and Nassau Counties were reviewed. Members felt Wayne County's 2023 Local Law was the most detailed, but Cattaraugus County's 2023 Local Law looked better suited for what St. Lawrence County is looking for. Members were asked to review Cattaraugus County's information and a decision will be made at the March 19, 2024 meeting. The County Attorney will be asked to provide input after the March meeting as to what is updated in the current Local Law.

**Wayne County – 2023 Local Law**

<https://web.co.wayne.ny.us/DocumentCenter/View/11304/3-res52623--Adoption>

**Cattaraugus County – 2023 Local Law**

[https://www.cattco.org/sites/default/files/administration/20230913\\_Agenda.pdf](https://www.cattco.org/sites/default/files/administration/20230913_Agenda.pdf)

**Nassau County – 2021 Local Law**

<https://www.nassaucountyny.gov/DocumentCenter/View/33139/Local-Law-11-2021?bidId=>

**Resolution Proclaiming May as Lyme & Tick-Borne Disease Awareness Month: Carly Zimmermann**

After a discussion with the Service Committee Chair, Benjamin Hull, a resolution was requested to help bring more awareness of these issues. A press release will be done and educational/informational links will be posted to our website and social media providing information on when it is appropriate to be tested and/or when you should consult your medical provider.

**Upon motion by J Scillieri Smith, and seconded by R Curran, and unanimously carried, members in attendance approved the submission of the proposed resolution Proclaiming May as Lyme & Tick-Borne Disease Awareness Month.**

**Lead Update: Carly Zimmermann**

Graphs are included in member folders for review.

**Status of Care for Seniors (added by Dr. Williams):**

St. Lawrence County struggles to provide good care for our seniors. Our challenge is home nursing care. Health Services and Northern Lights don't have enough staff to send into homes. This a crisis. United Helpers closed down the (250) bed Riverledge facility which leaves St. Joseph's in Ogdensburg. The (2) homes in Massena have changed management and are now owned by individuals downstate. United Helpers, who also owns Maplewood in Canton, has announced they are closing their Assisted Living facility. This will affect families that will need to provide care for their family members. It was noted Hospice does good work with end of life situations. Dr. Terrence noted there are no providers for Geriatric Medicine.

It was suggested this topic be an agenda item for the March 19, 2024 meeting and Andrea Montgomery, Director, Office for the Aging be invited to provide information on what services her department provides for the elderly. Members discussed the PACE Program in Onondaga County, which is similar to a Day Hab Program and what they provide. It was noted years ago Jefferson County had their own Assisted Living Facility. Forming a Task Force was suggested – questions: why is UH pulling back from Assisted living and how Jefferson County can absorb the SLC residents, what are they doing differently.

**Respiratory Illness Update:**

<https://www.health.ny.gov/diseases/communicable/influenza/surveillance/>

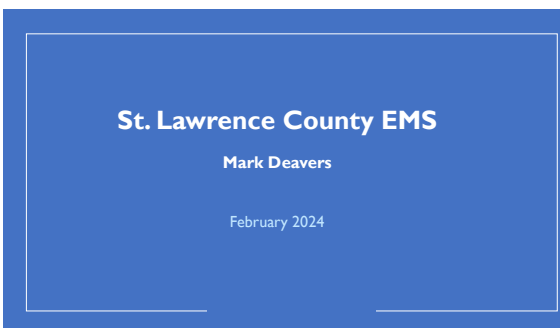
**Sanitarian Update: Carly Zimmermann**

Graphs are included in member folders for review.

Environmental Health Calls	January 2023
Water Quality	5
Bed Bugs	1
Indoor Air Quality	1
Living Conditions	2
Animals	1

School Nurses have had questions regarding bed bugs – educational information has been provided.

**EMS in St. Lawrence County: Mark Deavers**



Lengthy discussion with some suggestions of possible solutions.

**Board of Health Bylaws Review/Update:**

- Section 4. Meetings, Quorum and Minutes
  - Public Comment: individuals should provide their name, where they are from and if they represent an interest.

**Upon motion by R Curran, and seconded by J Scillieri Smith, and unanimously carried, members in attendance approved the Board of Health Bylaws, pending modification of Section 4. Meetings, Quorum and Minutes: Public Comment, and upon approval by the County Attorney.**

**Measles: Carly Zimmermann**

Carly noted there has been an increase in the number of measles cases seen this year and shared the CDC Measles watch dashboard. <https://www.cdc.gov/measles/cases-outbreaks.html>

**COVID-19 Isolation Timelines: Carly Zimmermann**

Carly discussed the potential changes in COVID-19 isolation recommendations. The CDC was considering changing the recommendations to have isolation end when the individual is fever free for 24 without the use of fever reducing medication. California and Oregon have already taken on this recommendation. NYS DOH will review CDC guidance when it changes and then make any announcements about alternations to recommendations.

**OTHER ITEMS AND QUESTIONS**

This was Shannon’s last Board of Health meeting. Dr. Williams thanked her for all her help over the years and for keeping them organized.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Executive Session began at 7:42 – all Non-members were excused.

**ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm. Next meeting will take place on March 19, 2024 at 6:00 pm.**

**ACTIONS ITEMS FOR FOLLOW UP**

N/A