

# **ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

## **January 21, 2025**

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, January 21, 2025, in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Andrew Williams, Dr. Kathleen Terrence, Rita Curran (via Zoom), Dr. Gregory Healey, Nancy Potter, Mark Deavers

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Erin Streiff, Director of Public Health; Jody Wenzel, County Compliance Officer

### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Dr. Healey, and seconded by Dr. Terrence, the minutes from the December 17, 2024 meeting were approved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

### **OTHER ITEMS AND QUESTIONS**

Jody Wenzel, County Compliance Officer, provided an update on county matters, incidents, and complaints. This included an upcoming change to the contract with HealtheConnections, which may require the Board of Health's signature.

Members discussed the rules and regulations for public comment at Board of Health Meetings.

Guidelines are as follows:

Prior to the start of the meeting there will be a sign-up sheet for members of the public to sign up if they wish to speak before the Board of Health. After all individuals who signed up for Public Comment have spoken, the President may ask if there are additional individuals who would like to speak.

Speakers should adhere to the following protocol:

Sign in with the Clerk before the meeting.

Speakers will stand and state their name and address.

Address comments to the Board of Health as a whole.

Give written statements and other supporting material to the Clerk. Please note that written statements are made a part of the permanent records of the Board of Health. In addition, if the speaker is unable to complete the presentation in the time allotted, a copy of supporting materials will be provided to Board of Health members.

You may not sign up for someone else.

Three minutes will be allowed for each presenter to speak. However, the President may, with consensus of the Board members, reduce the time allocated for all individuals to speak.

If a speaker represents a group, he/she may want to have others in agreement stand while he/she speaks, rather than having all speak on the same issue.

In order to maintain respect for all points of view, the Board of Health requests no clapping, booing or any other form of support or nonsupport be used.

When multiple comments on the same topic have been presented, the President may request additional comments on the topic be limited to those who have new information to present.

Debate and dialogue with the Board of Health is not allowed during public comment.

Use of the projection system is reserved for staff scheduled agenda item presentations only.

Personal attacks towards others, derogatory comments, insults, profanity, and the like is strictly prohibited when addressing the Board.

Members reviewed reasons for holding executive sessions which include matters that would jeopardize public safety if disclosed, or to discuss details of medical, financial credit, or employment history of a particular person or persons or corporations, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation.

Department Highlights: Erin presented the quarterly program updates schedule as discussed at the December Meeting. Reports on the Sanitarian Program will continue on a monthly basis.

- Sanitarian Updates: In December there were no formal Nuisance Complaints, with 15 non-complaint calls. In 2024 there were 13 formal complaints, with 7 determined to be outside of SLCPHD jurisdiction. Additionally, there were 163 general health advisory calls. The department was awarded four SUNY internship positions to assist with mosquito surveillance.
- The department plans to apply for accreditation by the end of 2025. Domain 6 of the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) requires that the SLCPHD sanitary code is up to standards for accreditation. The Workforce Development plan is almost complete. The Quality Improvement and Performance Management Plan (QIPM) and Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) are also in progress, with 2025 being a planning year for the CHIP.
- In terms of injury prevention, overdoses have decreased while suicides have increased.
- In chronic disease programming, the department ran the Humans Don't Hibernate campaign from October through December, receiving both positive participation and feedback.
- Emergency Preparedness grant deliverables for 2024 were met. There are tabletop exercises with community partners, neighboring counties and the New York State Office of Emergency Management planned for 2025.

Members reviewed proposed amendments to the sanitary code, including changes to verbiage, removal the section related to permitting wastes and toilets (to now be covered under Nuisance Complaints), and removal of individual water supply regulations. Members voted in favor of all proposed amendments to the sanitary code and Board of Health bylaws to align with the sanitary code.

Members elected Board of Health Officers, appointment Dr. Andrew Williams as President and Dr. Kathleen Terrence as Vice President.

Erin noted that H5N1 Avian Influenza has been detected in Putnam and Suffolk counties. There is still no known person-to-person transmission. The CDC sent out a health alert requesting the accelerated

subtyping of influenza A in hospitalized patients. Members discussed milk testing in relation to H5N1 and New York's plan, involving testing bulk tanks and tracking which farms contributed.

Members received annual trainings and forms to be completed.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Regular session concluded and executive session was held at 7:14 pm.

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

**Meeting adjourned at 7:50 pm. Next meeting will take place on March 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm.**

#### **ACTION ITEMS FOR FOLLOW UP**

N/A