

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING

January 21, 2020

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, January 21, 2020, in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Acres, Dr. Gregory Healey, Nancy Potter, Jessica Rafter, Dr. Kathleen Terrence, Dr. Andrew Williams

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Dana Olzenak McGuire, Director; Shannon Beldock, Administrative Assistant; Jolene Munger, Deputy Director of PH; Jenesse Watson, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator; Kindra Cousineau, PHN; Brigitte Conklin, Health Educator.

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by K. Terrence, and seconded by N. Potter, the minutes from the December 17, 2019 meeting were approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

Dana introduced Jolene Munger, Deputy Director of PH. Jolene shared she has worked with Dr. Terrence and Dr. Healey's medical offices in her prior employment. This is her second week at the Public Health Department and she is very excited to be here.

Members and others in attendance introduced themselves to Jolene.

Action Items from December 17, 2019:

Send updated bylaws to County Attorney for review/approval prior to adopting.

- This was done and bylaws were sent to members for review.

Per Stephen Button, County Attorney, the Board of Legislators does not have to provide reasons for not choosing a candidate – these discussions take place during Executive Session.

Email updated Naloxone letters to members for review prior to next meeting.

- This was done. See discussion below under "Pharmacy Letters."

Tricia will check to see what other ways there are to find out lead testing data.

- Kindra shared she contacted the State Health Department to find out the connection between NYIIS and Lead Web. If provider caseloads are up-to-date the information is good. Results stay on the website forever – reporting is continued until the age of 5. Dr. Healey's practice uses the Lead Care II machine so their information is submitted manually and then it is transferred to LeadWeb. For the St. Lawrence Health System, the lab submits their information.

Send email invites for 2020 Board of Health meetings.

- This was done.

An email will be sent to members regarding the rescheduling of the February 18, 2020 meeting to the following week on Tuesday, February 25, 2020.

Pharmacy Letters:

Dana made some other changes to the letters. There were no stats available from the Department of Social Services, but they suggested a sentence to be inserted instead (see Buprenorphine storage letter). Members were asked if a separate letter for physicians regarding the standing order should be done – response was “no.” Dr. Williams noted the best way to disseminate this information or any information would be at the medical society meetings.

Sanitarian Case Update: Dana Olzenak McGuire

There have been no calls recently on bed bugs. No other new cases to report.

HUD/Lead Update: Kindra Cousineau/Brigette Conklin

There are (45) on the active lead caseload – one case above 20. It was noted HUD information was sent to all the clients on our caseload. . The HUD grant can help landlords with renovations and/or repairs. The cost to the landlord would be 20%. The tenants need to qualify for this funding, not the landlords. Flyers have been sent to all elementary children – this will be done again. The advertisements are rotating for education and the home rehabilitation program – information is also on Facebook, billboards, and school newsletters websites. Presentations are being provided for partner agencies – the word is getting out. There has been some discussion regarding the purchase of the Lead Care II machines. WIC is unable to use the machines due to State guidelines. It might be more beneficial to put the funding towards more advertising.

Dana noted there are (45) active cases with the new guidelines 10/1/19 – under the old guidelines there would be (36) on 5-9; (3) below 5 and (6) on 15 and above.

Communicable Disease Update: Kindra Cousineau

From September 2019 to today, there have been (42) cases of Type A flu and (96) cases of Type B flu. There have been (3) pediatric deaths. It was asked if these deaths were due to Type A or Type B. Dr. Williams found the data for flu deaths this year – (39) total deaths: (28) Type B and (11) Type A.

Jefferson County has had (23) cases of Gonorrhea in the last month. There has been an outbreak of Hepatitis A across the state – Onondaga, Oswego and Jefferson Correctional facilities have reported outbreaks. They are being urged to provide vaccinations. St. Lawrence County is discussing getting inmates and staff vaccinated. Dr. Williams suggested vaccinating for both Hepatitis A and B. The focus from NYSDOH is Hepatitis A vaccine because they know it is 95% effective after one dose. There have been (2) cases reported in St. Lawrence County – one individual who is not from our county and the other was an elderly woman who’s grandson had a friend (known IV drug user who was homeless) preparing a meal for her – he was unable to be located until a month later. Today, Washington State has reported a confirmed case of corona virus. The individual visited China and became ill on return – went to provider. The CDC is currently the only place to test for this virus – the specimen was sent there. The (5) major airports, including JFK, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Atlanta and Chicago are screening individuals. In China, there have been (300) confirmed cases. People are dying from this virus – mainly the elderly and individuals with other underlying illnesses. It was noted a new report shows that EBOLA lasts in sperm for one year.

Immunization Exclusion Case: Dana Olzenak McGuire

We are still busy serving the families on the exclusion list. We have one parent who is upset that her daughter needs to be vaccinated. We have communicated with the provider office to determine whether appointments have been completed.

Emergency Preparedness Drill – February 5, 2020: Jenesse Watson

Each year the drill has a different scenario and this year it is Anthrax. The drill is to provide medication to 30% of the population. We will be providing prophylaxis (Doxycycline Hyclate and Ciprofloxacin). In a real emergency, after this 30% is used and we are in need of more, we would be receiving another shipment, so we will need to be sure we have enough space and staff to receive and provide the medication.

For the upcoming drill, assets will be received at the county staging site, inventory will be done, and supplies will be distributed to the points of distribution, or POD sites. We are working with the SLC jail and in the future the jail will be our POD site. Having the jail as our POD site provides many benefits. The jail is wheelchair accessible, on one level, parking is available, and there are chairs for people to sit as they are waiting in line to receive assets. Training rooms can also be used if needed and restrooms are available. The flow of individuals in and out of the POD with the change of location will be improved. The jail is an open POD for the community.

It takes numerous partners to fulfil this scenario, including jail staff, buildings & grounds staff, IT staff, SLU staff/space. SLU is participating in the drill. They are a closed POD – they would take care of their own people. We have MOUs with several different partners for use of their space as a POD due to not having enough staff within the Public Health Department to handle all aspects. The majority of the Public Health staff cannot be involved at the staging site because they would be at a POD site.

Department Heads were asked for volunteers and we received volunteers from the Board of Legislators, Weight & Measures, Probation, and Buildings & Grounds.

A hotwash will be done afterwards and feedback forms will be distributed. This information will be compiled for the After Action Report and Improvement Plan that is submitted to the NYSDOH. Information is also submitted through the Health Commerce System (HCS). There will be evaluators for this drill. Kindra Cousineau will be the Controller/ Evaluator. We have a meeting tomorrow to discuss the final procedures. Dana noted that information will be shared with the public on the use of the jail as a POD site.

Other Items and Questions:

Dana shared there is a (10) day period that Dr. Livingstone is on vacation and we will have not pathologist coverage for coroner cases. Our contracts with Albany Medical Center ended on November 1, 2019 and CVPH on January 1, 2020. We had (2) recent cases accepted by Monroe County. Dana asked members if they had any ideas for pathologists. Noted there was someone from Rochester that helps out at CPH. St. Lawrence County does not have a medical examiner. Dr. Livingstone contracts with Jefferson, Lewis and St. Lawrence Counties. Area medical pathologists are not interested in participating in the discussion related to the future of SLC pathology services.

Kevin Acres:

Noted there is talk again regarding the legalization of marijuana for recreational use and that the Board of Legislators may ask Dana to prepare a policy and/or public statement. It was noted marijuana would be legalized to sell in St. Lawrence County, but each town could have a say on

where the dispensaries would be. Dana noted the NYSACHO has recently released a statement press release. Dr. Williams shared the Board of Health would review and develop its statement.

Walk with a Doc takes place at the Gouverneur Middle School on Saturday, January 25, 2020. Lead information will be distributed and the Housing Council will be there to help with the completion of home rehabilitation applications.

OTHER BUSINESS

No Other Business.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for February 25, 2020 at 6:00 pm. (rescheduled from February 18, 2020).

ACTIONS ITEMS FOR FOLLOW UP

1. The bylaws will be updated with track changes applied and sent to members for final review.
2. The Naloxone letters will be sent to members with track changes applied for final review.
3. Next meeting we will show NYIIS information on the large screen for members.
4. Send email to members about rescheduling the Tuesday, February 18, 2020 BOH meeting to the following week, on Tuesday, February 25, 2020.
5. Dana will compile information for Dr. Williams to share at the medical society meeting regarding the developed pharmacy information.