CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
Sept 24, 2019

PRESENT:  Gregory Schultz, MD  Ken Sobel, MD
          William G. Howard, MD  Kevin Wicks, DDS
          James Gensel, PE  Mary Ann Baker, RN
          Rosemary Anthony, RN

ABSENT:  Joseph Brennan  Brian Cassetta, MD
          Mari Delaney, DVM

STAFF PRESENT:  Peter Buzzetti III  Lisa Buckley, RN
                 Rebecca Becraft, RN  Jonathan Keough

STAFF ABSENT:  Kyle Wieder  Terence Lenhardt, MD

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Board of Health Agenda for Sept 24, 2019
2. Board of Health Minutes for May 21, 2019
3. Budget 2019
4. Environmental Health Services Report for April, May, June (revised), July, August 2019
5. Professional Advisory Committee minutes for July 2019 & September 2019
6. Director’s Report for BOH July 23, 2019 & September 24, 2019
7. Lyme Disease
8. 2006-2018 Screening Bar chart – Rochester
9. Rochester’s Lead Law Evaluation of a local Environmental Health Policy Innovation
10. Declines in EBLL in Monroe County NY – Kennedy et al
11. S169b.pdf
12. Cannabidoil (CBD) – updated 06-12-19
13. NYS Department of Health Required Sign

NYSDOH Presentation- Purolator Products Company (formerly Facet)

Justin Deming from the NYSDOH Bureau of Environmental Exposure spoke to the BOH members. His agency is working with the EPA and DEC to promote remediation to the Purolator/Facet region. This is a federal superfund site due to contamination from TCE’s. The contamination is contained and groundwater is being treated. Many homes in the surrounding area have had air sampling for soil vapor intrusion. Some parcels have required mitigation. This system is easy to install and effective. Many properties have still not been sampled. The State Health Dept. is working with the EPA to increase outreach and renew community engagement. Public sessions are being held to increase participation. Letters will be sent to residents. There is no cost to homeowners. The EPA pays for sampling and mitigation. The systems also remove radon and moisture. Justin states this meeting is the first step in outreach to stakeholders. Suggestions from board members were to contact TV stations for interviews, submit a newspaper article, go door to door in the neighborhood and create a Facebook page to provide information.
CALL TO ORDER

CCBH Meeting called to order by Dr. Gregory Schultz, MD at approximately 6:00 PM. Quorum established.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR May 21, 2019 MEETING

Review of minutes of BOH meeting May 21, 2019. No questions or comments.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr. Howard to approve the meeting minutes. Seconded by Rosemary Anthony. All in favor. The minutes of the May 21, 2019 Board of Health meeting approved and accepted. Motion approved.

AYES: Gregory Schultz, MD Ken Sobel, MD
William G. Howard, MD Kevin Wicks, DDS
James Gensel, PE Mary Ann Baker, RN
Rosemary Anthony, RN

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Joseph Brennan Brian Cassetta, MD
Mari Delaney, DVM

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Peter Buzzetti reviewed the financial report for 2019 for BOH members. Kyle Weider submitted the State Aid application and is working on reorganizing the budget so that it is more in line with the State Aid budget. No questions or comments.

3. SERVICES REPORTS

A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES – The report for EHS was submitted for April through August 2019 inclusive and sent to BOH members in advance of the meeting. Jonathan Keough, Environmental Health Director reported for EHS. There was one month with few enforcements and another month with many enforcement actions. This is because we were without a hearing officer. There has been an unusual amount of rabies cases this season. The EHS office is anticipating an increase in workload when the lead action level is reduced to 5 mcg/dl on October 1st. However, the new law does not require that a risk assessor be EPA certified to do the investigations. The EHS office currently has three EPA certified assessors. Certification renewal is required every three years.

B. PUBLIC HEALTH CLINICS REPORT – Rebecca Becraft provided a report that was distributed to the CCBH in advance of the meeting. The Tobacco 21 law takes effect
on November 13, 2019 and includes all tobacco and vaping products. The public health office staff are also planning for the increase in lead case management cases after the October 1st law goes into effect. Religious exemptions are no longer allowed for children attending schools or daycares as of June 28, 2019. Nurses have been extremely busy meeting the immunization needs of the public and assisting the schools. Chemung County Public Health nurses assisted Schuyler County in a POD held at the end of June to administer Hepatitis A vaccine after a reported case of hepatitis A in an infected food handler at a Watkins Glen restaurant. The public health office has been working closely on investigating several cases of legionella reported this month.

C. HOME HEALTH AGENCY REPORT – Lisa Buckley provided a report in advance of the meeting. The request to increase home care rates has been approved by the Legislature. The agency has a very low percentage of private pay patients and does offer a sliding scale reduced fee. The change in rates becomes effective Jan. 1, 2020. The Home Health Agency had a NYSDOH survey in July that extended for one week. Deficiencies cited were related to documentation. A plan of correction was accepted and a post survey visit will be conducted in January. The agency STAR rating for patient satisfaction increased from a 4 to a 5. This continues to be the highest overall ratings in the area. Peter Buzzetti added that this was accomplished in light of staffing issues.

D. WIC – The WIC report was submitted within the Professional Advisory Report of July and September 2019. Peter Buzzetti reported that WIC is working with the State to have a pop-up WIC Clinic. A current outreach clinic at the DSS building has not been as busy as expected. The WIC clinic rates fifth in the state for participants coming in for appointments and getting benefits but rates low for redeeming the benefits.

4. DIRECTOR’S REPORT - Peter Buzzetti, Public Health Director, submitted a Director’s report for July and September 2019 prior to the meeting. The application for the Lead HUD grant was submitted on time. If the grant is approved it will provide a funding opportunity for lead housing remediation.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Discuss increasing Environmental Health fines
Jonathan Keough discussed the many issues and variables involved with an increase in fines. This involves providing consistency across all programs including recommendations for actions to be taken. The overall purpose is to gain compliance. Available options include fines or training. A draft proposal is being developed.

2. CBD presentation – update
Jonathan also provided an update to the previous BOH cannabidoil presentation. The FDA did hold a public meeting on May 31. Concerns were expressed about the effects
of CBD oil, toxicity and long-term use. The FDA considers CBD products as an unapproved new drug. The hemp industry is in favor of sales. The FDA has not issued a ruling yet. There are currently three locations in Chemung County selling CBD oils.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **New smoking restrictions outside libraries**  
   As of June 19, 2019 NYS public health law has been amended to prohibit smoking within 100 feet of the entrances or exits of public libraries. The Southern Tier Tobacco Awareness Coalition (STTAC) is assisting libraries with signage.

2. **Lead data on effectiveness of Rochester’s lead law**  
   As a follow-up to the discussion at the last BOH meeting, Peter Buzzetti included a table and two research papers on lead data and the effectiveness of Rochester’s lead law. The annual rate of decline in Monroe County occurred 2.4% faster than in New York and 1.8% faster than in the U.S. The City of Elmira is moving towards an ordinance to require an inspection protocol for rental units. If the HUD grant application is approved it will provide an avenue for funding for remediation.

3. **Recording, logging, maintaining Board of Health resolutions**  
   Peter Buzzetti suggested developing a system for logging and recording BOH resolutions for easy reference. Members in favor. Peter will bring a template to the next meeting for review.

4. **Legionella discussion**  
   There have more cases than usual noted since August/September. Environmental water sampling has been done on cooling towers and patient homes. There has been no DNA link identified between the collected sputum samples and environmental samples. The Health Dept. continues to work closely with the State in this ongoing investigation.

5. **Vaping Issues**  
   New York State DOH published a Health Advisory in September warning the public of vaping related pulmonary illness. Vitamin E acetate has been correlated with many cases but a definitive cause has not been identified. Flavored vaping products have been banned for sale as of Sept. 17, 2019. Enforcement actions are required through the ATUPA program in collaboration with State Police starting Oct. 7, 2019. All facilities that sell vaping products must post signage provided by NYSDOH about the dangers of vaping.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Mary Ann Baker that this meeting of the Chemung County Board of Health be adjourned. **Motion approved.**
AYES: Gregory Schultz, MD             Ken Sobel, MD
      William G. Howard, MD             Kevin Wicks, DDS
      James Gensel, PE                  Mary Ann Baker, RN
      Rosemary Anthony, RN

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Joseph Brennan               Brian Cassetta, MD
        Mari Delaney, DVM

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:50 PM.

Next meeting: Board of Health Meeting
             Dec 4, 2019 @ 6:00 PM
             Health Department Conference Room