CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
January 23, 2018

PRESENT:
Gregory Schultz, MD
Rosemary Anthony, RN
Ken Sobel, MD
Robert Lambert, MD
James Gensel, PE
Joseph Brennan

ABSENT:
Mary Ann Baker, RN
William G. Howard, MD
Kevin Wicks, DDS
Mari Delaney, DVM

OTHERS PRESENT:
Peter Buzzetti III, MPH
Lisa Buckley, RN
Rebecca Becraft, RN
Thomas Kump, PE
Harry Shepard

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Agenda for January 23, 2018 CCBH Meeting
2. CCBH Meeting Minutes from December 5, 2017
3. Environmental Health Services Report for December 2017
4. Financial Report For December 2017
5. Public Health Nursing Report For January 23, 2018
6. CHHA Report For January 23, 2018
7. CHHA Quality Of Care Report
8. BOH Bylaws – Draft Revisions
9. Hearing Officer Appointment – 1995
10. Lead Coalition Working Group Minutes For December 13, 2017
11. BOH Meeting Schedule 2018

CALL TO ORDER
CCBH President Dr. Gregory Schultz called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 PM.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 5, 2017 MEETING

There were no corrections recommended to the minutes as presented from those members present.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr. Sobel and seconded by Dr. Lambert that the minutes of the December 5, 2017 Board of Health meeting be approved and accepted as presented. Motion approved.

AYES:
Gregory Schultz, MD
Rosemary Anthony, RN
Ken Sobel, MD
Robert Lambert, MD
James Gensel, PE
Joseph Brennan

NAYES:
None
ABSENT: Mary Ann Baker, RN  
William G. Howard, MD  
Kevin Wicks, DDS  
Mari Delaney, DVM

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Harry Shepard referred to the report for financial activities through the end of December 2017 that was distributed to the CCBH in advance of the meeting. He commented that everything has been business as usual. He said that the financial year is still open and will remain open for a few months. The expectation is that both the revenue and expenses will be very close to 100% of budget. There were no questions for Mr. Shepard.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Ms. Anthony and seconded by Dr. Lambert that the December 2017 Financial Report as presented by Mr. Shepard be approved and accepted as presented. Motion approved.

AYES: Gregory Schultz, MD  
Rosemary Anthony, RN  
Ken Sobel, MD  
Robert Lambert, MD  
James Gensel, PE  
Joseph Brennan

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Mary Ann Baker, RN  
Kevin Wicks, DDS  
William G. Howard, MD  
Mari Delaney, DVM

3. SERVICES REPORTS

A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES – Thomas Kump mentioned that there was a report for December 2017 sent to BOH members in advance of the meeting. Ms. Anthony questioned the enforcement policy. Mr. Kump explained that the top priority is education so as to protect public health. If a particular critical violation occurs twice within a few years, a Stipulation Offer is made to the operator. A closure is considered after 2 Stipulation Offers if the same violation persists. Mr. Brennan questioned whether this information regarding enforcement is made known to the public. Mr. Kump explained that all actions are documented on inspection reports and that all inspection reports are posted to the Department website. There were no further questions for Mr. Kump.

B. PUBLIC HEALTH CLINICS REPORT – Rebecca Becraft commented on the report dated January 23, 2018 that was distributed to the CCBH at the meeting. She reported that there seems to have been an earlier peak in influenza activity this season but that the number of confirmed influenza cases is quite similar to this time in the prior year. The H3N2 strain seems to be more prevalent and the symptoms experienced by patients seem to be more severe. There have been 30 confirmed pediatric deaths attributed to influenza in the US. Dr. Lambert questioned where
we were at as a Department in addressing the opioid crisis. Ms. Becraft explained that the CCHD has a member on the local task force. Legislator Brennan added that as a member of the Health & Human Services Committee of the County Legislature, he is requesting that Brian Hart make a presentation for the County Legislature on what is being done locally and where the task force hopes to go. There were no questions for Ms. Becraft.

**C. HOME HEALTH AGENCY REPORT** – Lisa Buckley commented on items included in the report dated January 23, 2018 that was distributed to the CCBH at the meeting. She also referred to the Quality of Patient Care Star Rating Report that was distributed in a mailing prior to the meeting. Legislator Brennan questioned the areas of weakness for both November and December 2017 under the process measures and wondered if that was a consistent pattern among all staff. Ms. Buckley explained that only the staff that had evidence of depression assessments that were not being completed were provided additional training to address that deficiency. There were no further questions for Ms. Buckley.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. **APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR** – Mr. Buzzetti reported to the CCBH that he has officially been appointed to the position of Public Health Director and is looking forward to working with the CCBH.

2. **NEW PRESIDENT & VICE PRESIDENT** – Mr. Buzzetti reminded the CCBH that Dr. Schultz has officially taken the office of Board President and that Dr. Delaney is the CCBH Vice President, both for a term of 2 years.

3. **BOARD OF HEALTH BYLAWS REVISIONS VOTE** – Mr. Buzzetti commented that there have been no further revisions to the Bylaws since the last meeting and that a resolution would be needed for formal adoption as proposed.

**RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Sobel and seconded by Dr. Lambert that the proposed revisions to the CCBH Bylaws originally presented to the Chemung County Board of Health at the December 2017 meeting be approved and accepted as presented. Motion approved.

**AYES:**
- Gregory Schultz, MD
- Rosemary Anthony, RN
- Ken Sobel, MD
- Robert Lambert, MD
- James Gensel, PE
- Joseph Brennan

**NAYES:**
- None

**ABSENT:**
- Mary Ann Baker, RN
- William G. Howard, MD
- Kevin Wicks, DDS
- Mari Delaney, DVM
4. HISTORY/DOCUMENTATION OF HEARING OFFICER APPOINTMENT – Mr. Buzzetti commented on the research into the official appointment of the current Hearing Officer and referenced the email provided by Mr. Shepard that was sent to the CCBH. There is documentation that Mr. Shepard was appointed as a Hearing Officer for the Chemung County Board of Health in August 1995. Mr. Shepard raised the concern that there is currently only one Hearing Officer and that if there was a situation where Mr. Shepard was not available and/or there was a conflict of interest between Mr. Shepard and the Respondent, there would be no one to preside over the hearing. Mr. Shepard and Mr. Buzzetti discussed options and reached agreement on nominating Attorney Don Thompson for appointment by the CCBH as a Hearing Officer. Attorney Thompson currently is the attorney for the Department of Social Services and has agreed to accept an appointment if one were to be made.

**RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Lambert and seconded by Mr. Gensel that Attorney Don Thompson be appointed as a Hearing Officer for the Chemung County Board of Health. **Motion approved.**

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5. CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING IN ELMIRA – Mr. Buzzetti reported that both the Lead Coalition Working Group and the full Lead Coalition have met since the last CCBH meeting. It was agreed that the goal of the Lead Coalition would be to reduce children’s exposure to lead in Chemung County. This would be accomplished by public outreach and education as well as changes to local codes and ordinances as they relate to lead hazards in residential environments. Ms. Becraft presented information on some of the actions taken and provided a plan for how the coalition intends to move forward. She said that they have identified a family where a child tested positive for elevated blood lead levels who would be willing to work with the coalition to help spread the word. Dr. Lambert added that Arnot Health has received a grant to purchase new devices for testing children’s blood for lead which should increase the number of children that are screened for lead poisoning. Mr. Gensel also commented that the Elmira Water Board has received a grant from NYS for about $600,000 to replace old water service lines that are known to contain lead. He acknowledged that this is probably not the largest source of lead in children, but that removing these old lead sources will certainly be a positive step forward.

Mr. Gensel requested to add an item under Old Business. There was unanimous consent from the CCBH.
6. **GRANT FOR SOUTHPORT SEWER EXTENSION** – Mr. Gensel was happy to report that the Town of Southport was awarded a grant for about $2 million dollars to help subsidize the cost of a needed sewer extension that had already been approved by referendum by the impacted residents of the area in question. He commented that the CCHD was very instrumental in obtaining the grant as they had written a letter of support based on research they had performed from old septic system records that go back to the 1960’s. Fagan Engineers utilized that data to present a graphical representation of the problems these residents were facing that was apparently quite compelling. Mr. Gensel offered his thanks and praise to the DEHS for his involvement in helping secure this funding.

**NEW BUSINESS**

1. **ACCESS TO WIFI FOR BOH MEETINGS** – Mr. Buzzetti investigated the possibility for the CCBH being able to connect to the Health Department WiFi during meetings to prevent the need for members printing off each document and instead being able to access it electronically. Mr. Buzzetti also demonstrated how he would intend to reduce wasted paper by having the large screen monitor project the documents as they are being discussed during the meeting. He also said that if CCBH members are interested in bringing their own laptops, tablets or other smart devices to the meeting instead of printing off all the paper documents he would be able to provide temporary access to the WiFi on the night of the meetings.

2. **MEETING SCHEDULE FOR BOH IN 2018** – Mr. Buzzetti provided the CCBH with a schedule of the Board of Health Meetings for calendar year 2018 in advance of the meeting. This information is also on the Board of Health webpage on the Health Department website.

3. **BOH MEMBER APPOINTMENTS THAT EXPIRE IN 2018** – Mr. Buzzetti mentioned that there are a few members of the CCBH whose terms expire in 2018, including Ms. Baker and Dr. Lambert. Dr. Lambert informed the CCBH that he has decided not to seek another appointment as he has been a member of the CCBH for many years and wanted to provide another candidate with the opportunity to serve on the CCBH as well as so that he could have time to pursue other interests. Dr. Lambert has been a fixture on the CCBH for countless years, serving more than once as President/Vice President and has been a true asset to the CCBH over the years. Ms. Baker had informed Mr. Buzzetti a short while ago that she was interested in another appointment.

4. **REAPPOINTMENT OF MS. BAKER TO BOH** – Mr. Buzzetti commented on the Legislature’s approval of re-appointing Ms. Baker to the Chemung County Board of Health for a new term which will expire March 9, 2024.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to conduct, President Schultz requested a motion to adjourn.
RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Ms. Anthony and seconded by Dr. Lambert that the January 23, 2018 meeting of the Chemung County Board of Health be adjourned. Motion approved.

AYES: Gregory Schultz, MD  Robert Lambert, MD
      Rosemary Anthony, RN  James Gensel, PE
      Ken Sobel, MD  Joseph Brennan

NAYES: None

ABSENT: Mary Ann Baker, RN  Kevin Wicks, DDS
      William G. Howard, MD  Mari Delaney, DVM

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:35 PM.

Next meeting: Board of Health Meeting
March 27, 2018 @ 7:30 PM
Health Department Conference Room