CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
Sept 26, 2017

PRESENT: Gregory Schultz, MD  Robert Lambert, MD
Rosemary Anthony, RN  James Gensel, PE
William G. Howard, MD  Mary Ann Baker, RN
Mari Delaney, DVM  Ken Sobel, MD

ABSENT: Joseph Brennan  Kevin Wicks, DDS

STAFF PRESENT: Robert Page  Peter Buzzetti III
Harry Shepard  Lisa Buckley, RN
Rebecca Becraft, RN

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Agenda for Sept 26, 2017 CCBH Meeting
2. CCBH Meeting Minutes from July 25, 2017
4. Environmental Health Services Report for July & August 2017
5. Public Health Nursing Report For Sept 26, 2017
6. Public Health Patient Satisfaction Survey
7. Yellow Fever MMWR Article
8. CHHA Report Sept 2017
9. BOH Coroner Program
10. Article 28 Survey Report
11. BOH Bylaws

CALL TO ORDER
CCBH President Dr. William G. Howard called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 PM. Quorum established.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 25, 2017 MEETING

Minutes of BOH July 25, 2017 meeting reviewed.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Mary Ann Baker and seconded by Dr. Schultz that the minutes of the July 25, 2017 Board of Health meeting be approved and accepted as presented. **Motion approved.**

AYES: Gregory Schultz, MD  Robert Lambert, MD
Rosemary Anthony, RN  James Gensel, PE
William G. Howard, MD  Mary Ann Baker, RN
Mari Delaney, DVM  Ken Sobel, MD

NAYES: None
ABSENT: Joseph Brennan, Kevin Wicks, DDS

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Harry Shepard presented the report for financial activities that was distributed to the CCBH in advance of the meeting. Mr. Shepard stated that the number of rabies cases has increased. Dr. Howard noted that the number of cases in 2016 were above the budgeted amount also. Discussion as to increasing the budgeted amount for rabies. Mr. Shepard reported budget items are negotiated yearly. Next year’s budgeted amount is similar to the current year. Overall, the Health Dept. is below budget at this time.

3. SERVICES REPORTS

A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES – Two reports for EHS were submitted for July and August 2017 and sent to BOH members in advance of the meeting. Dr. Howard noted one misspelled word in the July minutes in reference to “ownership of the park.” Dr. Howard noted a large number of stipulations this quarter. Pete Buzzetti stated there is a seasonal component to inspections such as temporary food inspections increase in the summer but otherwise there is no specific link to the number of stipulations given.

B. PUBLIC HEALTH CLINICS REPORT – Rebecca Becraft provided a report that was distributed to the CCBH in advance of the meeting. The Public Health Dept. completed NYSDOH consolidated review the last week of August that went very well and will be discussed by Mr. Page in New Business. The Public Health Dept. recently posted an initiative developed by an intern named “Let’s Talk About It” on the health dept. website. It offers parents suggestions for ways to talk to children and teens about sensitive subjects such as body image, self-esteem, STI’s and prevention. The results of the 2016 Patient Satisfaction Survey were tabulated and presented to NYS during consolidated review. Overall, comments were very positive. Patients were satisfied with the nursing care in clinics. One common theme identified was a lack of privacy in the waiting room. Plans are in place to create private cubicle areas in the inner lobby to afford more privacy for patients. Chemung County was recently named in a MMWR article published on Sept. 1, 2017 about a resident who developed yellow fever subsequent to travel to Peru.

C. HOME HEALTH AGENCY REPORT – Lisa Buckley provided a report that was provided in advance of the meeting. The Home Health Agency maintained its four star Quality of Patient Care rating. The agency currently has two nurses off on maternity leave causing a nursing shortage. Plans are in place to ask the legislature for a temporary full-time position to alleviate the shortage. The Home Health Agency has developed a Quality Assurance Performance Improvement Plan (QAPI) using data driven reports taken from the OASIS assessments to determine performance on quality improvement measures. Their PPS software gives real time
data of the agency’s outcome and process measure and how they compare to the state and national averages. The agency is above the state and national averages in most areas. Agency Incidents and Complaints were reviewed. No actions necessary. Mary Krebs will be replacing Mary Ann Baker on the Professional Advisory council as the Community Liason. The Professional Advisory committee has added an Infection Control consultant. The Home Health Agency has developed a more inclusive Infection Control Plan. The BOH is the governing body for the Health Dept. and Home Care Agency. Professional Advisory committee will meet and submit the meeting minutes prior to BOH meetings.

OLD BUSINESS

1. E-Cigarettes Prohibition in County Smoking Policy
Mr. Page reported that the recommendation from the BOH submitted to the Legislature to amend the county smoking policy to include e-cigarettes has been approved. This measure is consistent with recent revision of the Clean Indoor Air Act to include e-cigarettes and vaping products. Suggestion made to send policy to towns and cities. STTAC will do outreach to municipalities.

2. Childhood Lead Poisoning in Elmira
Pete Buzzetti discussed highlights from the first Chemung County Lead Task Force meeting. 28 people attended including representatives from the city and the Attorney General’s office. It was very successful with good discussion after the presentations. A plan was formulated to create working groups to tackle specific issues. Groups will meet in October, November and December and report back to the Coalition and BOH in January. Pete Buzzetti is also working on offering EPA RRP certification for contractors. Renovations disturb paint and cause lead dust exposure. Mr. Page reminded the group of the previous Kennedy Valve grant when $1.2 million was allocated for housing remediation of lead hazards. The focus now will be with property owners and landlords. The group may try to emulate Monroe County’s efforts to provide lead safe housing. Our statistics in Elmira stand out in the state because of the older housing stock. Chemung County has support from the Attorney General’s office for this renewed initiative.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Coroner Program Report
Harry Shepard presented a report of the Coroner Program. Of note is the significant growth in the program above the budgeted amount. There is no state aid for the program. The county had contracted with Monroe County until prices became prohibitive. We now contract with Lourdes Hospital and Twin Tier Pathology Associates. Costs are affected by transport and ordered services. The program is funded by local taxpayer monies. Overall, there is no defined system to handle deaths in the state. Each county develops their own system for how it is structured.
2. Survey by State Health Department
The Public Health Dept. recently completed consolidated survey by New York State that includes Article 28 clinic survey for public health clinics as Diagnostic & Treatment Centers and Program review for Environmental Health Services and Public Health programs. EHS was given very high ratings in the Western Region. At the completion of survey no deficiencies were cited. The Program review component is expected within 45 days and will make recommendations specific to individual programs. The Deputy Commissioner from Regional Office was present at the exit interview and commended CCHD for the quality of its program management and clinics.

3. Public Health Director Transition
Pete Buzzetti has been mentoring under Robert Page to the Public Health Director position since April 1st. Pete has met with staff, participated in state survey, learned the history of the Dept., legislative items, administrative functions and has helped form the Lead Coalition. Pete has established good rapport with Dept. heads and is well liked. Pete and Robert met with the County Executive two weeks ago to outline a plan for transition. Pete will be appointed Public Health Director on Jan. 1, 2018. Pete will meet the Public Health Law qualifications through education and training with upper level management experience. Mr. Page expects a smooth transition when he retires fully at the end of December 2017.

RESOLUTION: Dr. Lambert made a motion to recommend appointment of Pete Buzzetti to the position of Public Health Director effective Jan. 1, 2018. Seconded by Rosemary Anthony. All in favor. The recommendation will go to the Personnel Committee meeting in October. Motion approved.

4. Board of Health Bylaws Review for December meeting
Bylaws are required to be reviewed annually. Any changes need to be recommended at least two weeks prior to the December BOH meeting before voting.

5. Nominating Committee for Vice President
The Nominating Committee is established for Vice President in odd numbered years. Board members thought that Dr. Howard is in his first year of a two year term as President so no new Vice President would be needed at this time. Will defer action until the Board gets clarification on terms for Dr. Howard and Dr. Schultz.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Rosemary Anthony and seconded by Mary Ann Baker that this meeting of the Chemung County Board of Health be adjourned. Motion approved.

AYES: Gregory Schultz, MD
      Rosemary Anthony, RN
      William G. Howard, MD
      Mari Delaney, DVM
      Robert Lambert, MD
      James Gensel, PE
      Mary Ann Baker, RN
      Ken Sobel, MD
NAYES: None

ABSENT: Joseph Brennan  Kevin Wicks, DDS

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:40 PM.

**Next meeting:** Board of Health Meeting
December 5, 2017 @ 7:30 PM
Health Department Conference Room