CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
April 3, 2012

PRESENT:  Thomas Curran, DDS  William Roe, PE
          Robert Lambert, MD  Richard Madl
          William G. Howard, MD

ABSENT: Paul Shore, DDS  Ken Sobel, MD
        Mary Ann Baker, RN

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Page  Thomas Kump, PE
                Harry Shepard  Melissa Traub
                Terence Lenhardt, MD

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Agenda for April 3, 2012 CCBH Meeting
2. CCBH Minutes from January 24, 2012
3. Environmental Health Services Report for January & February 2012
4. Dental Clinic Reports for January & February 2011

The following items were distributed at the meeting:

5. Budget Status Report (Final) through December 31, 2011
6. CHHA Statistical Report for February 2012
7. Environmental Health Services Report for March 2012
8. Chemung County Dental Health Certificate
9. County Health Rankings Report 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Roe called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 PM.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JANUARY 24, 2012 MEETING

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr. Lambert and seconded by Dr. Howard that the minutes of the January 24, 2012 Board of Health meeting be approved and accepted as presented. Motion approved.

AYES: Thomas Curran, DDS  William Roe, PE
      Robert Lambert, MD  Richard Madl
      William G. Howard, MD

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ken Sobel, MD  Paul Shore, DDS
         Mary Ann Baker, RN
2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Harry Shepard mentioned that the Final Budget Status Report through December 31, 2011 was distributed to the CCBH just prior to the meeting. Overall, there were no surprises for the year as everything ended as expected. Future reports will provide data on the year-to-date status of the budget for 2012. There were no questions for Mr. Shepard.

3. SERVICES REPORTS

A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES – Thomas Kump mentioned that reports for January & February 2012 were included in the mailing to BOH members in advance of the meeting and that a report for March 2012 was distributed just prior to the meeting. A question was raised about the activities related to the ban on the sale of synthetic marijuana. Mr. Kump explained that he would discuss that topic later in the meeting under New Business. There were no further questions for Mr. Kump.

B. CHHA UPDATE & CLINIC ACTIVITIES – Melissa Traub reported that a new dashboard report has been created to capture activities and performance indicators for the CHHA. This is a new report, so Ms. Traub asked if there were any suggestions for modifications to the report that the CCBH would like to see. She also mentioned that this is a work in progress and would be fine-tuning the report as needed. The first row of the report shows data for the report month related to referrals, admissions, discharges and other important information. The second row covers the same categories but is presented on a year-to-date basis. The balance of the report provides data on the number of visits performed as well as census information. Mr. Page questioned how these numbers in 2012 compare to the same time period in 2011. Ms. Traub said that they are pretty much the same this year as in 2011. Mr. Page went on to report that all past position vacancies have been filled. A different approach has been taken with filling some of the positions with LPN’s. They will be able to do a lot of visits that only require basic services. They will aim toward completing 7 to 8 visits per day versus 4 to 5 visits that the RN’s typically make on average. It is hopeful that this strategic staffing plan will have a positive impact on productivity and on the budget. There were no further questions for Ms. Traub.

C. DENTAL SERVICES REPORT – Mr. Page mentioned that there were two reports distributed electronically in advance of the meeting for Dental Services for January & February 2012. He also mentioned that the Medicaid Managed Care may have an impact on our dental clinic. It is expected that a branch of Fidelis will be enrolling Medicaid patients through its dental program. There were no questions for Mr. Page. Dr. Curran requested time to discuss the school oral screening program that is not actually part of the Chemung County Health Department for which a grant was obtained. He explained that a law was passed in 2006 stating that every child
in grades Kindergarten, 2nd, 4th, 7th, and 10th was to have an obligatory oral health screening. As time passed, the approach has lessened to the point where it is considered an optional program at this point. One of the big obstacles in the program was in getting parents to sign the permission slip for the student. The grant will provide funds to print triplicate forms that were designed to provide a tracking mechanism to assure better follow-up while making it easier for parents to consent. They will be working with primary care providers to get consent during the child’s annual check-ups. One copy of the form will go to the parent, one copy to the school, and the third copy to the health department. This has been a problem all across New York State, so if this is successful here, it could end up being a model for use in other locations. It is a 3 year project that is expected to start in September 2012.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. APPLICATIONS FOR MEDICAL/DENTAL STAFF PRIVILEGES – Mr. Page stated that there were 3 current pending applications before the CCBH for approval for medical/dental staff privileges. He reminded the CCBH that this was a new procedure that has been put in place in response to deficiencies noted in a recent Article 28 survey of the CCHD clinical operations. The candidates are dentists Dr. Lax and Dr. O’Connell as well as medical consultant Dr. Lenhardt. Dr. Lenhardt already has privileges with his employer at Arnot Ogden as well as a few other locations. The two dentists do not have any other listed privileges. Mr. Page reported that they all have fulfilled all requirements and all paperwork is available for review by any member if they desire.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Dr. Lambert that the proposed candidates for medical/dental staff privileges be approved as presented. Motion approved.

AYES: Thomas Curran, DDS
      Robert Lambert, MD
      William G. Howard, MD
      William Roe, PE
      Richard Madl

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ken Sobel, MD
         Mary Ann Baker, RN
         Paul Shore, DDS
2. MEDICAID MANAGED CARE UPDATE – Mr. Page updated the CCBH on the latest status of the Medicaid Managed Care program in Chemung County. He opined that this is one of the most complex organizations in healthcare that he has ever experienced. There are three entities that have approached Chemung County for approval to operate within the County, namely, United Health Care, Fidelis, and Visiting Nurse Services. They are each in different stages in their path to approval. It is very difficult to make sense of all of this as each entity has their own approach and structure to how they would operate. It will certainly change the nature of services provided in Chemung County.

3. UPDATE ON COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS 2012 & SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA BAN – Mr. Page reported that the 2012 version of the County Health Rankings for NYS has been released today. Chemung County is ranked 60th out of 62 counties in the category of Health Outcomes and is ranked 48th out of 62 counties in the category of Health Factors. A lot of what goes into this ranking is beyond the control of the Health Department. Chemung County is considered to be very “rich” in the services provided to the needy population. This could impact the rankings by attracting a larger number from that socio-economic background to this area. Mr. Roe thought that it would be better to see more than just the rankings, as there might not be a real big difference in the raw data that went into the rankings. More data is available in the full report than what was presented in the summary report. Mr. Page also noted that the 2012 rankings were developed from data as old as 2004 and stretched over long periods of time. So changes made in the last few years won’t impact the rankings for several more years as the data represent a composite average over a longer period of time. In another topic, Mr. Kump apprised the CCBH of the recent Order for Summary Action issued by the Commissioner of the NYSDOH that prohibits the sale of synthetic marijuana. The use of this product has caused many injuries and even deaths among users. The EHS staff conducted compliance checks at over 70 locations and found a few retailers that actually had the product available for sale. A copy of the order was served on the operators of these establishments. It was not the responsibility of the local health department to take any enforcement action, but rather, EHS was enlisted to act as an agent to survey and provide outreach. All locations that had sold the product have been cooperative and agreed to remove the product from the stores. A final topic that was discussed was the increase in meth labs in Chemung County. Chemung County is reported to have a higher rate of meth lab discoveries than most other counties in the State. The Sheriff’s Department has agreed to provide in-service awareness training to all County staff that, as part of their work responsibilities, have to go out to homes or locations where meth labs may be located.
ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION: With no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Dr. Curran that the CCBH be adjourned until the next regular meeting of May 22, 2012. **Motion approved.**

AYES: Thomas Curran, DDS  
Robert Lambert, MD  
William G. Howard, MD  
William Roe, PE  
Richard Madl

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ken Sobel, MD  
Mary Ann Baker, RN  
Paul Shore, DDS

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:30 PM.

Next meeting: Board of Health Meeting  
May 22, 2012 @ 7:30 PM  
Health Department Conference Room