CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
September 25, 2012

PRESENT: Thomas Curran, DDS William Roe, PE
Paul Shore, DDS Mary Ann Baker, RN
Robert Lambert, MD Ken Sobel, MD

ABSENT: Richard Madl William G. Howard, MD

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Page Thomas Kump, PE
Melissa Klossner Terence Lenhardt, MD
Joyce Hyatt Aola Jackson

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Agenda for September 25, 2012 CCBH Meeting
2. CCBH Meeting Minutes from July 24, 2012
5. Dental Services Report for July & August 2012

The following items were distributed at the meeting:

7. CHHA Dashboard through August 31, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

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

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 24, 2012 MEETING

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

AYES: Thomas Curran, DDS William Roe, PE
Paul Shore, DDS Mary Ann Baker, RN
Robert Lambert, MD Ken Sobel, MD

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Richard Madl William G. Howard, MD

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Harry Shepard was not present as he had to attend to a family emergency. Mr. Page mentioned that the Budget Status Report through August 31, 2012 was distributed to the CCBH just prior to the meeting. There were no questions for Mr. Page.
3. SERVICES REPORTS

A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES – Thomas Kump mentioned that the reports for July and August 2012 were included in the mailing to BOH members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Kump also informed the CCBH of an ongoing investigation into a person operating an illegal catering operation out of his home. Complaints have been filed with EHS over the last several years about David Murphy operating a business known as Murphy’s Meals out of his home on West Church Street in the City of Elmira. This was mentioned in the August 2012 EHS Highlights report. He claimed to have suspended operations, but EHS received word that he is still operating his business. An enforcement action is pending. There was a question about the increase in the number of bats submitted to the State for rabies testing. Mr. Kump explained that several factors could play into that. The tornado in July may have wreaked havoc with bat habitats. Extremes in temperatures during the day and/or night also can affect bat activity. There were no further questions for Mr. Kump.

B. CHHA UPDATE & CLINIC ACTIVITIES – Melissa Klossner reported that there was a Dashboard for CHHA Statistics through August 31, 2012 distributed just prior to the meeting as well as a report of field visits made in August 2012. The CHHA is running more efficiently now. Immunizations are now being done by appointment only. A lab survey was conducted by NYSDOH last week. There were only 2 minor deficiencies noted. There has been a substantial increase in the number of pertussis cases reported this year in comparison to prior years. Chemung County has had 9 confirmed pertussis cases so far this year. There were no further questions for Ms. Klossner.

C. DENTAL SERVICES REPORT – Mr. Page mentioned that there were two reports distributed in the CCBH mailing for Dental Services for July and August 2012. There has been a lot of confusion in the transition over to managed care for dental services. It is hopeful that everything will smooth out as more accurate information is disseminated with regard to treatments and coverage. Dr. Curran provided an update on the dental sealant program. Just when it looked like there would be minimal if any activity in the dental sealant program during the first semester of the school year, recent developments have proved that to be wrong. Nicole Whitman, the part-time hygienist performing the program was very instrumental in discussions with personnel from both the Elmira Heights School District as well as the Horseheads School District. The focus in Elmira Heights was on the dental health certificate program, whereas the efforts in Horseheads were towards getting the dental sealant and dental certificate programs going in 4 Horseheads elementary schools this fall. They are still hopeful to get back in the Elmira City School District during the second semester of this school year. There were no questions for Mr. Page.
OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

1. PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE FOR FLU SHOTS – Ms. Klossner reported to the CCBH that a flu clinic has been scheduled for October 10th from 11:00 to 1:00 at the Health Department. However, the format will be that of a POD (Point of Dispensing) Drill to satisfy one of the annual preparedness grant deliverables. We will be receiving 500 free doses of vaccine as well as electronic hardware (laptops, scanners, and printers) from the NYSDOH. It will be free to anyone in the general public that is 19 years of age or older. Outreach is being made to several agencies including EOP and OFA. The Chemung County Medical Reserve Corps will also be utilized for the drill. Several local nursing student programs have been contacted to solicit their assistance with the drill. The goal of the drill is to test our ability to provide vaccinations at a rate of 200 per hour. The main obstacle won’t be in actually performing that rate of vaccinations, but rather in getting that many people to show up for the clinic. Pre-registration for the clinic is expected, which will make the actual clinic-day process quite speedy and efficient.

2. CHEMUNG VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK & MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS – Mr. Page introduced Dr. Joyce Hyatt to the CCBH. Dr. Hyatt presented information to the CCBH on a community health survey that is currently underway in Chemung County. They took a paper survey that was used elsewhere in the region and developed it into an electronic format to make the survey easier to complete by members of the public. Realizing that there may still be a large population that is not connected to the internet, various local agencies have been assisting with the survey by entering the data for individuals. It is important to note that in order for the survey to be valid, it doesn’t matter as much on the total number of survey responses that are received, but rather that they get at least 0.5% of each of the various demographics represented. Dr. Hyatt then discussed the Rural Health Network that has been active in Chemung County since 1994. She then proceeded to outline the numerous projects and activities that her group has provided over the years. Finally, she discussed the Chemung County Medical Reserve Corps and proudly stated that their enrollment is now over 100 volunteers that includes over 40 nurses.

3. INSECT INFESTATIONS AT REGULATED FACILITIES – Mr. Kump informed the CCBH that from time to time, complaints are received about bedbugs and other infestations. Those based at private locations are generally referred to the local code enforcement official having jurisdiction. However, complaints made at regulated facilities are handled by EHS. The official stance from the NYSDOH is that bedbugs do not pose a public health hazard in general terms since there is not a threat of disease or health affects. This does not relieve a regulated facility from dealing with infestations as they occur. While several temporary residences (hotels/motels) have to deal with this issue from time to time just due to the nature of the industry, one local motel has had an
ongoing problem for almost a year now. Management at the facility has not been handling the infestation as aggressively as would be expected and the infestation consequently is not going away. When EHS realized that the infestation was not being adequately addressed, they offered an option to the facility that if they contracted with a professional extermination company to inspect the entire facility and then remove any rooms from service where bedbug activity was observed while proper treatment was pursued, they would be allowed to continue normal operations in the remaining rooms. The manager reneged on the agreement so EHS went in and placarded any room where they observed bedbug activity. Rooms that were occupied with paying customers could not be evaluated. EHS has attempted to be as discreet as possible with the facility so as to not affect their business, but now that rooms have been posted with a Notice of Closure, it very well could impact the business. Until such time the owner agrees to enlist the services of a professional company to properly eradicate the infestation, the rooms will remain closed.

4. **UPDATE ON SYNTHETIC MARIJUANA/BATH SALTS ENFORCEMENT** – Mr. Kump provided an update to the CCBH on the most recent Order for Summary Action issued by the Commissioner of NYSDOH. Mr. Kump reminded the CCBH that the first Order for Summary Action occurred in May 2011 for bath salts. EHS was asked to survey all establishments in Chemung County that had the potential to be selling the banned bath salts. The second Order for Summary Action came in March 2012 with regard to synthetic cannabinoids. The same approach was used by EHS and over 80 facilities were surveyed as to whether they currently or in the past had sold those products. Then most recently, in August 2012 a third Order for Summary Action was issued that included both bath salts and synthetic marijuana. The wording was enhanced so that it included the prohibition of the sale, distribution and possession of those products and made it an offense that could be enforced by local police agencies. EHS again physically surveyed over 80 establishments to assist the State in the dissemination of the information.

5. **STD CLINICS AND ARTICLE 28 REQUIREMENTS** – Mr. Page informed the CCBH that every 3 years or so a survey is conducted of our local clinics by the NYSDOH. A survey was conducted last fall. Since that time, an issue has come up with regard to the operation of clinics in the Western Region that resulted in a citation being made that we could not solely rely on RN’s for all the clinical activities, but that we needed to have a nurse practitioner or a physician’s assistant at each clinic to assess each patient and order lab tests and/or treatment. It seems that a solution may have been found whereby the NYSDOH will funnel funds through the Arnot Ogden Medical Center (AOMC) to provide the services to the CCHD clinic. As a side note, it was pointed out that the CCHD clinic was the second busiest clinic in the 9-county region, second only to Monroe County.

6. **PEIP AND MOMS PROGRAMS UNDER MANAGED CARE** – Mr. Page reported that there have been two managed care plans approved for operation in Chemung County, namely, Fidelis and Excellus. These two will enroll the majority of the people eligible in Chemung County. We currently have a program with CIDS for the PEIP program and with AOMC for the MOMS program. Unfortunately, managed care will not cover those services. There is a chance that both PEIP and MOMS may have to be suspended until such time that funding is made available. Dr. Sobel suggested that
funding be sought through a group such as the Community Foundation as it certainly wouldn’t hurt to ask.

7. LABORATORY SURVEY FOR PUBLIC HEALTH CLINICS – Ms. Klossner pointed out that this topic was already covered earlier in the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

RESOLUTION: With no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Dr. Curran and seconded by Ms. Baker that the CCBH be adjourned until the next regular meeting of December 4, 2012. Motion approved.

AYES: Thomas Curran, DDS
       Paul Shore, DDS
       Robert Lambert, MD
       William Roe, PE
       Mary Ann Baker, RN
       Ken Sobel, MD

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Richard Madl
        William G. Howard, MD

Next meeting: Board of Health Meeting
             December 4, 2012 @ 7:30 PM
             Health Department Conference Room