

**CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
March 22, 2022**

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

ABSENT: Joseph Brennan

STAFF PRESENT: Peter Buzzetti III Sarah Mattison Jonathan Keough
 Terence Lenhardt, MD Jessica Holton

STAFF ABSENT: Lisa Buckley, RN

Prior to the meeting, the CCBH received the following:

1. Board of Health Agenda
2. January Meeting Minutes
3. December Meeting Minutes
4. EHS Highlights: January and February
5. PAC Meeting Minutes February
6. Vaccination for Employees Policy
7. Financial Report
8. BOH Appointment Information, President and Vice President

Mr. Buzzetti announced this meeting will be held via Zoom, and be posted to website as unable to get the needed access for Livestream.

CALL TO ORDER

BOH Meeting called to order by Brian Cassetta at 6:02 PM. Quorum established.

1. MEETING MINUTES DECEMBER 2021 AND JANUARY 2022

Review of minutes of BOH meeting December 7, 2021. Corrections accepted, and approved. Review of minutes for BOH Meeting January 25, 2022. Minor correction to wording, otherwise approved.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr Howard and seconded by Dr Delaney to approve the January meeting minutes. A motion was made by Dr Howard and seconded by Dr Schultz to approve the December meeting minutes. All in favor. The Meeting Minutes from December 7, 2021 and January 25, 2022 approved and accepted. **Motion Approved.**

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Joseph Brennan

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Dr. Howard and Mrs. Anthony commented on the layout, and how the new layout/format is very helpful and clear. Dr. Delaney likes how there is money left over. Mr. Buzzetti indicated that Kyle has worked hard on finding a better format, as well with some input from himself to make more user friendly.

3. EHS Hilites

January Hilites; January still busy with COVID-19 vaccination clinics some at schools still some at DSS. No ATUPA program runs. Quiet month for rabies & lead as well. One (1) lead referral came in. Case had elevated blood level - not closed as of yet. Mrs. Anthony asked about community lead abatement contractors. Mr. Keough informed the board that lead abatement is sourced out through EPA. Two (2) enforcement actions; Americas Best Inn- Fire alarm system complaint investigation found them to be infested with insects (repeat) due to long term occupied rooms & Beefeater tavern improper cooling of hazardous food both accepted fines. Fire in January, (Keough was at a vaccination clinic) location was Americas Best Inn- facility is still closed. Code enforcement come out next day went room by room to complete inspection for violations six (6) hours or less spent to go through entire facility. 30 violations and 171 violations for code enforcement. Plan going forward in these incidents is to inspect X* amount of rooms per facility (X* will be determined by rooms at given facility). EMO - learned some good things some agencies are able to do and not able to do. A lot of members were able to exchange cell phone numbers. County EMO office can look at collecting these numbers for the county and centralizing this. Dr. Cassetta asked about long term Tenants within the facility and where were these individuals/families placed. Per Mr. Keough's knowledge some long term tenants within the facility had been placed by Catholic Charities. The individuals/families that were affected by the fire had then been placed into alternative housing by either Catholic Charities or American Red Cross. If they were unable to be housed by either of these facilities they were able to make arrangements with other family members they had.

February Hilites; COVID had dropped quickly, due to individuals allowed to complete self-reporting. We were back into regular activities. No rabies clinic held. Lead referrals- two (2). One (1), Lead referral was a child who had been transported to Rochester. Dr in Rochester wouldn't release unless no lead hazards were present in home. Inspections were completed at two (2) properties that child is present in. No lead was found in one (1) and the other did have some lead present. One (1) lead case closed, and other is still open. Dr. Howard questioned were we stand on lead abatement. Lead Coalition worked on addition to HUD Grant for Financial assistance for homeowners as well as landlords. No city ordinance enacted or enforced. With more robust inspections we are going to require this be corrected. The Schedule was that building with three (3) or more apartments were every year, and building with two (2) apartments either every year or every other. Violations - Water supply in village of horseheads. Repeat violation, fined \$100/testing. Inspection at Champions Sports Bar & Grill, five (5) critical violations and ten (10) non-critical - no enforcement actions, food worker training- a lot of the things were out of laziness.

4. PAC MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Buzzetti announced that Mrs. Buckley is not in attendance to review these documents, if any questions we can address next meeting when she is present.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Nominating Committee for President and Vice President

Group discussion on how to handle nominating committee for President and Vice President in a manner that everyone gets a turn. Will work on updating spreadsheet with terms of President and Vice President for group to be able to work on rotation for next year.

Dr. Delaney nominated Mrs. Anthony to Vice President of the Board of Health.

Nomination was confirmed by the members with a vote and all in favor.

Ayes: Brian Cassetta, MD, Mary Ann Baker, RN, Ken Sobel, MD, William G. Howard, MD, Gregory Schultz, MD, Frank Steed, Mari Delaney, DVM, James Gensel, PE Excused: Joseph Brennan, Rosemary Anthony

2. Dr. Sobel re-nominated to Board of Health

Dr. Sobel's re-nomination for Board Member was approved by County Legislation, Dr. Sobel to continue as board member for another 6 years

NEW BUSINESS

1. COVID-19 UPDATES

Per Dr. Howards request local Health Department updated the graphs to reflect 100,000. County bed availability continues to go up and down but has been decreasing, as well as deaths. Mr. Buzzetti raised questions on the health department transitions back to regular programs. Mrs. Baker inquired if vaccination clinics will still be held on a regular basis, Arnot is not holding open clinics after march. Mr. Buzzetti updated that health departments Wednesday clinics are being moved to Friday's 10am-2pm through April and will be evaluated monthly to see if we have increased demand. Dr. Sobel asked if the vaccine for younger children will be left to the pediatricians. Mr. Buzzetti indicated that in order for Health Department to handle the younger children we would have to lean on our medical community, we aren't set-up to do the younger kids. Dr. Cassetta commented several individuals are coming in to the offices/hospitals with negative home test and they will do a PCR test anyway and they are positive. He feels that we have more COVID cases in the community than what we know about, worries that with home tests widely available and community is relying on them compared to PCR testing. Dr. Sobel is seeing this as well. The schools are accepting home test, Horseheads is no longer requiring confirmatory test. The symptomatic individuals are reporting congestion, headache, sore throat, some with a cough or low-grade fever. Community members are coming in for sinus infections and they are actually positive for COVID. Reminder community that if you have

symptoms and your home test is negative to follow-up with a PCR. We do see a rise in flu in children right now. CDC zones, Dr. Howard questioned if we are in the green. Most of NYS so far is in the green zone. Mrs. Anthony made mention of the new variant in Germany and that maybe we should be looking out for this as hospitalizations are rising at the same time of asymptomatic cases.

Non-COVID update regarding ticks was asked by Dr. Sobel. Health Department hasn't heard from state on updates from 2020 or 2021. Also, no update so far for 2022. Sarah mentioned that our public health nurses are attending Parent/Student STEM night at one for our local schools, and that the activity is hands on and about tick education. The activity is for both parents and students to be able to identify the tick and successfully remove the tick.

ADJORNMENT

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr Howard and seconded by Dr Delaney that this meeting of the Chemung County Board of Health be adjourned.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Joseph Brennan

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:08 PM

Next meeting: **Board of Health Meeting**
 May 24, 2022 @ 6:00 PM
 WebEx / Livestream