

Cayuga County Board of Health
Tuesday, August 22, 2023
In-person & Virtual @ 12:15pm

Members Present: Dr. John Cosachov- Virtual
Ms. Elane Daly
Dr. Dorothy Ainsworth
Mr. Ralph Battista
Mr. Tim Fessenden- Virtual
Dr. Cassandra Archer

Members Excused: Dr. Brian Brundage

Guests Present: Robert Harding, The Citizen Newspaper- Virtual

Staff Present: Kathleen Cuddy, MPH
Deanna Ryan, MCH
Meghan Sedorus, BS Ed
Ani Fish, PE
Janine Clifford
Deborah Pickering
Dr. Philip Gioia, Medical Director- Virtual

The meeting was called to order at 12:19pm.

Minutes of July 25, 2023 Board of Health Meeting: With no questions or corrections a motion to approve the minutes from the July 25, 2023 Board of Health meeting was made by Ms. Elane Daly and seconded by Dr. Cassandra Archer and all other members in attendance in favor.

Director of Administrative Services: Janine Clifford

Janine reviewed the claims with warrant dates of 07/13/2023 and 07/27/2023 and credit card statements with dates 06/29/2023 and 07/15/2023. Dr. Cosachov asked about a property owner who received two septic replacement grants. Ani shared that this property owner had two separate properties that qualified for the replacement grant. With no further questions or discussion, a motion to approve the claims was made by Mr. Ralph Battista and seconded by Dr. Dorothy Ainsworth.

Public Health Director: Kathleen Cuddy, MPH

Kathleen reviewed the immunization and lead clinic statistics and shared that we will most likely see an increase in August's numbers due to back to school immunizations. Communicable disease statistics remain typical for the time of year. There has been a seasonal increase in Lyme disease.

Kathleen updated the Board on the remaining vacancies in the Department. We continue to look for a Director of Community Health Services to replace Nancy Purdy. We have revised advertisements to highlight the job duties. WIC continues to look for a nutritionist and Health

Education is looking for a public health educator. Accounting has revised the job specifications for their vacancy in hopes of drawing in more candidates.

Elane asked how many nurses we currently have at the Health Department. Kathleen shared that we have three full time RN's and one PT public health nurse that is working in the WIC program.

Dr. Cosachov asked Kathleen if there had been anything further from the State Health Department regarding their revisions to the draft Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations. Kathleen shared with the Board that they had responded to the technical work group and they had cut out significant portions of the proposed revisions. Members of the technical work group are working to try and understand the States approach. Ralph asked if there was anything the Board could do to support the City of Auburn and the Town of Owasco in this effort. Dr. Archer suggested sending a letter to all State agencies involved expressing dissatisfaction with their edits to the Watershed Rules and Regulations. Dr. Cosachov made a motion to draft a letter to involved State agencies and Dr. Archer seconded that motion with all other members in attendance in favor.

Deputy Director of Health Services: Deanna Ryan, MCH

Deanna shared that as part of our new infrastructure grant various staff trainings have been scheduled.

We have expanded the hours of our immunization clinics as well as adding additional clinics to accommodate children in need of vaccinations for school.

The Health Department was just awarded another round of funding for the Bike Wheelsport grant. Health education staff and fellows have been attending several community events in the recent weeks and have more scheduled into the fall including back to school events and open houses.

Staff have been reviewing outreach and education materials surrounding HABs and messaging for a potential "do not drink" order.

Deanna shared that the new No Home for Lead campaign has launched and that Board members may have seen ads on social media, billboards or on the Centro buses advertising free home lead inspections. Ralph asked about the process for a non-compliant landlord and Ani shared that if they didn't correct lead hazards as requested or required then we would summon them to a Board of Health hearing.

Coordinator of Programs for Children with Special Needs: Meghan Sedorus, BS Ed

Meghan provided the Board with current program numbers: Child Find program has 98 children enrolled, Early Intervention has 208 children enrolled with children on waitlists for all service types. Preschool had 71 children receiving summer services and 163 students receiving services in the Fall. Waitlists are already occurring for preschool services as well. Meghan shared that Gavras Center has three classrooms for the Fall with 24 children attending. 11 preschool students will be attending special education preschool programs outside of the county.

We have started a new five-year contract cycle with Preschool providers and are working on getting those returned.

Meghan shared that the Early Intervention program underwent a KEPRO review and does have a minimal corrective action plan to submit, but the review in whole was very positive.

The two vacant service coordinator positions have been filled and the new staff are being trained and Meghan is hopeful they will be up and running independently in the next few months.

As part of the Children and Youth with Special Healthcare Needs grant staff are partnering with the PlaySpace to host preschool nights with the goal of attracting those families with children on waitlists for services.

Director of Environmental Health: Ani Fish, PE

Ani reviewed the Hearing and Consent Orders:

Leisure Acres Mobile Home Park- Cato (T)

Baldwin Property- Scipio (T)

With no further questions or concerns a motion to accept the hearing and consent orders as written was made by Dr. Cassandra Archer with a second from Dr. John Cosachov and all other members in attendance in favor.

Ani shared that staff have been meeting to update internal emergency response plans in the event of a “do not drink” order. They have also had some meetings with outside partners to keep the awareness in the forefront.

Ani has been working with the purchasers of water from the City of Auburn and Town of Owasco to ensure their emergency plans are up-to-date.

Staff continues to work on internal messaging, public messaging and health care provider messaging and they are hoping to have a drill to test the emergency response plan for the initial response following a do not drink order.

Dorothy asked about sampling procedures and Ani shared that based on what staff are seeing at the water treatment plant sampling varies from one to two times a week.

Ani also shared with the Board about a meeting lead program staff had with the national healthy housing committee and ways they can help to reinvent our lead task force.

Medical Director: Dr. Philip Gioia:

Dr. Gioia discussed the importance of water quality and the effects it has on everyone in the community.

He also shared with the Board the importance of doing what you can to eliminate lead hazards in your home.

With nothing further to discuss a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Elane Daly and seconded by Tim Fessenden with all other members in attendance in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1:14pm.