

Cayuga County Board of Health
Tuesday, April 26, 2022
In-Person & Virtual @ 12:15pm

Members Present: Dr. Cassandra Archer
Dr. John Cosachov- Virtual
Mr. Ralph Battista
Mr. Keith Batman
Ms. Elane Daly- Virtual
Dr. Brian Brundage- Virtual
Mr. Tim Fessenden- Virtual

Guests Present: Robert Harding, Citizen Newspaper- Virtual

Staff Present: Eileen, O'Connor, PE
Kathleen Cuddy, MPH
Lorie Fischer, BS Ed- Virtual
Janine Clifford
David Gould, Chair of the Legislature
Ani Fish- Virtual
Nancy Purdy, RN, BSN
Deanna Ryan, MCH
Dr. Philip Gioia- Medical Director
Megan Bell

Meeting was called to order at 12:19pm.

Minutes of March 22, 2022 Meeting:

With no questions or corrections, a motion to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2022 Board of Health was made by Dr. Cassandra Archer and seconded by Mr. Ralph Battista with all other members in attendance in favor. The minutes of the March 22, 2022 Board of Health meeting were approved as written.

Director of Administrative Services: Janine Clifford

Janine reviewed the claims with warrant dates of 03/10/2022 and 03/24/2022 and the credit card statements with dates of 03/01/2022 and 03/15/2022. With no questions or concerns regarding the claims a motion was made by Dr. John Cosachov with a second by Mr. Ralph Battista and all other members in attendance in favor.

Coordinator of Programs for Children with Special Needs: Lorie Fischer, BS Ed

Lorie gave an update on current program enrollments. Early Intervention currently has 172 children enrolled with 27 children still in the intake phase and referrals continue to come in at a high rate. Early Intervention has a waitlist of approximately 16 students with a large portion of those awaiting a speech therapist as Lifespan just recently lost a speech therapist that served several children in our county. Preschool Special Education has approximately 279 children enrolled with 47 in the initial intake phase. There are children on waitlist for all services as well

as an increase in speech after losing the therapist from Lifespan. It is also annual review time and staff will be attending several CPSE meetings over the next month.

Elane asked Lorie if the shortage was State wide and Lorie shared that it is, but that Cayuga County has some of the lowest rates for providers of 3-5 related services. Those are the only rates set by each individual county the others including the Early Intervention rates are set by the State. The waitlist includes from almost all the districts in Cayuga County not targeted to one specific area.

Keith asked if we can still do virtual visits. Lorie shared that yes, the State is still allowing virtual visits but are often not an option parents like to utilize.

Elane asked about group therapy sessions and Lorie said that she often suggests that, but has a hard time getting providers to agree.

Dr. Archer asked if the children on the waitlist were getting any kind of support at all. Lorie shared that Early Intervention families do get supports from the service coordinators whether its referrals to other programs or different techniques/strategies to work with on their child. The preschool special education children do not have that service coordination piece so they do not get the support that the younger families get.

Kathleen shared that the many counties are hoping the State will look into allowing middle level therapists to provide services as opposed to the higher-level certifications that are required now.

Supervising Public Health Administrator: Deanna Ryan, MCH

Deanna shared with the Board some information regarding the New York State Fellowship Program. This program from the State is a way for the State to help local health departments rebuild the public health infrastructure. We are hoping to bring on-board a local public health fellows coordinator and a few public health fellows. The fellows will be contracted out but housed at the Health Department. Some of the initial projects they will be working on is the community health assessment and the Healthy Neighborhoods Program grant. Keith asked Deanna about the qualifications for the fellows and Deanna shared that they would be bachelors level education but don't have to necessarily have a public health background. They will have to complete some public health training courses as part of their job requirements. Elane asked if the salaries were set by the State and Deanna shared that they were. Ralph asked how interested individuals would apply and Deanna shared that they initially have to apply with the State through the State Health Department website and then the State filters them down based on the counties they would be interested in working.

Deanna also shared the artwork for the vaccine campaign that the consultants have been working on. The "our best shot" campaign is hoping to launch in May. The grant continues on through 2024 for the campaign will be on-going.

Public Health Director: Kathleen Cuddy, MPH

Kathleen shared with the Board some of the items in the New York State Budget that are beneficial to the local health department. The local health departments will be given an increase in our base grant for our article 6 programs, known as core public health programs that we are required to offer. Our base grant will be increasing to \$750,000. The other beneficial item in this year's State budget is allowing for fringe benefits up to 50% for those staff that work in core

public health programs to be covered. These items in the State budget are designed to help local health departments to recruit and maintain staff. There was language put out regarding potential incentive programs as well, but nothing has been confirmed.

Kathleen also asked the Board if they would be interested in having the May Board of Health meeting at the WIC offices. The WIC program recently moved into a brand-new space next to the Play Space on North Street and would love to show the Board their new offices. The Board agreed to moving the location of the May meeting to the WIC offices on North Street.

Director of Community Health Services: Nancy Purdy, RN, BSN

Nancy reviewed corporate compliance regulations with the Board members.

Nancy discussed some of the adjustments we have made at our COVID vaccination clinics to accommodate the new additional booster and volume changes. We will be separating out additional booster clinics for the next few weeks to help ensure the public is getting the correct dose.

Nancy shared that we are going to be reaching out to restaurants and restaurant workers regarding a Hepatitis A vaccine clinic that we will be hosting free of charge. We are hoping to get all the information out in the next couple weeks.

We are planning to try a new approach to our back to school vaccine clinics. Nancy has been in discussions with school nurses and administrators and we are going to try and offer two days in July and two days in August where families can make an appointment and get any school required vaccines they may need. It will be offered for both families with and without insurance and we will partner with the schools to help advertise these dates. Our goal is to minimize the number of exclusions come the middle of September.

Our maternal child health program is being re-established following COVID and we are engaged with the hospital and the WIC program to trial some new referral forms and educational outreach.

Director of Environmental Health: Eileen O'Connor, PE

Eileen reviewed the Hearing and Consent Orders:

- Daphine's Diner- Sterling (T)
- Hilton Garden Inn- Auburn (C)
- Garropy's Mobile Home Park- Aurelius (T)
- Giuseppe's Pizzeria- Auburn (C)
- Panera Bread- Sennett (T)
- Subway of Owasco Valley- Moravia (T)
- Dugan's Country Grill- Scipio (T)
- Wells College Main Dining Hall- Aurora (V)
- Sakura Buffet- Auburn (C)
- Parker's Grille & Tap House- Auburn (C)
- Auburn Express Smoke Shop- Auburn (C)

Ralph asked Eileen about repeat offenses for violations in regards to assigning fines. Eileen said that previous violations impact the level of fine. New ownership of a facility is also considered. With no further questions or concerns, a motion to approve the hearing and consent orders was made by Dr. John Cosachov and a second by Ms. Elane Daly. All other members in attendance in favor.

Eileen reviewed some updates to the lead and copper rules for public water supplies. The revisions will be a huge impact on community and non-transient non-community water supplies. The major change will be the requirement of an inventory of their service lines to determine if there is any lead in the lines. The inventory is due in October of 2024. If they are determined to have lead in the service lines the water provider will have to make annual notification to customers and provide opportunities to replace the service lines. The goal of the lead and copper rule is to eventually have no more lead service lines.

Prior to COVID Eileen was looking into phosphorus removal technology for septic systems. Currently there is nothing on the market for individual residences, but Eileen was looking for technology that could be piloted. This project was put on hold during COVID. Recently the local representative for The Nature Conservancy reached out to Eileen to see if we would be interested in working with them on testing various technologies. They have a consultant who put together a list of available technologies and one project will be installed at the Y-Camp this year.

Ralph asked if we have heard anything about the watershed rules and regs update. Eileen shared that they are still with the State, but she received word that they were hoping to send out comments soon.

Medical Director's Report: Dr. Philip Gioia

Dr. Gioia shared some of the positives and negatives with the release of the covid medication released by Merck. Also he reminded us of the common injury prevention practices that can keep us safe in the summer.

With nothing further to discuss a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Elane Daly and second by Dr. Brian Brundage with all other members in attendance in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 1:28pm.