

Cayuga County Board of Health Meeting  
Tuesday, May 21, 2019

Members Present: Dr. John Cosachov  
Dr. Brian Brundage  
Mr. Tim Fessenden  
Dr. Cassandra Archer  
Mr. Ralph Battista  
Mr. Keith Batman  
Ms. Aileen McNabb-Coleman

Staff Present: Kathleen Cuddy, MPH  
Lorie Fischer, BS Ed  
Eileen O'Connor, PE  
Nancy Purdy, RN, BSN  
Janine Clifford  
Megan Bell  
Dr. Philip Gioia-Medical Director

Dr. John Cosachov called the meeting to order at 12:18pm.

**Minutes of April 23, 2019:** With no questions or corrections, a motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Tim Fessenden and seconded by Dr. Brian Brundage. The minutes of the April 23, 2019 Board of Health were approved as written.

**Director of Administrative Services: Janine Clifford**

Janine reminded Board members that beginning this month we would be reviewing and approving the typical bills and claims as well as the Health Department credit card statement. Janine reviewed the credit card statements from 4/2/19 through 4/15/19 and 4/16/19 through 5/1/19. She also reviewed the claims with warrant dates of 4/30/2019 and 5/8/2019. With no questions a motion to approve the claims and the credit card statements was made by Keith Batman and seconded by Dr. Archer. All in attendance in favor.

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

Lorie shared with the Board some program statistics. She stated that 2018 was the largest referral year in her tenure for Early Intervention. She shared that the Gavras Center Special Education class is already full for the 2019-2020 school year. The class has 32 total spots and often starts the school year with some of the spots available.

Lorie shared some graphs outlining the referral trends over the past couple of years with the Board. She also shared that by January of next year the county and the state as a whole will be experiencing a provider shortage in all disciplines.

**Public Health Director: Kathleen Cuddy, MPH**

Kathleen updated the Board on some Lead poisoning prevention things that have been going. The Lead Task Force has been looking at a way to implement SPIEGEL, which deals with people who are receiving rent assistance and grants the Humans Services agency paying for their

rent to withhold rent until any lead issues are resolved. Monroe County has had this in place for some time and Onondaga County just announced that it will be enforcing this as well.

The City of Auburn attempted to bring forward the idea of a landlord registry as they sometimes experience difficulty getting in touch with landlords where there are issues at their properties, particularly as it pertains to code enforcement. Nancy attended the public meeting that the City held regarding this proposal and it was met with some serious pushback from landlords. The City attorney shared that the City is still in the idea stage of this proposal. Another issue that is being brought up is the lack of housing for low-income families and there just not being enough places for them.

The Owasco Lake Watershed Rules and Regulations update project held their second round of public meetings. The draft revision was released for public comment and two meetings were held, one at BOCES and one in Moravia. One consistent complaint that staff was hearing was the frustration of lake front property owners and the changes to the septic system portion of the regulations. The public has until the middle of June to submit any comments they may have. The staff working group will reconvene after that and review the comments received from the public.

Kathleen and the Bylaws committee have been revising the Board of Health bylaws. They had made their edits and submitted them to the County Attorney for review and comment. He made some formatting changes and then sent them back with some small comments for the Board to discuss. Some of the areas of discussion were the term ex-officio, the secretarial duties and term limits. After discussion the Board voted to keep the term ex-officio, keep language allowing the secretarial duties to be delegated to a Health Department staff member and for a person who is completing a vacated Board seat to still be allowed to be appointed to their own 2 six year terms. All members in attendance were in favor of these revisions. The bylaws committee will revise the emergency provisions section at the request of the County Attorney and the Board member and bring them back next month for a final vote be adaption. The County Attorney also clarified that as the County currently does not have an auditor the Board must vote upon the Health Departments claims, however if the County chooses to fill the auditor position then the Board would no longer be required to approve those claims.

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

Nancy shared that we had a potential measles case come into Auburn Community Hospital Emergency Room. It did not end up being a measles case, but the client was diagnosed with RSV. Due to the recent measles outbreak the Health Department has drafted a letter and sent it to the Mennonite schools in the County as they often have several children with various exemptions. The letter stated our ability to get any who may desire vaccination an appointment in our Immunization clinic, however we have not had anyone reach out at this point. Also all Health Department staff is being asked to provide their proof vaccination in the event we had an outbreak event in our county we would want to ensure that staff was covered before being asked to work a clinic or POD. Mr. Batman asked what the Department will do if they have staff that has chosen to not be vaccinated. Kathleen shared that they are currently working on some language with HR and Keith suggested that if it is not too late might be an item that could be worked into the CSEA contract negotiations.

The Department will be hosting its annual Spring School Nurse meeting. The meeting is scheduled for 5/28 and will focus on immunization schedules for the upcoming school year, NYSIIS review and the measles.

Nancy shared that with the new State budget there is new legislation connected to lead poisoning. County Health Departments will now be required to monitor children with lead levels of 5 and over. Currently monitoring only takes place on children with lead levels of 15 and over. Monitoring includes nursing home visits as well as environmental home evaluations. The planned roll out for this new legislation is October of 2019. It is a significant change and the Department would need additional resources (i.e. staff) to comply with this new regulation.

Currently Nancy is preparing for a surprise NYSDOH survey for our LHCSA programs which include, maternal child health, Lead home visiting and Nurse Family Partnership. Lead policies are being reviewed currently and making sure they are in agreement with the current regulations knowing that in the Fall they will most likely have to be adjusted. Aileen asked if the lead regulation changes were a federal change or a change at the State level. Kathleen shared that the CDC (federal level) has always recommended monitoring take place at 5 and above, but New York State has always had regulation center around 15, until this most current legislation. Dr. Brundage asked how many kids would be added when the legislation goes into effect. Kathleen shared that currently the caseload for monitoring is 7 when the new legislation goes into effect that number would jump to 49. The regulations are out for comment and Keith suggested that the Board of Health send a letter stating that the Board is in support of protecting children from lead poisoning, however the County would need some support to carry out the requirements set out by the State. Aileen mentioned that this will also compound the provider shortage that Lorie expressed for Early Intervention and Preschool as more kids will likely be identified as needing services. The Board voted to draft a letter to submit to the State regarding support that will be needed for this new regulation. Dr. Cosachov will review and sign.

In regards to the landlord registry issue that the City is facing, Dr. Cosachov asked if it would be worth pursuing something similar to the septic regulations for our County where all property owners who intend to rent must have any lead abated prior to renting, in particular those LLC's that are hard to get in touch with. Kathleen shared that she would ask the County Attorney to join us at the next meeting if the Board would like to discuss.

**Director of Environmental Health: Eileen O'Connor, PE**

Hearing & Consents:

Balloons Restaurant-Auburn (C)

Boyle Center Nutrition Site-Auburn (C)

C.J.'s Pub and Restaurant-Weedsport (V)

Cobblestone Inn-Locke (T)

Connie's Deli-Auburn (C)

Finger Lakes Health & Fitness Center- Aurelius (T)

Gaetano's Pizza-Auburn (C)

Giuseppe's Pizzeria of Moravia-Moravia (V)

Goody's Lake Como Inn-Summerhill (T)

The Refinery @ Hilton Garden Inn-Auburn (C)

McDonald's Grant Ave Location- Auburn (C)

Moro's Table- Auburn (C)

Osteria Salina- Auburn (C)

Parker's Grille & Tap House- Auburn (C)

Vape Kult-Auburn (C)

Amerman Property- Locke (T)

Cox Property- Aurelius (T)

Keim Property- Conquest (T)

A motion to approve the Hearing and Consent orders was made by Dr. John Cosachov and seconded by Keith Batman with all others in attendance in favor.

Eileen shared that there will be some activity at the Powerex site over the next four weeks. GE will be there injecting a mixture of vegetable oil and nutrients into the bedrock to treat the ground water.

The Health Department is struggling to find a contracted attorney to assist with Board of Health matters that are not complied with following the official Board of Health orders. We have had two recommendations that have not worked out and there is a mobile home park that has some very serious violations that we are attempting to get served. Eileen and Kathleen have shared their frustrations with being unable to find an attorney who will do the necessary work. Possibly the hourly rate that is provided is not enough to obtain an attorney willing to do the work.

#### **Medical Directors Report: Dr. Philip Gioia**

Dr. Gioia shared that lead is such a large scale issue. Even once homes have been deemed lead safe they have to continually be re-inspected, especially if any remodeling has taken place.

With nothing further to discuss a motion was made by Ralph Battista and seconded by Dr. Brian Brundage to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 1:36pm.