

Chautauqua County Board of Health
MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time: Thursday, October 19, 2023 6:00 p.m.

Location: HRC 4th Floor Conference Room, 7 North Erie Street, Mayville, NY 14757

Scribe: Sherri Rater

ATTENDANCE:

BOH Members	P/A	BOH Members	P/A	Others Present (cont'd)	Title
Dr. Erlandson	P	Dr. Krahn	P	Wendy Douglas	Health Dept Dir of Patient Services
Matt Hanley	P	Dr. Ney	P	Sherri Rater	Assistant to Director; Board of Health Scribe
Rick Ketcham	P	Dr. Pender	P	Greg Bacon	Jamestown Post Journal/Dunkirk Observer
Dr. Khan	E	Elisabeth Rankin	P	Steve Kilburn	Dept. Mental Hygiene Grants Coordinator
Dr. Kidder	P	Mark Tarbrake	P	Steven Cobb	Mental Health Assoc. Executive Director
Others Present		Title		Trish McClennan	Deputy Director of Mental Hygiene
Dr. Faulk		Interim Public Health Director; Board of Health Secretary		Rachel Ludwig	Program Coordinator, Mental Hygiene
Jessica Wuerstle		Environmental Health Director		Susan Parker	District 4 Legislator
Natalie Whiteman		Env. Health Senior Water Resource Specialist		Tom Nelson	District 13 Legislator

Call to order	The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Lillian Ney.
Presentation: Drug Overdose Data	<p>Steve Kilburn and Steven Cobb presented Kilburn and Cobb shared County specific drug overdose data. Non-fatal overdose (NFO) reporting comes from first responders. It is believed that many NFO go unreported. Narcan is readily available in the community and people are using it. Approximately 1/3 of NFO reported administration of Narcan prior to EMS responders arriving. NFO were on the rise earlier this year but have leveled off. Fatal overdose trends are on the rise for 2023. 2021 was highest number of overdose deaths in our county. 2023 is tracking to be the worst years ever. Five deaths suspected to be drug overdoses occurred in a four-day span around the end of September in the Jamestown vicinity, which is significant.</p> <p>Mental Health Association (MHA) is a recovery and harm reduction center. When these deaths occurred, our participants were talking about it. Residents using substances form their own community and are very supportive of each other. When that weekend hit us we shifted gears. We reached out to hospice and St. Susan's soup kitchen and held grief share support sessions, serving this community in a way that they may not have expected, but is encouraging to someone to make positive choices towards recovery.</p>

Presentation: Drug Overdose Data (cont'd)

Over half of the overdose deaths this year have occurred within a day of another overdose death which leads to believe that it is simply a matter of supply and its lethality. There is a more than 50% increase in overdose deaths in the north county in 2023 compared to 2022. Drugs involved include mainly opioids and fentanyl. Methamphetamine and cocaine also included a significant number of Chautauqua County overdose deaths.

MHA spoke about their Xylazine wound care kits and Fentanyl test strips kits. MHA is in the community once a week with Narcan and these other supplies. They have seen Xylazine wounds in the community. The Fentanyl tests strips will only show a positive or negative result as opposed to the volume of the drug. The significance of the Fentanyl test strip kits is to engage in a conversation with someone who uses Fentanyl about safety.

MHA is working to bring a training to the community on treating wounds for folks who use substances focusing on normal drug wounds as well as Xylazine wounds.

Narcan vending machines are coming to the county. Machines were purchased by Evergreen and overseen by NY matters.

Xylazine wound care kits, Fentanyl test strips kits, as well as harm reduction printed materials were shared with all Board members.

Privilege of the Floor

Tom Nelson District 13 Legislator serving the Jamestown area: We are here to say we strongly disapprove of the plan to terminate the funding of Strong Starts Chautauqua (SSC). 17 days ago on October 2nd the County Media Information Officer put out a public health alert that a spike in suspected fatal overdoses were observed in Chautauqua County over the weekend likely indicating that a deadly supply of street drugs is in the community. The Chautauqua County Health Department, Department of Mental Hygiene, the Jamestown Police Department and the County Sheriff's Office issued a warning to county residents late Monday afternoon and you probably received that alert. As you know, and it was mentioned that SSC initiative begun in the summer of 2019 to address the growing crisis of prenatal substance exposure in Chautauqua County. This parallels the county's ongoing well documented drug crisis with extreme rates of opioid use, substance use disorder, overdoses and overdose deaths. SSC is the program that uses evidence based strategies to assist some of the most vulnerable infants and young children in the county. These are children affected by prenatal trauma including exposure to alcohol, tobacco, marijuana and illicit drugs that can harm health, development, intellectual functioning, decision making, behavioral capacity throughout their entire lifespan as you mention. This is my 39th year my wife is an elementary school teacher for her 33rd year so we see this. So SSC is the only resource available in the county and in NYS that explicitly works to prevent identify and treat prenatal substance exposure which is at a catastrophic level in Chautauqua County. Five time the state rate. I think stopping the funding is a serious mistake. As a representative of Jamestown, where the program is probably needed the most in the county I would strongly urge that the funding not be terminated. You know I was on the City Council for a number of years where budgets were tight and we had to cut programs that were valuable, but we have a \$37M fund balance in Chautauqua County and we can't find money to keep this program? I don't understand it. I don't see any reason to cut the funding. Thank you.

Susan Parker District 4 Legislator serving Fredonia: Yesterday I received a phone call from an official who mentioned this issue of the ARPA funding being rescinded and so in the short amount of time available I have taken a deep hard look at this program and all that is already accomplished and it aims to accomplish. I cannot

Privilege of the Floor
(cont'd)

for the life of me understand why this good people, good program, and good efforts are being short circuited. I think that as Dr. Ney said there may be some misunderstanding. I wanted to go through the process of how you get ARPA money of course every county and some municipalities get ARPA funding from the federal government and Chautauqua County received ARPA funding what happens is various entities apply for the money which the SSC applied for the money and then it is vetted through the ARPA committee and then those programs are chosen. And then after that it goes through the legislative committees and then finally it gets approved by the legislature. And in September 2021 the legislature voted unanimously to approve the contract of \$378K. The contract was I imagine, I haven't seen the contract but I imagine there were some criteria and goals that had to be met and my understanding is from reading information that those goals were met. In March I spoke with chair Chagnon this evening and he said that he is on the APRA committee and he said that in the spring or in the summer I'm not exactly sure they asked that the Director of Mental Hygiene and Social Services follow up with the program to ask where the money why some of the money hadn't been spent yet that they had expected to be spent. However, I received a copy of the contract from March 2023 that amended the contract timeline and spending was approved by the County Executive, was also approved by Anne Battaglia who is the CEO of The Healthy Community Alliance that you know kind of organizes and does the money for lack of a better description. Anyway, so some of the questions I believe were at the time were where is the money, well how is the money being spent, why hasn't it been spent. There was a new approved amended budget that laid out exactly how that money would be spent. Secondly, numbers being served. And the numbers that have been served are more than 5000 children and 587 women have directly received at least one service from SSC initiatives. The resource manager which is actually funded in part by the ARPA grant has had 1,163 interactions with community members needing resources, referrals and services. 2,790 parents and caregivers were actively engaged in prevention and education through self-initiated use of strong starts, social media and online platforms. It is a classic board of health public health model, which involves screening, those of us, I'm a registered nurse, screening, education, referral and treatment. This is a classic public health model and I think they are from what I understand and the reports that I have gotten and I think Dr. Ney got them and I did send Ms. Rankin sort of hurriedly the amended budget. I really feel like as Legislator Nelson said that it would be a disservice and a serious misstep to remove that money that has actually been agreed upon. The Legislature voted for this in the form it was in, so I don't think you can stop in the middle and say awe we are going to change course because we have approved of that money for a specific thing, so.

McClennan: The program is not ending. The program is not a Chautauqua County Government program. It's not operated by the Health Department or the Department of Mental Hygiene and Social Services. It never was. So the funding comes through different ways. What was asked was a pause. Pause the train, let's see what's on the train. Let's see if we're on the right track. SSC has been in place since 2019 so we're on year five. When this was discussed Rachel and I both serve on the council and when this was discussed on Monday what I asked on Monday, what I suggested on Monday to the council-the council is the governing body for this, not county government at all so none of us who are sitting here in county government have authority to make decisions for that council. What I suggested at that time because there has been some confusion. Well said Dr. Ney. There has been confusion about where the funds have been going, there's been questions about that and there's been questions about that for several years so as we go forward one of the things I suggested to the council is that a spreadsheet be produced where all the funding sources are -you mentioned Oishei, you're right and that's ending I believe at the end of this year or close to I don't know the exact date. So what did Oishei fund? There is a specialist pediatrician who is from Chicago who will fly down through some funding, not necessarily county

<p>Privilege of the Floor (cont'd)</p>	<p>government funding, but through funding several times a year, he is on several calls a month, so that is funded. Who's funding it, are there alternatives to it. Some of the discussion that we've had over the last nine months is that there's been some great work done initially, the county's grown a lot in its understanding and knowledge of this program and how to do it and so now is it time for our county, with our expertise, to take over and sustain the program because the way it's going right now we can't self sustain it. The marketing's all being done by the pediatrician in Chicago's son his business so he handles all the marketing so is there an opportunity to - you've heard in the newspaper we have a new marketing person in county government and many other places have great marketing folks. I was at a different conference the other week in Fairport, NY and saw a lot of things that our own NYS Health Department is doing on prenatal substance abuse – advertisement, posters, education should we have more of that, so again and when I've talked with our County Executive and when I've talked with the Director of Mental Hygiene and Commissioner of Social Services the ask is to put hard pause on this and really look at it and see where the money's going. I did request and suggest that on Monday as a council member. So far I don't think I have the opportunity-those who have access to that, I certainly do not. To actually proof through that whole spreadsheet so we could look to see where the dollars going. So let's say part of the funding through this ARPA was to go towards the salary for the resource manager. Let's say that's perfect, she needs the funding. Well maybe from a different pot then we reduce some of the marketing that is occurring and sustain it ourselves. <u>Douglas</u>: I do know part of that funding was going to cut maybe the ALCO system and we're about to bring on COI and The Chautauqua Center as a hub where everybody's working out of and that will effect them. <u>McClennan</u>: So maybe that's stays and something goes out and it's funded by somebody else. So again the looking at it as a big picture and looking at the whole process, there's a lot, the discussion from the leads of this, and again that's not any of us sitting in this room. There was never social services and health, it never was. The lead is through HCA (Healthy Community Alliance) so the discussion we've been having, they've been going out to different agencies and having conversations. Mike Pease and I have been talking a lot about it over the last 12 months. We've been on the same page about it to be honest about saying let's look at it deeper let's see if we can do this differently and let's own this, it's time for Chautauqua County to own it. Whether it's SSC or not it's a public health model. So the answer is we do have different people we have-multiple people in this room know Dr. Fredrick Verdonik a licensed phycologist. He's not part of SSC but he does amazing work with that population that's all in his space. So instead of limiting it to certain things, certain tools. One of the tools we've been using was Dr. Chasnoff's tool that costs us money. There's another equally validated tool that's just one question different, the 5 Ps. I'm not saying we should or we shouldn't do that but I'm suggesting that our council is that let's take a quick look. I mean quick like let's be efficient about it let's not let four weeks go by, let's do it now cuz we haven't done that. So that's a recommendation. But there is no ending it, just so you know Mental Hygiene remains committed. We're still on it. Part of the funding and it has nothing to do with our lead initiative, that's been funded through different grants through Mental Hygiene for different tools for pediatrician offices as you mentioned Dr. Khan but also Dr. Dunham and the other pediatrician offices is very active in this. And a lot of that funding came through different funding sources that had nothing to do with SSC, it was called Healthy Steps.</p>
<p>Approval of 7/20/23 minutes</p>	<p>Krahn made a motion amend the July 20, 2023 minutes to state that he is a former member of the UPMC Chautauqua Board of Directors and not a current member; 2nd by Kidder, all in favor, motion carried. Ketcham made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. 2nd by Krahn. All in favor. Motion carried.</p>

<p>New Business: Agreements to settle</p>	<p>Agreements to settle were reviewed. Wuerstle indicates we continue to work on a new format and fine schedule so repeat offenders would pay a higher fine than first offenders. Currently the standard has always been \$100 per violation with no increase in fine amount for repeat offenders. This will be brought before the Board at a future meeting. The EPA is going to start taking a closer look at how counties are handling violations so we may be held to a higher standard in the future.</p>
<p>Hearing Officer Recommendations</p>	<p><u>Wuerstle reporting:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Summary of first hearing:</u> The matter of Matthew Pierce the Hearing Officer finds there is no evidence that he is the owner of the premises or that he resides on the premises and recommends that matter be dismissed. In the matter of Paul and Laura Weddington of Clymer, NY, the Hearing Officer finds that the credible evidence as well as their own statements, establishes that they reside in the subject premises and that they are causing or allowing the discharge of raw sewage in violation of Article IV, Section 3(a) of the Chautauqua County Sanitary Code and recommends that the Weddingtons be found in violation of the Chautauqua County Sanitary Code, Article IV, Section 3(a). However, as they are not the owners of the property in question, they have been unable to correct the situation despite cooperating with the Department and attempting to find a way to correct the violation. Therefore, it is the recommendation of this Hearing Office that the Board of Health direct that they either install an approved and acceptable Port-a-John within two (2) weeks of the Board's order and provide a receipt for such to the County as verification or vacate the premises. The Hearing Officer recommends the Board set a time limit as to how long the Respondent's may use the Port-a John solution since untreated grey water will still be discharging to the surface. The Hearing Officer recommends is that the limit be no more than six (6) months. In addition, the Hearing Officer recommends the Board issue an order to the Estate of David Pierce in care of his son, Matthew Pierce, that the premises not be occupied until such time as an approved and appropriate private septic system in compliance with the Chautauqua County Sanitary Code has been installed on the premises. • <u>Discussion summary:</u> The occupants of the property are not the owners of the property. The property is in the name of an estate. The owner of the property is deceased. The presumed owner of the property is the Peirce family, but indicate they have no interest in taking over the property. Two violations were issued, one to the presumed owner and the other to the occupants. The occupants of the property are living there and causing the violation. After much discussion a motion was made. <u>Motion:</u> Ketchum moves to accept the hearing officer recommendations as written that the matter against Matthew Pierce be dismissed and that the Weddingtons must either install an approved and acceptable Port-a-John within two (2) weeks of the Board's order and provide a receipt for such to the County as verification or vacate the premises. Furthermore, the use of the Port-a-John is limited to six (6) months. The Board shall also issue an order to the Estate of David Pierce in care of his son, Matthew Pierce, that the premises not be occupied until such time as an approved and appropriate private septic system in compliance with the Chautauqua County Sanitary Code has been installed on the premises; 2nd by Pender; all in favor; motion carried. • <u>Summary of second hearing:</u> In the matter of Justin Ortel, Woodbury Winery and Vineyards, 3215 South Roberts Road, Fredonia, NY 14063, Hearing Officer finds that the Respondent failed to comply with the NYS Sanitary Code, Part 5 Subpart 5-1 in that they failed to timely submit the monthly operation records for April, May, June and July, 2022. Hearing Officer finds that they also failed to submit the results of

<p>Hearing Officer Recommendations Cont'd</p>	<p>microbiological monitoring for the second and third quarters of 2022 and recommends the Board of Health impose a penalty of \$700 against the Respondent payable within 90 days.</p> <p><u>Discussion summary:</u> The matter is late in coming before the Board because the LHD is trying to figure out a way to issue enforceable fines for facilities that they do not hold the permit to operate. The LHD oversees them as a public water supply, however, Ag and Markets oversees the winery and their permit to operate. The difficulty is that the LHD can issue the fines, but if they do not pay or comply, we cannot revoke their permit to operate because that falls under Ag and Markets. So there is no consequence for non-compliance. The respondent has made it clear that they do not intend to comply. The water is being used to make the wine as well as public consumption in the restroom and other areas. The winery has been out of compliance for many months in 2023 as well and those will be a separate matter. Furthermore they have not submitted a total coliform bacteria sample in years. This is a serious problem. This level of defiance towards the Sanitary Code will not be accepted. It is an immediate threat to the public's health and safety. The Interim Public Health Director reserves the right to take further action pursuant to the Sanitary Code.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Tarbrake made a motion that the respondent pay a fine as follows: \$100 -1st violation; \$200-2nd; \$300-3rd; \$400-4th; \$500-5th; \$600-6th; and \$700-7th; for a total of \$2800 and that the fine be paid within 90 days of the date of the order; and that the respondent submit the results of a total coliform bacteria sample within two weeks of service of the order; and that failure to submit the sample results and pay the fine will result in further action from the Public Health Director as appropriate and deemed by Part 5 of the New York State Sanitary Code. 2nd by Erlandson; all in favor; motion carried.</p>
<p>Licensed Agency Advisory Board minutes</p>	<p><u>Wendy Douglas reporting:</u> The Health Department's Licensed Agency Advisory Board meets quarterly. Recently looking at the plan of correction, we noticed that our meeting minutes need to go to the board that oversees our Department. The report contains an overview of our agency's charts which is 25% of the charts each quarter. It also lists safety and any type of citations that were cited. Without this process we would not be able to bill for any medical service we provide. We will now include the most recent approved minutes with the Board of Health's agenda packet for discussion and review.</p>
<p>Old Business: Strong Starts Chautauqua (SSC)</p>	<p><u>Overview:</u> Strong Starts Chautauqua (SSC) is a local network of about 50 organizations and partners dedicated to building bright futures for Chautauqua County children and families, prenatally through child age 5. The program focuses on pregnant women who are using drugs and alcohol and have been using prior to them know they were pregnant. Per their website, the program offers community education and outreach, information and referral, maternal and early childhood risk screening, and connection to resources that help young children thrive. From the beginning, the Department of Health and Human Services was a major supporter in bringing this type of programing into the County.</p> <p><u>Discussion:</u> The original ARPA funding of \$378K was granted in 2021. The funding was rescinded. The notice stated that the ARPA funding would be discontinued as of November 4th which included a 30 day notice and it is believed that there may be about \$150K remaining. The original end date for the funding was April 2025. The money for the program went to the Health Community Alliance. The LHD is very involved through their Early Intervention program. During this past year with the transition of Health and Human Services, the LHD has not had any type of administrative oversight over SSC program, however, we have had and will maintain a very strong collaboration with that program and all of the community partners involved. Discussion was had within the Board as well as other members of the public regarding this topic. Questions were asked about the process used to</p>

<p>Strong Starts Chautauqua (cont'd)</p>	<p>remove the funds and if it is the same process used to grant the funds and the answer is no. The approval process goes through ARPA committee, then it proceeds through the normal legislative committee process and also the Legislature has to approve certain change requests. Martin stated a 30-day notice to terminate the contract was sent out to the Healthy Community Alliance. Martin is not fully aware of the factually reasons why the Department Head/County Executive decides to cancel a contract however the money is not gone, it's still being held and allocated and we are still paying for 30 days until that contract is technically terminated and then at that point it will have to go back for the ARPA board to be reallocated either in that department or go back into the general pot. Ney stated she is saddened that the funding was reduced and attributes it to miscommunication. Faulk adds that the ARPA committee is actively looking at every department or project that was funded by ARPA funds. Those funds have to be appropriated by the end of 2024. County department heads are all being asked to look at their ARPA projects as well. Rankin states she did not receive the documentation Parker referred to in her comments and that she will do her part with the County Legislature to find out what's going on with this money and to support this program.</p>
<p>Old Business: Bylaws Review</p>	<p>Dr. Ney & Dr. Erlandson reviewed the bylaws with the LHD's attorney, Kristy Martin and members of the Health Department. Martin reviewed the bylaw change recommendations. The revisions were presented to the Board. Minor added revisions were agreed to and will be made, and submitted to the Board for review and approval at the next meeting.</p>
<p>Old Business: Tobacco/Vaping</p>	<p><u>Dr. Erlandson:</u> In late 2019 and early 2020 we were looking at aspects of tobacco and vaping and were working with Ken Dahlgren. It was on the back burner since early 2020. We were looking at such things as the availability of tobacco to public school students in particular and one example is Falconer Central School where right across the street there is a convenience store selling tobacco products. I will ask to have an opportunity to talk with Ken and return to this issue at the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Faulk:</u> The NYS Attorney General's Office announced that approximately \$112M in Juul settlement funds will be distributed to NYS. Once we get a better idea of where those funds will be allocated, that may help some of these efforts.</p>
<p>Director's Report</p>	<p><u>Faulk reporting:</u> <i>New Deputy Public Health Director:</i> Lacey Wilson, our new Deputy Public Health Director submitted a letter to the Board and regretted not being at the meeting. Wilson has a very long resume that we introduced at our last meeting. Wilson is helping us to look at the future of the Health Department and looking at the framework. We are in the midst of rebranding and has reminded us on many occasions that our mission is to prevent disease, promote the health and wellness of our community and protect our community's health as well. She has been a welcome addition. <i>Coroner Program:</i> We have a full compliment of coroners. They are all nurses. We have budgeted for a coroner supervisor position for 2024. There are a lot of needs for the position. If you are interested in learning more, please talk to me or you can go online to view the presentation given at the most recent Human Services Committee meeting. <i>Correctional Health:</i> The LHD oversees the health care at the County Jail. The MAT program is now being renamed to the Substance Abuse Recovery and Reentry Program (SARRP). Part of that is medication assisted treatment. Close to 80% of jail inmates have a substance abuse or mental health issue. We are well over 200 patients this year and currently have 37 in treatment. We have had some movement for hires for this program.</p>

Director's Report
cont'd

We've hired one nursing supervisor, one LPN and an operations assistant to help with that program. In an attempt to improve retention and recruitment of nurses at the jail we did increase the hours from 35-40. We have received upwards of \$2M in Opioid Settlement Funds and will receive approximately \$250-\$400K annually for the next several years.

Social Media/Outreach: At the next meeting we will share some social media and outreach numbers to you. Due to the length of this meeting we will provide more of a recap of this and our mobile health vehicle outreach as well.

Ending Nurse Family Partnership program: Our Nurse Family Partnership (NFP) program ended on 9/30/23 due to low caseload after COVID. We have been able to transition all open cases to community partners (Healthy Families and Perinatal Infant and Community Health Collaborative (PICHC) who are continuing this important work. Our PH nurses will be transitioning to focus on our welcome home baby program, lactation support in the community and other public health initiatives such as the mobile health vehicle outreach initiatives.

Environmental Health

- Wuerstle: Upcoming Findley Lake sewer district vote to vote on whether or not to install municipal sewer systems – that vote is coming on Saturday. We did attend multiple hearings and meetings advocating for the municipal sewer. The properties are small, soil is not good for septic systems around the lake and have been shown in numerous reports to be part of the contributing factors to the nutrient pollution that is occurring in Findley Lake. We sent out some FAQs to residents and also made them aware of our mandatory septic system inspection program that is for properties within 250 feet of a lakefront. The information was send out so that community members can have the best information before voting.
- Whiteman: Fredonia Water: In May 2023 NYSDOH assisted us with a thorough investigation of Fredonia's water supply. In July we issued a letter to the Village of Fredonia giving them 30 days to provide a corrective action plan to address the items that were found to be deficient. The Village returned with a plan that was not really a corrective action plan. Our department put together a presentation to explain further and on 9/5/23 we presented to their public board meeting and gave them another 30 days to return to us with a plan. The new plan is better and we responded with some dates and criteria that they need to meet to comply. We have to report violations to the State Drinking Water Information System Database that the EPA monitors for compliance. The Village is responsible for notifying all of their customers of violations. They have two choices (1) update their current system which will require significant updates or (2) choose another source – they have current connections with the north county water district as well as the City of Dunkirk. Those would have to be built out and added to in order to complete service to the Village. We gave them a list of immediate and long-term needs. Their water is currently safe. Their treatment plant needs attention for the long-term sustainability of its plant and the true investment needs and the reservoir that is supplying the plant. Based on the inspections we have been doing the treatment plant and the reservoir has not been getting the attention it needs for long-term sustainability. The engineer will present to the Board in November. They have a deadline of 12/31/23 to let us know whether they are going to remedy their system or find another source. Our whole presentation is available on the Village of Fredonia's September board meeting which is available online.

Budget: The local share budget summary was shared with the Board. The 2024 tentative Health Department budget is \$20.2M of which \$7.3M is local share. Half of which is preschool education for children with disabilities

<p>Director's Report cont'd</p>	<p>which is almost \$10M. The local share is about \$3.2M of that part of the programing. We presented the legislature with a 14.2% or \$1.2M reduction in local share for 2024.</p> <p>We've identified the following areas as high risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MAT (SARRP) program is an unfunded mandate that came down in October 2022. We have tentatively budgeted \$1.1M of which is going to be funded by Opioid Settlement revenue for 2024, however we acknowledge that this may not be sustainable moving forward. We have somewhere in between approximately \$1.2-\$2M and then after we have approximately \$250-400/year in opioid settlement funds. • Another possible high-risk area that we are paying very close attention to is early intervention and preschool education for children with disabilities and special healthcare needs especially coming out of COVID and the unpredictability of changes in enrollment from year to year as well as contractual costs. • Recruitment and retention of licensed employees (nurses and PH engineer) is challenging due to wages not being competitive with the private sector. <p>Coroner program has increased by 20% and part of that is the new supervisor position. We did reallocate a public health nurse that we had not been able to fill so it's really budget neutral and we are looking at some other options with that position to save some tax payer money. The coroner program is an unfunded mandated program. Public health administration includes all administrative salaries and fringe. Local share has reduced \$231K. We reduced 4 FTE – one epidemiology manager, a homemaker and two nursing positions that we have not been able to fill. We have budgeted for a full time engineer where the position was previously shared 50% with a different department. The demand is high for a public health engineer. This has been a difficult position to fill because the pay is not competitive with the public sector. Environmental Health has a slight increase due to changes in grant funding. Education for Handicapped Children is showing a decrease. Looking at trends over the last few years and keeping budget with where we've been over the last few years but there is risk as we mentioned before.</p>
<p>Other</p>	<p>Discussion was had as to whether or not we want to go back to bimonthly meetings. Environmental health hearings will probably increase due to more actions being taken on violations. No decision was made.</p> <p>We do have the ability to live stream this meeting. We will pursue the possibility of YouTube livestream for future meetings.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Kidder made a motion to adjourn at 9:06pm.</p>
<p>Future Meeting Dates</p>	<p>January 18, 2024; April 18, 2024; July 18, 2024; October 17, 2024</p>