

Chautauqua County Board of Health
MINUTES

Meeting Date/Time: Thursday, May 16, 2024 6:00 p.m.
Location: HRC 4th Floor Conference Room, 7 North Erie Street, Mayville, NY 14757
Scribe: Hannah Abram
YouTube Live Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J2KX4I2AXDU>

ATTENDANCE:

BOH Members	P/A	BOH Members	P/A	Others Present	Title
Dr. Faulk*	E	Dr. Kidder	P	Jessica Wuerstle	Environmental Health Director
Matt Hanley	P	Dr. Krahn	P	Sherri Rater	Administrative and Communications Coordinator
Rick Ketcham	P	Dr. Pender	P	Greg Bacon	Jamestown Post Journal/Dunkirk Observer
Dr. Khan	P	Mark Tarbrake	P	Hannah Abram	Administrative Aide, Board of Health Scribe
Lacey Wilson*	P	Dawn Columbare	E		
*Non-voting		Legislature Proctor	E		

Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Kidder.
Privilege of the Floor	none
Approval of 3/21/24 Minutes	Khan made a motion to approve the minutes with one amendment (correct the word addiction in the director's report). 2 nd by Khran; all in favor; motion carried.
New Business: Member Stepping Down	Rater shared a couple of updates concerning membership with the Board. Erlandson has stepped down from the Board after serving for ten years. Dr. Kidder and Wilson signed a letter thanking him for his service and wishing him well. The County Executive is in the process of appointing another member, Kenneth Dahlgren. One seat on the Board is still open. The Board must have at least 9 members, and can have up to 11. There are presently 9 sitting members. The Bylaws state that there should be a member from the two major cities in the county. There is currently no member from the City of Dunkirk.
New Memberships Discussion	Potential new members and what exact expertise would most benefit the Board and the county was discussed. Environmental expertise, specifically water and sewer in regards to Chautauqua Lake was noted as an ideal quality for the Board.
Agreements to Settle	Agreements to settle were reviewed. As usual, there were public water supply violations. There was also one Tobacco Enforcement Plan violation (these violations will no longer be referred to as ATUPA violations, but as Tobacco Enforcement Plan violations). The violation was made by a facility who sold a tobacco product to an individual under the age of 21. They agreed to pay the fine s totaling \$1,250. Since this is the second violation the next course of action would be to send proof of both violations to the state. New York State Tax and Finance would then look into potentially pulling the facility's licenses to sell tobacco produces and lottery tickets.

Director's Report

Public Health Award: Before Nurses Week (May 6-12), Cathy Burgess was nominated and awarded the *Outstanding Contribution for Individual Public Health Service in a Rural Community* award. This prestigious award was presented to her at the 2024 New York State Public Health Partnership Conference in Saratoga Springs, an annual statewide gathering of health officials and staff. It is an honor to highlight Cathy and her team of incredible nurses at the Chautauqua County Health Department.

Lake Symposium: Attention was brought to the Chautauqua Lake Symposium that will be held on June 2nd at 9am (meet and greet beginning at 8:30am) at the Chautauqua Harbor Hotel. This event brings together stakeholders and experts to share vital data and insight about Chautauqua Lake. It is a free event. The Board asked to be forwarded information about this event from the county website.

State Initiative: DOH always sets a state initiative in addition to the six core service areas that the Health Department provides. This year's initiative is to improve the access to safe and equitable green spaces to increase physical activity. There has been ongoing outreach to municipalities interested and discussions with them on their comprehensive plans and environmental strategies. These conversations and assessments are the first steps to forging strong relationships with the municipalities and find out their needs and ways they can be supported in their endeavors.

Director's Report (con't)

As part of this state initiative, partnership has been made with Chautauqua Health Network in the creation of a Trails Passport, a booklet map of different trails within the county. A pilot program has been initiated with Sherman Central School and Chautauqua Lake Central Schools to condense and make an edition of the booklet for children which has been distributed to the students. This program has been received with much enthusiasm and there is hope that it will be successful and expand to other school districts.

School Nurse Newsletter: In addition to building relationships with the schools, an iteration of one of the school nurse newsletters will be sent to the Board in recognition of school nurses being in many ways being an extension of the Health Department. This newsletter has been developed as an ongoing touchpoint of information that will be useful to school nurses. There will be content such as printable resources that can be sent home with students (in both English and Spanish), information about immunizations, food pantries, clothing drives etc.

Dental Advisory Board/UB Dental Van: The Dental Advisory Board met on May 6th, Pender was present, and a topic of discussion was the UB Dental Van which has served for a number of years in Chautauqua County for about 1,200 children per year, specifically children who don't have access to health care insurance or dental insurance utilizing primarily Medicaid. The van is staffed with two pediatric dentists at all times and dental students. They provide primary care as well as a wide array of pediatric dentistry. There needs to be support at the state level for this as there is new administration at the University of Buffalo. It will be important to ensure that this necessary and valuable service continue in Chautauqua County. The Dental Advisory Board will be writing an advocacy letter that the Board will be able to sign. They are also considering making request a meeting with UB with the new dean which Senator George Borello has agreed to attend and supply his support in keeping this service available. Dr. Khan suggested reaching out to the schools and encouraging superintendents to write letters to the Dean on this issue and having the van visit different schools each week.

	<p>Berke suggested a letter be drafted by the Board of Health concerning this matter.</p> <p><u>Summer Schedule for the Health Mobile Unit:</u> The Mobile Health Unit has completed its final stage of review. Cathy Burgess is heading up a pilot initiative for a summer schedule for the unit to develop the best way it may serve the public, employing core services such as immunizations and visiting various schools, churches, etc. The Board will be updated on the developing schedule with a calendar of days and times for these events.</p> <p><u>Fredonia Water Plant:</u> There has been a positive response from the community in regards to the outreach from the Health Dept. (a presentation put together by Wuerstle and Natalie Whiteman) concerning the Fredonia water issue. Wuerstle gave an update that the Village of Fredonia is moving ahead with the December vote to decommission the Fredonia Plant and draw down the reservoir and connect to Dunkirk as their supplier. They're attempting to make a plan to pace it so that they can maximize grant funding potential but there are some legal petitions delaying the process.</p> <p><u>Preschool Transportation: Early intervention:</u> The Chautauqua County Health Dept funds and provides transportation for children who need to utilize early intervention systems. This service becomes of providing bus transportation throughout all the county becomes very costly. The Health Dept is seeing an increase of entrance into these programs and is looking at some creative strategies and solutions to this uptake. New York State has been involved in these conversations to help mitigate the rising costs.</p>
Other	Rater gave an introductory presentation on the history of Public Health, highlighting information that will be used to educate the community on what the Health Department is and what it does in its mission to prevent disease, promote wellness and protect the health of our community.
Adjournment	Krahn made a motion to adjourn at 7:41pm.
Future Meeting Dates	July 18, 2024; September 19, 2024; November 21, 2024,