

**CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES  
July 22, 2008**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Ken Sobel, MD Paul Shore, DDS Christopher Friend, PhD	Mary Ann Baker, RN William G. Howard, MD William Roe, PE
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Robert Lambert, MD	Thomas Curran, DDS
<b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b>	Robert Page Thomas Kump, PE Melissa Klossner	Harry Shepard Terence Lenhardt, MD Cassie Combs, STTAC

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Agenda for July 22, 2008 CCBH Meeting
2. CCBH Minutes from May 27, 2008
3. Budget Status Report for June 2008
4. Environmental Health Services Reports for May & June 2008
5. Dental Clinic Statistical Report for June 2008
6. Young Lungs At Play Palm Card & Brochure

The following items were distributed at the meeting:

7. Clinic Services Report for July 22, 2008
8. Child Blood Lead Test Data for January-May 2007/08

Ms. Baker called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 PM.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Shore and seconded by Dr. Sobel that the minutes of the May 27, 2008 Board of Health meeting be approved and accepted. Motion approved.

<b>AYES:</b>	Ken Sobel, MD Paul Shore, DDS Christopher Friend, PhD	Mary Ann Baker, RN William G. Howard, MD William Roe, PE
<b>NAYS:</b>	None	
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Robert Lambert, MD	Thomas Curran, DDS

## **2. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Harry Shepard commented that there was nothing of significance to report other than the fact that they were spending as little as possible with the possibility that this could be a difficult year with the budget. A written report was provided in advance of the meeting. There was no further discussion on any financial matters.

## **3. SERVICE REPORTS**

- A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES** – Thomas Kump had nothing further to discuss with the May & June 2008 reports that had already been distributed to the CCBH prior to the meeting. Ms. Baker questioned the waiver that was mentioned in the report for Taco Bell. Mr. Kump explained that Taco Bell had been cited on different occasions for failure to maintain proper food temperatures. An option that is extended to similar facilities is to obtain a waiver from that requirement with the condition that they use time as a control. Four hours after a food item goes out of the required holding temperature, the food item must be disposed of. A system of marking foods with discard times must be established and adhered to.
- B. PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING & CLINICS** – Lou Ann Corsi was not in attendance. Mr. Page distributed a written report prepared in advance by Ms. Corsi. The only point noted was that staffing is getting back to normal and visit numbers are increasing.
- C. DENTAL SERVICES REPORT** – Mr. Page reported that the June 2008 Statistical Summary was distributed prior to the meeting and had nothing to add to it. However, he did update the CCBH on the dental sealant program. It is currently on a hiatus during the summer months and is expected to begin again shortly after the start of the new school year in September. They are close to getting a new data management system fully operational that will be capable of tracking several statistics for the dental sealant program. The program was able to complete between 10 to 12 days prior to summer break. This small operational session of the program gave them a good opportunity to see what works and what doesn't so that the program will be that much more efficient when it restarts in September.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- 1. CLEARING THE AIR – NEXT STEPS** – Mr. Page reported that the County Legislature was very receptive to the CCBH recommendations with regard to the various smoking prevention initiatives. Legislator Friend added that the Legislature is next looking at a ban of smoking on all County properties including inside vehicles. The brochures that were prepared by STTAC and distributed for review prior to the meeting were discussed. Past concerns about whether there was research to back the claims on the literature seem to have been met. It was suggested that the brochure reference where the facts came from so there would be

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no confusion. The unanimous consent of the CCBH was to move ahead with distribution of the brochures. There was also some discussion on the next step to be taken by the CCBH. It seemed like it would be appropriate to pass a resolution offering support to the County Legislature to adopt a policy that prohibits smoking on all County properties.

**RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Shore and seconded by Dr. Howard that the Chemung County Board of Health supports and encourages the County Legislature to pursue adoption of a County-wide policy that would prohibit smoking on all County properties, including the inside of private vehicles while they are on County property. Motion approved.

**AYES:** Ken Sobel, MD Mary Ann Baker, RN  
Paul Shore, DDS William G. Howard, MD  
Christopher Friend, PhD William Roe, PE

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Robert Lambert, MD Thomas Curran, DDS

**2. KENNEDY VALVE GRANT PROGRAM STATUS** – Mr. Page reported that about 9 months have been completed in the 3-year Kennedy Valve Lead Reduction grant that we are working on with the City of Elmira. A 6-month interim report was due in the Attorney General’s office after April 17<sup>th</sup> but a misunderstanding by City personnel caused that report to be delayed until early July. The report has since been sent to the Attorney General’s office. Mr. Kump updated the CCBH on the status of the environmental lead hazard assessments. As reported at a past meeting, an XRF (x-ray fluorescence) device has been obtained that is capable of providing on-the-spot test results for the presence of lead in paint. The application process was finalized in late April 2008 and applications for lead hazard assessments were being received in May 2008. Thus far EHS has received 26 applications for these assessments. About 19 assessments have been completed to date. Lead hazards have been found in every home that has been assessed. One of the conditions for completing an assessment is that the homeowner must agree to make their home lead-safe per the recommendations of our EPA-certified Risk Assessors. Part of the process of conducting a lead hazard assessment in a home is to recommend to parents to have their children tested for lead. This has already resulted in several additional children being tested and in one case, an elevated blood lead level was detected. Ms. Klossner provided a written report of the status of blood lead testing in children, comparing the data from the period of January through May in 2007 to that of the same period in 2008. This certainly is accomplishing the goal of increasing Chemung County’s child testing rate and will provide for better data with which to make better assessments of child lead poisoning in the area. In all of 2006 and 2007 there were no referrals to EHS of children with levels > 20 ug/dl. So far in 2008 there have been 4 children tested

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with elevated levels that require EHS intervention and follow-up. Dr. Sobel reported that he expects to conduct a review of their testing after having completed about 4 months in the program. He suggested that depending on the results of the review, they may consider alterations to their screening program. It was pointed out that screening of 1 and 2 years old is a legal requirement. How the screening is conducted is subject to State requirements and guidelines. Much discussion continued on the merits of screening and/or testing children for elevated levels of blood lead. All data being collected as part of this program will be compiled and provided to both the Attorney General's office as well as the NYSDOH.

- 3. INTERVENTIONS FOR PREGNANCY (WIC)** – Mr. Page reminded the CCBH that Dr. Curran had requested at the last meeting that we look into interventions by WIC with regard to smoking by pregnant clients. WIC does provide prenatal counseling as well as education, but there is no tracking or follow-up on the outcomes after the fact. It is simply not part of their grant or mission.
- 4. PANDEMIC FLU PREPAREDNESS: Alternate Care Sites** – Mr. Page provided an overview for the CCBH on a current initiative involving nine Finger Lakes counties through a grant from the State to find solutions for alternate care sites in the event of a pandemic flu outbreak. This has proven to be an extremely controversial project. There has been much miscommunication between the NYSDOH and the involved local health departments. The whole region has concluded that the State expectations simply are not doable. A conference call has been scheduled between LHDs and the State for clarifications on the objectives and requirements. While there is some agreement on the concept involved, the reality of the matter is that it is not possible with the resources available in rural counties.

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. TB EPIDEMIOLOGY INVESTIGATION** – Ms. Klossner briefed the CCBH on a TB investigation that has consumed much time and effort of the Patient Services staff over the last few months. The actions taken by the CCHD seem to have been effective and proper as there have been no new cases reported. A local editorial criticized the CCHD for not notifying the general public about a local TB case, but the decision was made by the NYSDOH based on policy that had been in place for many years. Sufficient notification and outreach was able to be provided without a general press release as proven by the outcomes.
- 2. STATE BUDGET CRISIS – IMPACT ON PUBLIC HEALTH** – Mr. Page reported that the CCHD has already been notified that many grants have been cut by 2% in the current program year. This has had minimal if any impact on delivery of services. However, the County Executive feels that there is a good chance that late in 2008 the State Legislature will take some pretty draconian measures in response to a fiscal crisis currently developing in NYS. This could include a 10% cut in aid. Potential impacts of such measures are currently being studied to determine local impact. The goal would be to reduce services as needed to avoid any increase in the local financial share of these programs.

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**RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Mr. Roe and seconded by Dr. Howard that, with no further business to conduct, the Chemung County Board of Health meeting adjourn at approximately 8:50 PM. Motion approved.

**AYES:** Ken Sobel, MD Mary Ann Baker, RN  
Paul Shore, DDS William G. Howard, MD  
Christopher Friend, PhD William Roe, PE

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Robert Lambert, MD Thomas Curran, DDS

**Next meeting:** **Board of Health Meeting**  
**September 23, 2008 @ 7:30 PM**  
**Health Department Conference Room**