

**CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
December 2, 2008**

PRESENT:	Paul Shore, DDS William Roe, PE Mary Ann Baker, RN	William G. Howard, MD Robert Lambert, MD Christopher Friend, PhD
ABSENT:	Thomas Curran, DDS	Ken Sobel, MD
OTHERS PRESENT:	Robert Page Thomas Kump, PE Lou Ann Lance	Harry Shepard Terence Lenhardt, MD

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Agenda for December 2, 2008 CCBH Meeting
2. CCBH Minutes from September 23, 2008
3. Environmental Health Services Reports for September & October 2008
4. Chemung County Board of Health By-Laws
5. Hearing Record – DaVinci’s Pizzeria
6. Budget Status Report for through October 2008
7. Dental Clinic Statistical Report through October 2008

The following items were distributed at the meeting:

8. Environmental Health Services Report for November 2008
9. Clinic Services Report Dated 12/2/08
- 10.WIC Program Statistics
- 11.Report on Smoking in a Rural Pregnant Population
- 12.Report on Smoking Cessation Counseling for Pregnant Women Who Smoke

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

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Dr. Lambert that the minutes of the September 23, 2008 Board of Health meeting be approved and accepted. Motion approved.

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

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Harry Shepard commented that there was nothing of significance to report beyond what was written in the report provided at the beginning of the meeting. While it is becoming obvious that the State is facing difficult economic times, the impact locally has not been determined at this point.

3. SERVICES REPORTS

A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES – Thomas Kump mentioned that a report for September 2008 and October 2008 had already been distributed prior to the meeting for CCBH review. A report for November 2008 was distributed during the meeting. He had nothing to add to the written reports. A Board member questioned whether the closing of DaVinci's Pizzeria was related to the recent enforcement action. Mr. Kump commented that there was probably some cause and effect between the actions of the establishment and the actions of the County, but not what one would consider to be the obvious. Another member questioned the status of the New Plantation Motel's failing sewage treatment system. Mr. Kump explained that the facility has been placarded, but that it was also very close to a final closure due to the NYSDOT process of acquiring properties in that area due to pending road construction.

B. PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING & CLINICS – Lou Ann Lance referred to her report that was distributed just prior to the meeting. She reported that in addition to her usual report, there was also a statistical report for the WIC program. One point of interest was a program where WIC was contracting with WIC participants to conduct peer counseling. This was part of the mandated work plan for the new fiscal year. Another item of note was that there are new food package changes. Ms. Lance also reported that the homecare program does not expect to meet the projected number of visits in 2008. This is primarily due to staffing vacancies. A board member questioned whether our salaries are competitive with other agencies or practices in the area. While the salary package for physical therapists is competitive with St. Joseph's Hospital, the salary package for nurses is not competitive with any local agency or practice.

*There was a change in the order of Agenda items – item #6 under *New Business* was discussed next.

HOME CARE AGENCY CONSULTANT STUDY – Ms. Lance reported that a grant was used to hire Thomas H. Dennison, Ph.D. to evaluate the home care agency. Dr. Dennison is a professor at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University. He has already been provided with a lot of statistical and financial data from the agency. One advantage that our program has over others is that we have a certified coder. A final report is due in the middle of December 2008. A copy or summary will be provided to the CCBH for the next meeting.

C. DENTAL SERVICES REPORT – Mr. Page reported that a written report was provided just prior to the meeting for October 2008. There was nothing new to

report. Mr. Shepard reported that due to a provider change, the Medicaid payments are behind. It was projected that there were tens of thousands of dollars in payments that have not yet been made.

OLD BUSINESS

- 1. KENNEDY VALVE PROGRAM UPDATE** – Ms. Lance commented that the children's finger-stick testing continues to do well. The testing statistics available on HIN through Leadweb are indicating a large number of children in the 5 – 10 ug/dl range. Even though the current definitions do not consider this to be an elevated level, it is believed that this may change and we may need to consider working with these children in the future. Mr. Page added that our local lead poisoning prevention program is being watched by the State and could end up being used as a model for other areas in the State. The Attorney General's office is very pleased with the statistics that have been provided to date. We have not even completed one full year since we did not get going full swing until May of 2008. The local coalition has been very supportive as well. Mr. Kump reported that the home lead hazard assessments are also going well. Since the program started in May 2008, EHS has received 73 applications from property owners to conduct assessments. There have been 72 assessments completed to date and all but two assessments identified lead hazards. Mr. Kump also commented that the City of Elmira has requested that EHS consider conducting "clearance" sampling for lead correction projects that have been completed. HUD guidelines require clearance sampling on certain projects. The private company that the City has worked with charges about \$700 to conduct the risk assessment and another \$200 for clearance sampling. It is expected that EHS could do both of these services for much less. The main concern is whether the workload would be manageable with the current staffing in EHS. EHS has committed to conducting some time studies during December 2008 to determine whether they could handle the additional workload with existing staff.
- 2. STATE & COUNTY BUDGET UPDATE** – Mr. Page gave a brief update. The State is still attempting to grapple with the economic dilemma they are facing so there has been no further information disseminated to local health departments on potential cuts. However, it is known that the County's 2009 budget is flat and there will be no salary increases for management, salaried employees or members of bargaining units.
- 3. DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAM UPDATE** – Mr. Page reported that the dental sealant program is finally on track administratively. The program is currently at Riverside School and seems to be going very well. It is expected that two to three more schools will be completed this school year. There is a high percentage participation rate. The NYSDOH seems to be very pleased with the program. Mr. Shepard added that he has been working with a few other County personnel on development of a data management system. The program provided by the State did not work properly, so Mr. Shepard teamed with a programmer from the County's Data Processing Department and with our dentist Dr. Lax. As of the end of August, the program appears to be working well. Reports have been sent to the NYSDOH that were generated from our local program and they were received with

approval. There is even the possibility that the State could purchase the program to modify for use in other areas of the State.

- 4. MOMS PROGRAM & SMOKING FOLLOW-UP** – Ms. Lance referred to a few articles that were distributed at the meeting. Both reports came from JOGNN (**Journal of Obstetric, Gynecologic, and Neonatal Nursing**). One report was entitled “Comparison of Self-Reported Smoking and Urinary Cotinine Levels in a Rural Pregnant Population”. The other article was entitled “Smoking Cessation Counseling for Pregnant Women Who Smoke: Scientific Basis for Practice for WHHONN’s SUCCESS Project”. Ms. Lance spoke with a representative from MOMS who explained that it was not feasible for them to any further follow-up. It was not part of their mission and with self-reporting not being accurate, it would not be a practical use of their resources. Dr. Lambert reiterated that one of Dr. Curran’s arguments was that the STTAC would be better directed to pursue smoking among pregnant women versus the issue of smoking in public parks. Dr. Lambert requested that we ask STTAC to look into this and plan to report back to the CCBH at a future meeting. Mr. Page updated the CCBH on the progress of the resolution they forwarded to the County Legislature regarding the banning of smoking on County property. While it has not yet been added as an agenda item before the Legislature, it is believed to be with the County Attorney for further legal review.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. BY-LAWS REVIEW/REVISIONS/ADOPTION** – (**Item #3 under New Business was also addressed during this segment of the meeting.**) Mr. Page commented that the CCBH By-Laws were distributed to the members for review. As required in the By-Laws, the CCBH is to review them annually and revise as needed. Dr. Lambert opined that in light of the recent Legionnaires’ Disease outbreak, there is a need to discuss the role of the CCBH in dealing with major issues in the community. This discussion is in no way intended to suggest that the CCHD handled the recent outbreak improperly. On the contrary they collectively thought that it was handled quite well and that the CCBH was supportive of the actions being taken. They would have appreciated more involvement, at least in terms of information dissemination. The releases that were prepared and delivered to the medical community should also go to the CCBH in future events. Board members should also know that in the future if there is a major public health issue in progress they can request, through the Board President, that a meeting be scheduled to address the situation. Likewise, the Public Health Director will be more sensitive to this issue and may contact the Board President to schedule a meeting if warranted. Because the CCBH is a public body, it is subject to the “Sunshine Laws” related to open meetings. Special meetings would have to be advertised and would be open to the public. There is the clause that would allow the CCBH to go into Executive Session during a public meeting to discuss certain sensitive issues allowed under the law. Everyone present seemed to be content with this arrangement and had no suggestions for any changes or additions to the By-Laws.

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RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Mr. Roe that the Chemung County Board of Health has reviewed the By-Laws and that no revisions or additions are necessary at this point in time. Motion approved.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ken Sobel, MD Thomas Curran, DDS

- 2. HEARING REPORT: DaVINCI's PIZZERIA** – Mr. Shepard summarized the hearing that was held on November 13, 2008 regarding repeated cross contamination violations that occurred at DaVinci's Pizzeria in Elmira. The operators of DaVinci's Pizzeria, Miguel & Melody Vicioso did not appear for the hearing. It is believed that the facility is closed and the operators have left the area. Based on all facts presented by all parties in attendance, Mr. Shepard recommended to the CCBH that a fine of \$250 be issued with the condition that the fine be held in abeyance until such time the operator(s) re-apply for a permit to operate in Chemung County

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Dr. Lambert that the recommendation of Hearing Officer Shepard be approved by the CCBH, namely, that a fine of \$250 be levied against Miguel & Melody Vicioso (operators of DaVinci's Pizzeria) with the condition that the fine will be held in abeyance until such time the operator(s) apply for a new permit to operate in Chemung County. Motion approved.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: Ken Sobel, MD Thomas Curran, DDS

- 3. ROLE OF BOARD OF HEALTH: MAJOR EVENTS AND SUPPORT TO MANAGEMENT TEAM** – This agenda item was already discussed during item #1 under New Business.

- 4. COMMUNITY HEALTH ASSESSMENT** – Ms. Lance reported that it is again time to prepare the Community Health Assessment. This year the project is going to be quite extensive. The NYSDOH is requiring that as part of the assessment we meet with local health care providers to collaborate on development of our public health priorities. The priorities need to be based on actual data. Ms. Lance will be facilitating the process and will be starting with the two local hospitals. There has already been a "webinar" on the topic to get everyone on board with this new

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requirement. All the other data collection and assessment will still need to be done, so this exercise is in addition to everything else. While smaller groups will also need to be involved in the collaboration, they won't be brought into the picture until we've had a chance to meet with the hospitals. The report will be due in July 2009.

- 5. EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS CONSULTANT CONTRACT** – One of the deliverables during the new grant year is to update/revise the Public Health Emergency Response Plan. Ms. Lance has done a lot of the work on this in the past, but with the added burden of the Community Health Assessment, she will not be able to do this latest update. More money has been allocated to Chemung County this year than in the past year, so it has been decided that a consultant will be hired with the extra funds to complete the update/revision of the response plan.
- 6. HOME CARE AGENCY CONSULTANT STUDY** – This agenda item was already discussed under item 3B (Service Reports) earlier in the meeting.

With no further business to conduct, the meeting was adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Next meeting:

**Board of Health Meeting
January 27, 2009 @ 7:30 PM
Health Department Conference Room**