

**CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
March 30, 2010**

PRESENT: Christopher Friend, PhD William Roe, PE
Thomas Curran, DDS William G. Howard, MD
Robert Lambert, MD Ken Sobel, MD
Paul Shore, DDS Mary Ann Baker, RN

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Page Thomas Kump, PE
Lou Ann Lance Harry Shepard

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Agenda for March 30, 2010 CCBH Meeting
2. CCBH Minutes from January 26, 2010
3. Budget Status Report 2009 Update
4. Environmental Health Services Report for January & February 2010
5. Dental Clinic Statistical Report Through 2/28/10
6. H1N1 Flu POD – Sample After Action Report
7. Chemung County Dental Sealant Program Summary 2009
8. Hearing Officer Report – Curly’s Chicken House
9. Analysis of Home Health Care Operations

The following items were distributed at the meeting:

10. Clinic Services Report dated 3/30/10

Dr. Sobel 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 Ms. Baker that the minutes of the January 26, 2010 Board of Health meeting be approved and accepted. Motion approved.

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

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

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Harry Shepard commented on the Budget Status Report for 2009 which had been updated and included in the mailing prior to the meeting. Mr. Shepard stated that this would be the last report for 2009 and that future reports will include information for 2010 only.

3. SERVICES REPORTS

A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES – Thomas Kump mentioned that reports for January & February 2010 were included in the mailing to BOH members. Mr. Kump pointed out that EHS will no longer be submitting dead birds for West Nile Virus (WNV) testing per the recommendation of the NYSDOH. The WNV activity has been minimal over the last few years so this should have minimal impact locally. It is believed that WNV is still present in the community so prevention is still being promoted through the “fight the bite” campaign. A question was raised about the new federal lead worker regulations that will be taking effect in April 2010 and whether homeowners would be exempt. Mr. Kump explained that homeowners would be exempt from the training requirements and that this is a federal law and not enforceable on the county level. All persons contacting the CCHD regarding this new law are being referred to the US Environmental Protection Agency. Another question was raised regarding the definition of “cold holding”. Mr. Kump said that it is a term used to describe the requirement of keeping certain potentially hazardous foods at or below 45 degrees F. There were no further questions for Mr. Kump.

B. PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING & CLINICS – Lou Ann Lance referred to her report that was distributed just prior to the meeting. Ms. Lance pointed out that the CHHA/LTHHCP visits were also being tracked by funding source. This has provided some useful information about the program. For instance, there has been a large increase in the number of visits that have been funded by private insurance. There was more discussion centered around this program and the ability/inability of the CHHA to accept new patients. Dr. Curran also questioned Ms. Lance as to whether there was a solution for the problems the PEIP program has been having with the utilization of the software they are required to use. Ms. Lance explained that it is just going to take time to get used to the software as the CCHD staff had been using the same software since 1995 with minimal problems. The CCBH had no questions for Ms. Lance.

C. DENTAL SERVICES REPORT – Mr. Page commented on the Dental Clinic Statistical Report for the month ending February 28, 2010 that was provided prior to the meeting. There were no questions for Mr. Page. Dr. Curran suggested that the CCBH keep some of the statistics on the dental clinic report in mind when reviewing the Dental Sealant Program report later in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

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- 1. PANDEMIC FLU AFTER ACTION REPORT** – Mr. Page informed the CCBH that a sample After Action Report for the November 21, 2009 clinic was included in the mailing. There were about 36 different clinics held and around 9,000 vaccinations administered during this emergency. The intention was to provide the CCBH with a flavor of what the various clinics were like and the types of problems encountered. Mr. Kump elaborated on the processes used in planning and implementing the clinics and stressed that it was a team effort. Much valuable information was learned from responding to the H1N1 situation and the experience will truly benefit the CCHD when it comes to responding to future emergencies. Dr. Lambert questioned the current status of H1N1. Mr. Page and Ms. Lance explained that it is still in the community and the bulk of the influenza cases being reported are believed to be H1N1. Also, it is expected that the 2010 seasonal flu vaccine will include the H1N1 strain so that there won't be the need for special clinics to handle just H1N1. The public is still being encouraged to get the H1N1 vaccine if they have not yet done so.
- 2. DENTAL SEALANT PROGRAM UPDATE** – Mr. Page discussed the report that was prepared in response to a request from Dr. Curran at the last meeting. He deferred any questions related to how the data was gathered to Mr. Shepard. Dr. Curran stated that we are in the 4th year of a 5-year program and there is a good chance that the program could receive additional support to continue further. He stated that a major problem with the program was in getting consent forms back from parents. The return rate was about half the return rate for the H1N1 vaccine consents. One of the serious problems mentioned in the Community Health Assessment was tooth decay and the two means of prevention that have proven to be successful are fluoridation and dental sealants. Dr. Curran believes that there are 3 efforts that should be taken to make this program more successful in the coming year. They include better utilization of the advisory board, making more follow-up phone calls to parents, and expanding the program into the Horseheads School District. Mr. Page stated that the funds available would be insufficient to perform all of the suggestions Dr. Curran had made. Dr. Curran also suggested that Don Keddell be called on to assist with this effort. Mr. Keddell is a retired Assistant Superintendent from the Elmira City School District and could be a valuable asset in combating this problem. Mr. Page assured Dr. Curran that they would investigate the feasibility of implementing the 3 efforts suggested earlier in the discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. TANNING FACILITY REGULATIONS** – Mr. Kump explained to the CCBH that a tanning facility law had been in place for years now and that regulations were created within the last 6 months. The NYSDOH has given local health departments the option of enforcing the regulations. A decision of whether a LHD will be pursuing the option must be communicated to the NYSDOH by April 1, 2010. Training will be provided within the next few months and an outreach effort is planned for September 2010. Full implementation of the program is expected by November 1, 2010. If a LHD opts to perform the program, all permit and inspection

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fees collected will remain in the County. Some of the requirements that will have to be met by a tanning facility include but are not limited to maintaining the equipment in a safe manner, proper labeling and warning signs, provision for protective eyewear, proper sanitization of equipment, maintain an injury/illness log, require parental consent forms for 14-17 year olds, and require and maintain acknowledgement forms for all clients. It is believed that the work needed to get this program running can be performed with existing staff. If our staffing plan is ever decreased, it will be possible to opt out of the program by providing the NYSDOH with 6 months notice. Permits are expected to be issued for a 2-year period with inspections required at least every 2 years. Even if the County opted not to perform this program, there would be the expectation by the NYSDOH that the County assist with response to complaints and/or emergencies.

- 2. HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT: CURLY'S CHICKEN HOUSE** – Mr. Shepard reported to the CCBH that a Hearing was held on February 23, 2010 with Curly's Chicken House. They were issued a Stipulation Offer for \$100 but declined and opted to attend a Hearing. He said that this case was a little different than most of the other cases he has heard. Mr. Shepard stated that he felt that the operator intended to pay the penalty but wanted the opportunity to explain in person the efforts that have been taken to address this recurring problem once and for all. Mr. Kump reminded the CCBH that from a historical perspective, fines levied by the CCBH have almost always been higher than the stipulated amount due to the fact that much more time is incurred by several staff in preparation for the hearing. The CCBH discussed what they believed was the intent of the operator and would go along with the Hearing Officer's recommendation. Mr. Shepard's recommendation to the CCBH is that a fine of \$100 be ordered against Curly's Chicken House.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Dr. Curran that a fine of \$100 be assessed against the operator of Curly's Chicken House based on the recommendation of the Hearing Officer for a hearing that was held on February 23, 2010 as a result of repeat violations of the NYS Sanitary Code. Motion approved.

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

ABSENT: None

- 3. FINANCIAL REPORTS: DENTAL CLINIC AND CHHA 2000-2008** – Mr. Page and Mr. Shepard discussed the reports that were provided to the CCBH in advance of the meeting, one for the CHHA and the other for the Dental Clinic. Some of the

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CCBH members did not realize that there was more than one tab on the spreadsheet distributed in advance and thus did not get a chance to review all the data thoroughly. This data was gathered by the CCHD accountant (Freed Maxick). A question was raised as to whether all counties have a dental clinic. Many counties do have dental clinics, but not all are operated by a local health department. Some are community clinics and others are hospital clinics. The reimbursement rates vary from county to county.

- 4. MEDICAID PRIMARY CARE CLINIC** – Ms. Lance updated the CCBH on the status of the recently opened Medicaid Primary Care Clinic on the ground floor of the Human Resource Center. It is intended for Medicaid managed care patients up to the age of 64 and it has the potential of handling 4,000 patients. A physician through TTPM is on board and a nurse practitioner has been hired but not yet granted privileges. They will assist with case management and can even assist with transportation to and from the clinic. Dr. Lambert commented that it is quite a remarkable program with a lot of professionals collaborating to make the program work. It is not a county operation and is totally independent. This clinic is a pilot program and could be a model for future clinics in NYS.
- 5. CHHA CONSUMER QUALITY ASSURANCE REPORTS** – Ms. Lance provided the CCBH with an overview of a new regulation that they need to comply with this year. To comply with the new requirements, a contract has been signed with an outside vendor to survey clients. The contractor is RMS Healthcare. There are certain mandatory questions on the survey tool that will be used, but we can add more questions to benefit our needs as well. Software exists that will be able to extract data from the survey and there will be quarterly as well as annual reports. A sample run will be made a little later this year with a full-blown survey starting during the last quarter of 2010. A certain percentage of patients must be surveyed. Efforts will have to be made to assure that the same clients are not surveyed over and over again so that there is a representative sample.
- 6. WEIGHTS & MEASURES PROGRAM REORGANIZATION** – Mr. Kump reported to the CCBH that there has been a reorganization of the Weights and Measures program in the County after Director Stephen Hildreth retired in the fall of 2009. Mr. Kump was appointed by the County Legislature as the new Director of Weights and Measures to manage the program. The Schuyler County Director of Weights and Measures has been contracted to perform the technical aspects of the program in Chemung County as part of a Shared Services Agreement. Due to his expertise with the CCHD financial business, Mr. Shepard has been providing technical assistance in the area of budget management and processing of invoices.

Dr. Lambert questioned whether there has been any indication as to how our local budgets will be impacted by the financial condition of NYS. Mr. Page stated that it was still too early to tell what impact there will be locally, other than it will not be good. Dr. Lambert also suggested that the CCBH spend some time at a future meeting to have some more in-depth discussion on the recent County Health Rankings. Chemung County did not fare well in some of the categories. There may not be a lot that can be done to change some

