

**CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES
May 24, 2011**

PRESENT: Richard Madl
Paul Shore, DDS
Robert Lambert, MD
Mary Ann Baker, RN
Thomas Curran, DDS
William Roe, PE
Ken Sobel, MD

ABSENT: William G. Howard, MD

OTHERS PRESENT: Robert Page
Harry Shepard
Thomas Kump, PE
Karen Lower

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Agenda for May 24, 2011 CCBH Meeting
2. CCBH Minutes from March 22, 2011
3. Budget Status Report through April 30, 2011
4. Environmental Health Services Reports for March & April 2011
5. Dental Clinic Statistical Reports for March & April 2011
6. Hearing Report For Poorman's Café

The following items were distributed at the meeting:

7. CHHA/PEIP/WIC Report Dated 5/24/11

Dr. Sobel called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 PM.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR MARCH 22, 2011 MEETING

Dr. Curran pointed out that at the last meeting he had abstained from the vote related to the enforcement action against CITGO due to a potential conflict of interest. The minutes were changed to reflect that note.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Ms. Baker and seconded by Dr. Curran that the minutes of the March 22, 2011 Board of Health meeting be approved and accepted as modified. Motion approved.

AYES: Richard Madl
Paul Shore, DDS
Mary Ann Baker, RN
Ken Sobel, MD
Thomas Curran, DDS
William Roe, PE
Robert Lambert, MD

NAYS: None

ABSENT: William G. Howard, MD

2. FINANCIAL REPORT

Harry Shepard commented that the Budget Status Report through April 30, 2011 was distributed to the CCBH in the mailing prior to the meeting. He noted that this report only included information for 2011 whereas the last few reports had information from 2010. Ms. Baker questioned how the new arrangements for the Medical Examiner program were working out. Mr. Shepard reported that the program is working out quite well. There were no further questions for Mr. Shepard.

3. SERVICES REPORTS

- A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES** – Thomas Kump mentioned that reports for March and April 2011 were included in the mailing to BOH members in advance of the meeting. Mr. Kump briefed the CCBH on the recent activity at Brookside Mobile Home Park. A joint effort spear-headed by the Chemung County Sheriff's Department resulted in the citing of some health hazards at the park (sewage on the ground) as well as numerous building code violations. Many agencies were involved with this endeavor. He had nothing further to add to what was presented in the written report. There were no questions for Mr. Kump.
- B. CHHA UPDATE & CLINIC ACTIVITIES** –Ms. Lower noted that there has been actions taken to get the CHHA management team in place. Ms. Lower has been named as the Administrator of the CHHA and a Director of Patient Services (Mary Jo Roberts) has been hired and is expected to begin in June 2011. Mr. Page reported that the management agreement for the CHHA has been finalized for submittal to the NYSDOH. The approval process could take up to 60 days. In the interim, they are still working off the consultative agreement that was established in the fall of 2010. The next step in the process is to sign off on a longer term agreement that would extend for another 3 years until a new Certificate of Need is issued. Ms. Lower stated that they have been working on the operational side of the CHHA and have been seeing positive results. The CHHA is now at full staffing capacity. Ms. Lower provided the CCBH with a CCHA statistical report that has been modified from past versions to provide more meaningful information and data. The therapy services aspect of the program are in transition to provide for a more efficient delivery of services. The scheduler for the CHHA has been changed from an RN position to that of a medical office assistant. This arrangement is working out well. There were no questions for Mr. Page or Ms. Lower.
- C. DENTAL SERVICES REPORT** – Mr. Page commented that there were reports for the last two months provided to the CCBH in advance of the meeting. They are still awaiting word on whether the dental sealant grant will be renewed for the next school year. The current grant period expires June 30, 2011. Dr. Curran opined that he thought the grant would be renewed. On another topic, Dr. Curran mentioned that he is hopeful that in the coming school year would see an increase in the number of children examined. He thought that be having students go to BOCES for the exam that it was limiting the number of students that were being seen and that efforts were being made to see if the exams could be performed in some of the target schools. Dr. Sobel mentioned that he thought that a major

stumbling block for getting students dental examinations was the long form that needed to be completed by parents. Although there was some discussion about the possibility of changing the form, it was believed that the State would not allow any changes to the form. There were no further questions for Mr. Page.

OLD BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS

1. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH HEARING – Poorman’s Café – Mr. Shepard reported to the CCBH on a hearing that was held with the operator of Poorman’s Café on April 13, 2011 in response to allegations of violations of the NYS Clean Indoor Air Act (CIAA). There were two situations where smoking was observed by EHS staff at this establishment. In the first situation the respondent claimed to not be aware of all aspects of the CIAA. Based on this information, Mr. Shepard recommended that the original penalty of \$500 from the Stipulation Offer be reduced to \$250.

RESOLUTION: A motion was made by Dr. Lambert and seconded by Ms. Baker that the CCBH order a penalty of \$250.00 against the operator of Poorman’s Café for violations of the NYS Clean Indoor Air Act. Motion approved.

AYES: Richard Madl
Paul Shore, DDS
Mary Ann Baker, RN
Ken Sobel, MD
Thomas Curran, DDS
William Roe, PE
Robert Lambert, MD

NAYS: None

ABSENT: William G. Howard, MD

2. REGIONAL DISASTER EXERCISE: FLurricane 2011 – Mr. Page briefed the CCBH on the recent disaster exercise that was a joint collaboration with the 9-county alliance (Finger Lakes Public Health Alliance). The scenario was that a flood would occur of the magnitude of the flood of 1972. Some of the hospitals that participated in the exercise surged while others either evacuated or sheltered in place. The public health mutual aid plan was exercised. This plan is intended to act as a mechanism whereby a county could request assistance from another or several counties as per a pre-arranged agreement. The exercise tested the communications of implementing the plan and illustrated some areas of the plan that need to be clarified and improved. Mr. Kump briefed the CCBH on the tabletop exercise that he led with public health staff. It involved the evacuation of the entire health department to an alternate location in Elmira Heights. A review of the Continuity of Operations Plan was made as well as a review of each sub-department as to whether the services provided would be curtailed or whether alternate means would have to be established to provide those services from another site. It was estimated that a lead time of 24 hours would be needed to evacuate. The CHHA did a real-time survey of their census and assessed what their needs would be. Only one of their patients would need to be admitted to a

**CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES – 5/24/2011**

health care facility based on their current census. Mr. Page elaborated on some of the other activities that occurred. St. Joseph's Hospital did an evacuation drill while Arnot Ogden did a surge drill. Most of the participating nursing homes did a shelter-in-place. Communications could be a problem if the emergency was such that land-line telecommunications and cellular service were knocked out. Next year's drill will do more to test communications. A request has been made to be able to spend grant money for the purchase of radios that would be installed in the health department as well as the two hospitals, the ambulance service, and a few large nursing homes. This would address some of the problems that might arise with conventional communications.

- 3. COMMISSIONER'S ORDER BANNING SALE OF BATH SALTS** – Mr. Page reported that the NYSDOH Commissioner on May 20, 2011 issued an Order For Summary Action that banned the sale of "bath salts" that contain synthetic designer drugs. There had been a large increase in the number of cases reporting to emergency rooms and calls to the poison control hotline. This order is an interim measure while further legislation is passed that would make the sale of these substances a criminal offense. Part of the order included that EHS staff would survey all retailers in their jurisdiction to determine whether they were selling bath salts. If a facility was found where bath salts were being sold, EHS issued a copy of the Commissioner's order. A majority of the facilities in Chemung County had already been visited and it was expected that this survey would be completed in just a few days. Only one facility was found to be selling the product thus far.

RESOLUTION: With no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Dr. Curran and seconded by Dr. Shore that the CCBH be adjourned until the next regular meeting of July 26, 2011. Motion approved.

AYES: Richard Madl
Paul Shore, DDS
Mary Ann Baker, RN
Ken Sobel, MD
Thomas Curran, DDS
William Roe, PE
Robert Lambert, MD

NAYS: None

ABSENT: William G. Howard, MD

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:15 PM.

Next meeting: **Board of Health Meeting**
July 26, 2011 @ 7:30 PM
Health Department Conference Room