

**CHEMUNG COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH  
MINUTES  
September 27, 2011**

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Richard Madl Paul Shore, DDS William G. Howard, MD	Thomas Curran, DDS William Roe, PE Mary Ann Baker, RN
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Robert Lambert, MD	Ken Sobel, MD
<b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b>	Robert Page Harry Shepard Terence Lenhardt, MD	Thomas Kump, PE Karen Lower

Prior to the meeting the CCBH received the following:

1. Agenda for September 27, 2011 CCBH Meeting
2. CCBH Minutes from July 26, 2011
3. Budget Status Report through August 31, 2011
4. Environmental Health Services Reports for July & August 2011
5. Dental Clinic Statistical Reports for July & August 2011
6. Dental Clinic Statistics Spreadsheet From Dr. Curran
7. Draft of Proposed Changes to CCBH By-Laws

The following items were distributed at the meeting:

8. CHHA/PEIP/WIC Report Dated 9/27/11

**CALL TO ORDER**

In the absence of Dr. Sobel, Mr. Roe called the meeting to order at approximately 7:30 PM.

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR JULY 26, 2011 MEETING**

**RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Curran and seconded by Dr. Shore that the minutes of the July 26, 2011 Board of Health meeting be approved and accepted as presented. Motion approved.

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

## **2. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Harry Shepard mentioned that the Budget Status Report through August 31, 2011 was distributed to the CCBH in the mailing prior to the meeting. Mr. Shepard noted that although there is nothing outstanding to report, he did say that we just received word that our fourth quarter 2010 claim has been approved. There were no further questions for Mr. Shepard.

## **3. SERVICES REPORTS**

**A. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES** – Thomas Kump mentioned that reports for July and August 2011 were included in the mailing to BOH members in advance of the meeting. He had nothing further to add to what was presented in the written report. Dr. Howard noted that it was quite interesting to learn of the sensitivity of the radiation monitors at the landfill. There were no questions for Mr. Kump.

**B. CHHA UPDATE & CLINIC ACTIVITIES** –Ms. Lower referred to a report dated 9/27/11 that was distributed just prior to the meeting. She commented that the year-to-date numbers of visits were up over 3,000 compared to this point in 2010 and that August was a blockbuster month. She noted that they did lose one nurse who moved out of the area, but that person has already been replaced and is undergoing indoctrination. Ms. Lower had nothing further to add and there were no further questions for her.

**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. He reported that the dental sealant program is slow in getting off the ground, due mainly to workload issues in the Elmira City School District. Dr. Lax has met with school personnel and hopes to begin in the schools by November 2011. The hygienist that was hired to perform this program has been filling in for a clinic hygienist who has been off on leave. The grant has officially been approved for a five year period in the amount requested. There were no further questions for Mr. Page. Mr. Shepard brought attention to the Financial Report noting the large amount of money reported as having been received for the Dental Clinic. He noted that the APG settlement was received which inflated the receipts for the year. Dr. Curran referred to another dental statistics report that was included in the CCBH packet in advance of the meeting and discussed the information included in the report. He said that the data came from the Community Report found on the CCHD website. It included data on the number of Medicaid patients that received services throughout the year and where they obtained those services from. He noted that more patients received services from private providers than through clinics. Dr. Curran also clarified that the Dental Clinic is a CCHD program whereas the dental certificate program is a community program in which the clinics and private practices are all participants.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**1. TICK IDENTIFICATION SERVICES** – This topic was first discussed at the last regular CCBH meeting. Mr. Page was asked by the CCBH to draft a letter to the Commissioner of the NYSDOH expressing the Board's concerns on the elimination of the tick identification services that had been offered up until July 1, 2011. Dr. Sobel further reviewed the information from the NYSDOH explaining the rationale for the program's discontinuance and made the decision that efforts should be made to find an alternative to the discontinued services versus sending the correspondence to the State. Information on the alternative services was distributed to the various medical practices as well as posted on the CCHD website. Dr. Lenhardt reported that after the July 2011 CCBH meeting, he discussed this topic with staff in the microbiology lab at Arnot Health Services. They researched the program and feel that it is a service that might be able to be provided locally. Dr. Lenhardt requested that the CCBH send correspondence to the Arnot lab informing them of the value that such a service would provide for the community.

**RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Dr. Curran that the CCBH draft a letter to Arnot Health Services requesting that they consider adding the service of tick identification to the services they could provide due to the value it would bring to the community in treating tick-borne diseases. Motion approved.

**AYES:** Richard Madl  
Paul Shore, DDS  
William G. Howard, MD  
Thomas Curran, DDS  
William Roe, PE  
Mary Ann Baker, RN

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Robert Lambert, MD  
Ken Sobel, MD

**NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS** – Mr. Page reminded the CCBH that per the By-Laws, the current Vice President of the CCBH will become the President for the next 2-year term that will commence January 1, 2012 and that the current President needs to appoint a Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee will be chaired by the current Vice President and at least one other member that is appointed by the current President. Ms. Baker has volunteered to be on the Nominating Committee and has thus been duly appointed. The Vice President nominee must be a physician and will be announced at the next regular meeting at which time the election will be held. Also at the December meeting the CCBH must appoint an administrative staff member to take minutes of the meetings for the next 2-year term (2012-2013).
- 2. BY-LAWS REVIEW AND REVISION** – Mr. Page briefed the CCBH on some changes that need to be made to the by-laws and reminded them that if any member has any suggested changes they need to get them to him so that they can be distributed to members for review at least 2 weeks prior to the December

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meeting, at which time the revisions will be voted on. One of the proposed changes is in the title of one of the ex-officio members. The second proposed change is for an issue that came up this week as part of the NYSDOH survey being conducted at the CCHD. It has to do with the review of credentials for the Medical Consultant, Dentists, and any other practitioners that might have privileges to practice at the CCHD. All proposed changes will be considered at the December 2011 CCBH meeting.

- 3. REGIONAL FLOODING IMPACT ON HEALTHCARE SYSTEM** – Mr. Page reported on the widespread impact on hospitals and nursing homes due to the recent storms and flooding. There are patients currently in hospitals that can't be discharged because there simply is no place to discharge them to. A few nursing homes have closed and some may never re-open. Some patients from nursing homes were relocated to a facility's auditorium with nothing more than the clothes on their backs. Due to our proximity to Pennsylvania, some of the problems were due to cross-border transfers. New York State Medicaid reimburses at a greater rate than Pennsylvania Medicaid, so NYS facilities could not take Pennsylvania residents, however, PA facilities were gladly accepting NYS residents. Although there was discussion in advance of this emergency that the NYSDOH would grant waivers to over-bed patients in emergency situations, the NYSDOH was very reluctant and/or unwilling to issue waivers in this situation. All facilities in Chemung County are currently at capacity and probably will be for quite some time. Public Health was not directly impacted with the flooding, but they did provide staff for a clinic to administer DPT shots in Wellsburg which did get flooded. They were prepared to administer 300 doses but only saw about 40 people at the clinic.
- 4. PUBLIC HEALTH WORKS HONOR ROLL AWARD** – Mr. Page informed the CCBH that the CCHD's Public Health Educator Linda Swarthout is the 2011 Honoree for the Public Health Works Honor Roll Award. He noted that in 2010 the CCHD's H1N1 Team was nominated and honored. Ms. Swarthout has been a dedicated employee of the CCHD for many years and has been involved in numerous grants and coalitions in the community. This award is very deserving to say the least. The CCBH discussed a resolution honoring Ms. Swarthout for this award.

**RESOLUTION:** A motion was made by Dr. Curran and seconded by Dr. Howard that the CCBH offers congratulations to Linda Swarthout for being a 2011 Public Health Works Honor Roll Award recipient. The CCBH recognizes and appreciates the hard work and dedication that Ms. Swarthout gives to the Department and the community and feels that this honor could not have been awarded to a more deserving individual. Motion approved.

**AYES:** Richard Madl  
Paul Shore, DDS  
William G. Howard, MD  
Thomas Curran, DDS  
William Roe, PE  
Mary Ann Baker, RN

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** Robert Lambert, MD  
Ken Sobel, MD

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- 5. FLU SEASON PREPARATIONS** – Mr. Page updated the CCBH on the preparations that have occurred in anticipation of the upcoming flu season. There is more than an adequate supply of vaccine for this flu season. The formulation is the same as in 2010. There is no indication yet of how severe this flu season will be. We will be opening flu clinics for the public in the very near future. Staff are being immunized now and an employee fair will be held at the end of October where free flu shots will be offered.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**RESOLUTION:** With no further business to conduct, a motion was made by Dr. Howard and seconded by Ms. Baker that the CCBH be adjourned until the next regular meeting of December 6, 2011. Motion approved.

**AYES:**

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

**NAYS:** None

**ABSENT:** None

The meeting was adjourned at about 8:35 PM.

**Next meeting:**

**Board of Health Meeting  
December 6, 2011 @ 7:30 PM  
Health Department Conference Room**