

## **TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH**

### MEETING MINUTES June 18, 2020

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

#### ATTENDEES:

| BOARD MEMBERS: | J. Picco, DDS, President; R. Kapur-Pado, DO; T. Nytch, DVM; J. Raftis, DO, |
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|                | FACEP; K. Millar, CRNA; M. Hawley, RN, BSN; W. Standinger III, Legislator, |
|                | E. Haray-Butcher MS, CHES  |
| ABSENT:        | T. Hills, DVM, Vice President  |
| STAFF:         | L. McCafferty, R.S., MPH, Public Health Director                           |

Call to Order: 7:30 a.m.

#### INTRODUCTION OF GUEST

Barbara Bilbrey, Supervising Public Health Nurse

#### ADDITIONAL ITEMS

None

#### OLD BUSINESS

- 1) Meeting Minutes: Minutes of February 20, 2020 meeting were sent electronically to members for review. Motion to approve minutes; all in favor, motion passed.
- 2) Enforcements: Reviewed; some discussion regarding stipulations at McDonald's.

#### PRESENTATION

- By Ms. Bilbrey who focused on COVID-19, 150 cases total for Tioga County to date.
- Majority of cases seen attributed to healthcare patient and staff, transmission within congregate care facilities, hospitals, and medical practices.
- We have no spontaneous cases without known direct cause.
- Everything is in house, orders are issued through our office and not through the State Department of Health system. Tioga County is using in-house tracer's, our 15 Public Health staff can maintain compliance and confidentiality.
- Social distancing and wearing masks, complemented with contact tracing and quarantining, have been tools.
  - There is some push back from the public.
- We have had some "perpetual positives," those having no symptoms but still continuously testing as positive.
  - CDC has not yet confirmed if these types of cases are still contagious or not.
  - There is individual variation on how people respond to virus.
    - Some present fever, some present gastrointestinal problems, others remain asymptomatic
    - Message to public is even if you have minimal symptoms contact your medical provider about testing.
- Different messages are being conveyed and it is creating confusion for the public.
- We continuously message with updated information.
  - Can get antibody testing through primary care if requested
    - We are seeing a majority of negative antibody test results.
- Entering a new economic world- lost, changing, revenue streams will entail proactive approaches for future.
- Board asked if there is anything they can do for Public Health
  - Suggested proclamation to acknowledge time and energy our department has given to help the community. Dr. Nytch will draft and send. Legislator Standinger will bring up at Legislative Worksession.

c/o Tioga County Department of Health ~ 1062 State Rt. 38 ~ PO Box 120 ~ Owego, NY 13827



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Ms. Haray-Butcher suggested figuring out a way to message/ communicate what Public Health does, as the public does not understand what our department handles; how we can benefit our community.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

- Review of Final Draft By-Laws:
  - Discussion of a few sections, but all were clarified and remain the same with no edits. 0
  - Motion to approve made by Dr. Kapur-Pado, seconded by Mr. Millar, all in favor to 0 publicize final draft By-Laws.

#### **INFORMATIONAL**

- Lisa McCafferty reviewed agency reports March through May,
  - Addressed new format of report, which highlights Public Health's COVID-19 information. 0
  - To date have generated significant savings due to Early Childhood closures. 0
  - Rabies clinic scheduled for July 23<sup>rd</sup> at Hickories!!
  - Sanitarians have been on site for water and sewage activities.
  - Health Educators are working on prevention programs.
  - In Nursing, other communicable disease is slow, seeing some STDs and occasional tick 0 borne; people are avoiding going to their providers.
  - Public Health is working 7 days a week, all Tioga County employees are back to 0 "normal." Complaints about people not wearing masks. We can enforce businesses that we license (ie. restaurants). Refer other complaints to NY Pause, which relays.
- Email updates to Board of Health Contact List ۰
- Next meeting will be another zoom meeting, August meeting will be cancelled. September meeting will try to hold at Parkview (depending).

Meeting adjourned at 8:45a.m.; Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa McCafferty. Minutes approved July 16, 2020:

Joseph Picco, DDS; President

Lisa C. McCafferty, R.S., MPH; Secretary

