

# PLEASE RSVP TO 607-687-8630

### IF YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

- TO: Members of the Board of Health
- FROM: A. Reigelman, Secretary
- DATE: February 8, 2024
- RE: Board of Health Meeting Thursday, February 15, 2024, 7:30 a.m., Multi-Purpose Conference Room, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor of Health and Human Services Building at 1062 St. Rt. 38, Owego, NY 13827.

#### **REVISED AGENDA**

Introduction of Guests-Susan Medina, Deputy Director of Public Health

Presentation- None

Old Business

- Meeting Minutes
- Enforcements

New Business

- TCPH Audit Summary, Quarter 4 of 2023 (S. Medina)
- Agency Strategic Plan

Informational

- Agency Updates – January 2024

Additional Items

- None

Next Meeting Information

- Next Meeting is on March 21, 2024



#### MEETING MINUTES January 18, 2024

#### BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (All Attended In Person):

W. Simmons, Vice President T. Leary, FNP T. Nytch, DVM J. Raftis, DO, FACEP W. Standinger III, Legislator R. Kapur-Pado, DO (Arrived at 7:36 a.m.)

#### ABSENT:

T. Hills, DVM, President

#### OTHER(S) PRESENT:

H. Vroman, Public Health Director A. Reigelman, Secretary P. DeWind Esq., County Attorney (Arrived at 7:34 a.m.)

GUESTS: None

CALL TO ORDER: at 7:32 a.m. by Mr. Simmons

#### PRESENTATION: N/A

#### ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

- Updated Board of Health Member Binders were distributed to all members. Ms. Vroman explained that the information provided will be helpful material for members to reference. She summarized each section of the binder and requested that if members feel anything else should be included to let her know.
  - Members expressed that it looked comprehensive and will be helpful.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- Meeting Minutes: No discussion; motion to approve prior minutes made by Dr. Raftis; seconded by Dr. Kapur-Pado, all were in favor, none opposed, motion approved.
- Enforcements: Dr. Nytch inquired about the fines associated with the Villages of Waverly and Candor and Town of Barton. Ms. Vroman explained that the stipulations were regarding failure to submit water samples per the sample schedule for coliform and disinfection by-products.
- Environmental Health Hearing Decision: Ms. Vroman briefly summarized the details of the Administrative Hearing that occurred December 5, 2023, which she had informed the Board of during the November meeting. Ms. Vroman presented the Hearing Officer's findings after the hearing, the verdict being that the operator was found guilty of having food under temperature. The original stipulation was modified to be \$225.00, now recommending charging \$1,500.00 (per the fee schedule) and to not allow the operator to permit in Tioga County until this outstanding balance is paid. Ms. Vroman requested that the Board make their final decision of how to proceed with this operator.
  - Ms. Vroman and Board members discussed other options on how to proceed. Ms. Vroman explained that typically upon the Board's decision Tioga County Public Health will send letter to the operator informing them that there was a hearing, offer the new fee and apprise the operator that payment must be received prior to allowing any further permitting in Tioga County.
  - Dr. Nytch noted that the Board should enforce current policies that are in place to maintain a standard of practice.



• Dr. Nytch motioned that the Board proceed with Ms. Vroman's recommendation as described; seconded by Mr. Simmons, all were in favor, none opposed, motion approved.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Standing Committee for Credentialing of Medical Consultant/ Dentist: Ms. Vroman explained that after speaking with Dr. Hills he would like to have a motion made by the Board of Health that there is a standing committee for the purposes of credentialing any Tioga County Public Health Medical Consultants or Dentists and that this committee be made up of the Public Health Director, Board of Health President and a physician on the Board.
  - Mr. Simmons entertained this motion. Motion made by Ms. Leary; seconded by Mr. Standinger, all were in favor, none opposed, motion approved.
- 2024 Calendar: Ms. Vroman presented a proposed 2024 calendar for the Board of Health that
  included regularly scheduled meetings with Public Health Management Team, quarterly quality
  assurance reports from the Medical Consultant/ Ms. Medina, and fiscal updates from Mr.
  McCann. Ms. Vroman stated that this calendar is not permanent, and can be modified at any
  point if needed, especially if the Board would like to add speakers in. Looking for any
  comments/suggestions from members.
  - o Dr. Nytch inquired if breaks in August and December should still be planned.
    - Dr. Kapur-Pado stated that if the Board needed to, could plan to meet during these months.
  - Mr. Simmons added that the Board may want to stay current on the topic of Emergency Services with changes in regulations being made. Board members discussed Emergency Medical Services in Tioga County, ongoing issues, and emerging changes (making it an essential service). May want to have a presentation.
  - Motion made to accept the current proposed calendar made by Mr. Standinger, seconded by Dr. Kapur-Pado.

#### **INFORMATIONAL:** Ms. Vroman shared updates.

- Article 28/Article 36 Legislation Updates: Chapter amendments being made to lesson restrictions for health departments. Will keep the Board updated as legislation moves forward.
- Governor's State of the State address (handed out NYSAC Address). This summary breaks out the address and proposed changes.
  - Yesterday afternoon received an email from NYSACHO detailing certain budget cuts. Will sift through and send members important information.
- Staffing Updates:
  - Filled the Public Health Sanitarian position internally, with employee (Stephen Mastro) who started with Public Health as a Temporary Health Educator through COVID and then moved into the Public Health Fellow position. He has been working on the Wellhead Extension Grant and will be attending a lead inspector training at the end of the month. Huge win!
  - Had an Early Intervention Service Coordinator resign and had to let the other Public Health Fellow go.
  - Promoted Jason Davis to Assistant Director to Administrative Services.
  - Have two new medical consultants-John Zevan, DO and James Skiff, MD that just completed orientations.
    - Dr. Nytch inquired if pay (as discussed at a previous meeting) has changed at all within the County.
      - Ms. Vroman stated that pay has not changed but feel comfortable where we are. Do not anticipate needing to fill the Early intervention Service Coordinator position.
      - At the end of November staff received Public Health Infrastructure Grant incentive (from CDC) which benefitted staff. Our Strategic Plan in connection with the County is in workforce development.
- Held Employee Recognition event offsite at the beginning of December, which was an appreciation luncheon for staff.

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- Tioga Central School District is interested in receiving Narcan. Held a tabletop demonstration for this at the school. We are looking to reach out to other school districts.
- Early Intervention gave out holiday stockings to the children on their caseload. They work with their families to help find them additional resources.
- Health Education and Nursing is increasing outreach to primary care offices. Their outreach discusses immunizations, lead testing rates, and IQIP visits to help encourage immunizations.
- The Management Team finalized Public Health's Strategic Plan; to include: workforce, accessibility, tax payer value, and community partnerships. Currently waiting on staff feedback but will share with the Board at a future meeting.
- Public Health Emergency Preparedness drill is happening today during our Rabies Clinic in Candor. Prior to COVID would give certificates at clinic, during COVID this stopped, but tonight we are making sure people leave with heir certificates. The purpose of the drill is to notify staff and set up the facility.
  - The board discussed Rabies clinics, veterinarians involved. A few members gave compliments for how the clinics are run.
- In process of revamping lead procedures. Peter finished reviewing our Notice and Demand letters. We are making processes more consistent. Also focusing on lead care coordination for children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels as we will most likely be seeing levels get stricter and more regulated.
- COVID After Action Report is almost finalized. We will be able to share with you by next month.
- Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement is still in progress, updating audit tools. One quality improvement project that we hope to have accomplished by end of year is to have the ability for clients to make online payments.
  - Hope to be paperless within a few years.
- Mr. Standinger inquired how it is working having Public Works move the Dental Van for Public Health.
  - Ms. Vroman stated that working with Public Works is fabulous.
  - Mr. Simmons stated that he would be interested in getting an electrical hookup set up for the van to be able to come out to Berkshire/Richford area and asked Ms. Vroman to send specifics about the hookup.
    - Ms. Vroman stated that she would send him the information.
- Dr. Nytch inquired about lead regulations and how they affect the Amish community.
  - Ms. Vroman stated that Public Health only finds out of elevated lead if children are tested, which we do not generally see from the Amish community. Would really only be able to educate. The Board briefly discussed.
- Dr. Raftis inquired if there were any pressing issues or goals that Ms. Vroman would like to take care of/see happen.
  - Ms. Vroman stated that staffing is no longer an issue and we have met all of our 2023 goals (staffing, Article 28 corrective actions met, creating strategic plan). One major goal is to now complete the strategic plan - see what public health services are needed in the community, retaining our workforce.
- The Board discussed the needs of the Northern Tioga part of the County (Berkshire/Richford).

Meeting adjourned at 8:46 A.M.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Reigelman.

Terry Hills, DVM, President

Abigail Reigelman; Secretary

Minutes approved February 15, 2024



### February 2024 Enforcements

Business	<u>Type of</u> <u>Violation</u>	Fine Paid/Date	Repeat Violation(s) within 12 Month Period
Margaret Soprano Soprano's Family Deli 607 Cayuta Ave. Waverly, NY	Food	\$1,250.00 2/2/2024	Yes



### **Tioga County Public Health Department**

Health & Human Services Building | 1062 State Route 38, Owego, NY 13827



Phone: 607-687-8600 | Fax: 607-223-7030 | ph.tiogacountyny.gov Heather Vroman, MSEd., Public Health Director

# AGENCY REPORT

#### December 21, 2023-Janaury 24, 2024

#### **Highlights**

- Stephen Mastro was hired as Public Health Sanitarian from Public Health Fellow at the beginning of the year and has started required trainings in the Environmental Health program.
- We have started contracts with two new medical consultants and are excited for them to be joining our team!
- Our Public Health Emergency Preparedness Team was hard at work planning our PHEP drill for the first quarter. It was decided to combine the PHEP drill with our first rabies clinic of 2024 in Candor, which was a great success. We treated our clinic like a true point of dispensing site and returned to providing clinic attendees with a copy of their rabies certificate onsite. We vaccinated over 70 pets!
- Sue Medina was nominated Employee of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter for 2023!
- We tabled at the Tioga County's Pop-Up Career Fair.
- We have received our brand-new Public Health trailer! This trailer will be a huge help with community events, including our rabies clinics.

#### Health Education

- Met with Rural Health Network to discuss Americorps positions. We are hoping to recruit a Community Health Educator and Environmental Health Educator.
- Created a commercial for the Tioga ASAP Coalition that highlights underage statistics in Tioga County from the most recent survey completed on Tioga County students in grades 8,10 and 12.
- Celebrating Children's Dental Health Month, we held two Toothbrush Fun presentations (with Danny the Dental Dragon) at the Family Resource Center playgroups in Spencer and Candor, both were well attended.
- In Welcome Baby Outreach, we mailed our first set of "Happy Birthday" postcards this month to children turning one. The postcards have a reminder about scheduling a dental appointment, immunizations and a lead test.

#### Environmental Health

- Had a site visit with Regional Office staff from New York State Department of Health Environmental Health Division to be able to meet with the new Regional Office's EH Coordinator and informally review program progress.
- Held a presentation at Tioga Opportunities about bedbug mitigation providing sample products and discussing safe practices.

#### Patient Services (EI, Dental, Clinic)

- Early Intervention (EI) Service Coordinators have started to see an increase in EI referrals. While there is still an ongoing service provider shortage, our service coordinators do provide support and assistance to families and serve as a resource to families to assist with navigating through community services.
- Cold temperatures caused some frozen pipes on the dental van, but with the help of Public Works and Martins Plumbing we were quick to get everything up and running, causing only one day of down time.
- The dental van moved to and finished at Apalachin Elementary and West Learning Center. We have now moved to Owego Elementary. Looking to update our dental software and have attended demonstrations for two new programs, Fuse and Curve.
- We were able to have one of our medical consultants see a couple of patients in our clinic.

#### **Administrative Services**

- Discussed next steps for our Strategic Plan at our last All Staff meeting. Staff will be completing a survey to indicate their interest in proposed projects.
- Made new informational binders for our Board of Health members.
- Ongoing search for a replacement for the One Call Now platform for Emergency Preparedness notifications.

#### **Ongoing Support/Partnerships**

- Allies in Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition
- Child Fatality Review Team
- Family Enrichment Network (Head Start)
- Lourdes PACT Advisory Board
- Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network
- Racker Center
- Rural Economic and Partnership (REAP)
- Rural Health Network
- Safe Harbor Committee
- S2AY Pivotal Partners Finger Lakes

- Team Tioga
- Tioga County Board of Health
- Tioga County Commissioner's Advisory Council
- Tioga County Council of Governments
- Tioga County Immunization Coalition
- Tioga County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC)
- Tioga County Mental Health Sub-Committee
- Tioga County Non-Profit Network
- Tioga Opportunities

#### Attachments:

- 1. Financial Snapshot, YTD thru 12/2023.
- 2. Picture: Sue Medina-Employee of the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2023, January 2024.
- 3. Article: "Column: Celebrate children's dental health month at a Toothbrush Fun presentation," Tioga County Courier, January 24, 2024.
- 4. Flyer: "What the Health!?," January 2024.
- 5. Bulletin Boards: "Antibiotic Resistance," Cervical Cancer, HHS Building, January 2024.
- 6. Bulletin Board: "Stay Safe on the Road this Winter," 56 Main Street, Owego, January 2024.
- 7. Billboards: Germ-Free Wonderland, Smoke Alarm Awareness, and Don't Drink and Drive! Various Locations, January 2024.
- 8. Data Spreadsheet December 21, 2023-January 24, 2024.

	2023 Budget	D23 Budget Actual <sup>*1,2</sup> YTD 2023	
REVENUES			
Fees	1,079,850	753,568	70 %
State/Federal	3,642,862	2,468,664	68 %
Local	3,100,586	2,970,425	96 %
TOTAL	7,823,298	6,192,657	79 %

#### Financial Snapshot Year-to-date through December 2023\*<sup>3</sup>

#### **EXPENSES**

Compensation	2,737,891	2,093,406	76 %
Program Expense	4,561,235	3,755,372	82 %
Core Infrastructure	524,172	343,879	66 %
TOTAL	7,823,298	6,192,657	79 %

#### Allocation of Expenses Year-to-date through December 2023



#### \*Notes:

1. COVID Specific funds have been removed from these tables, as they skew the numbers due to their large amounts. In 2023, over \$1.9 million of Covid funding remains within Public Health. However, very unlikely much of it will be expended.

2. Most of January & February revenue are adjusted back to prior year as payments during this time are for services performed in the prior year. State Aid reimbursement is reported a couple months after each quarter ends.

3. This does NOT represent the FINAL 2023 financials. Reconciliation and Treasurer adjustments will continue for a few months into 2024 before being finalized. Many revenue and expense accruals are expected to be added to the amounts list above.



Sue Medina, Employee of the Fourth Quarter 2023, January 2024

# Column: Celebrate children's dental health month at a Toothbrush Fun presentation Toop Courter 1/24/2024

in partnership with Cornell most common chronic disease Cooperative Extension's Family of childhood. Cavities can cause Resource Centers, will hold three pain and infections and lead to Toothbrush Fun presentations in problems eating, speaking, and January and February.

National Children's Dental Health school and receive lower grades Month promotes the benefits of than children who don't. The good good oral hygiene to children and news is cavities are preventable. their caregivers. According to Teaching children early on to the Centers for Disease Control brush their teeth at least two times

Tioga County Public Health, and Prevention, cavities are the learning. In fact, children with Recognized each February, poor oral health tend to miss more

a day, floss daily, eat a healthy diet, and visit the dentist regularly can help prevent poor oral health.

promote То National Children's Dental Health Month, Tioga County Public Health, in partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension's Family Resource Centers, will hold three Toothbrush Fun presentations in January and February. Toothbrush

continued on page 4

#### Column: Toothbrush Fun continued from page 2

Presentations include story time, an interactive activity, and practice brushing teeth on Danny the Dragon! Toothbrush Fun Locations and Times: ·Candor Library (2 Bank Street, Candor) Tuesday, January 23rd at 10:30am •Berkshire Library (12519 NY-18, Berkshire) Wednesday, February 7th at 10:30am •First Baptist Church (25 Tioga Street, Waverly) Friday, February 9th at 10:30am Participants will receive a new toothbrush and a goodie bag. For more information, or to request a Toothbrush Fun presentation, please call (607) 687-8619.

Article from Tioga County Courier, January 24, 2024





# WHAT IS ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE?

While antibiotic resistance is a naturally occurring process, it can be driven by <u>overuse</u> and <u>misuse</u> of antibiotic and antifungal drugs. When bacteria

are exposed to antibiotics repeatedly, such as when you take a medication needlessly or too frequently,



the germs in your body start to change.

These changes can make the germs stronger than before, so they completely resist the antibiotic making these infections difficult, and sometimes impossible, to treat.

Antibiotic resistance is an urgent global public health threat. It can affect all people, at any stage of life. At least 1.27 million people worldwide die as a result of antibiotic



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# HELP FIGHT ANTIBIOTIC RESISTANCE

Prevent infections in the first place:

resistance each year.

• Wash your hands, keep up to date on all recommended vaccinations, practice safe sex, and prepare food safely.

Improve antibiotic and antifungal use to slow the development of resistance.

· Take antibiotics exactly as prescribed.

If your doctor decides an antibiotic is the best treatment when you are sick:

- Take the medication exactly as your doctor tells you. Don't stop the medication early, even if you start feeling better.
- Do not share your medication with others, save them for later or take antibiotics prescribed for someone else.

Take antibiotics only if you need them. Remember, antibiotics DO NOT work on viruses!

#### Antibiotics are not always the answer.

 It's important to use antibiotics only when they are needed to protect yourself from harms caused by unnecessary antibiotic use and combat antibiotic resistance.

# Cervical Cancer Awareness Month

Cervical cancer is one of the most preventable and treatable types of cancer yet in 2020, more than 600,000 women were diagnosed with cervical cancer worldwide and almost 350,000 died from the disease! The most common cause of cervical cancer is the human papillomavirus (HPV) which can also cause cancer in the back of the throat, anus, vulva, penis, and vagina.

#### Ways to prevent cervical cancer:

· Get vaccinated against HPV



- Boys and girls should get vaccinated starting as early as age 9 to ensure they are protected before they are exposed to HPV.
- Have regular screening tests
  - Talk with your healthcare provider to determine if you are due for your next test.
  - Go back to the doctor if your screening test results are not normal.

Cervical cancer may not exhibit any signs or symptoms, especially in the early-stage. Because it can stay "hidden," it's important to start getting regular <u>cervical</u> <u>cancer screening</u> at age 21, regardless of how old you were when you first had sexual intercourse.

# HPV VACCINE CAN START AT AGE 9

Preteens have a higher immune response to HPV vaccine than older teens.



Follow Tioga County Public Health on Facebook throughout January for Mental Health Mondays! We'll be sharing tips to help you prioritize and improve your mental health.



Bulletin Boards (above & below), HHS Building, Owego, January 2024



# Tioga County 🜍 Public Health



Bulletin Board, 56 Main Street, Owego, January 2024







Billboards, Various Locations, January 2024

# DATA SPREADSHEET

December 21, 2023-January 24, 2024

PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES	<u>Y-E 2022</u>	<u>Y-E 2023</u>	<u>Jan-24</u>	<u>Y-T-D</u>
Community Health				
Communicable Disease	885	2438	631	631
- General Infectious Diseases (Camplyobacterious, Salmonellosis, etc)	N/A	61	161	161
- Zoonotic Diseases (Anaplasmosis, Lyme, etc)	220	375	101	12
- Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (COVID-19, Influenza, etc)	400	1897	450	450
- Hepatitis	89	15	0	0
- PPD Test Administered	0	6	1	1
Child Passenger Safety Seats Inspected	40	47	3	3
- Child Seats FAILED Inspection	31	36	3	3
Immunizations total child and adult	35	62	2	2
Children Lead Tested (6 years and under)	712	913	65	65
Newly Identified Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels	N/A	22	2	2
Current Children with EBLL Caseload	NA	NA	31	31
- Welcome Baby Packets Mailed	N/A	77	40	40
People Trained w/ Narcan	1	145	0	0
Opioid Overdose Reporting Forms received	3	3	0	0
Dental				
New Clients	340	311	20	20
Dental Screenings	1120	1141	76	76
- Clients with Low Decay Risk	265	374	24	24
-Clients with Moderate Decay Risk	496	419	26	26
- Clients with High Decay Risk	347	344	26	26
Extractions	100	102	4	4
Children Services				
Early Intervention Referrals	148	206	19	19
- Early Intervention CURRENT Caseload *Monthly total	N/A	N/A	44	N/A
- EI children waiting for service(s)	N/A	N/A	3	N/A
Preschool				
- Children in tuition based program	NA	N/A	33	N/A
- Children receiving transportation services under Serafini contract	NA	N/A	20	N/A
- Children receiving transportation by parents	N/A	N/A	13	N/A
Child Find				
- Current Children being served	N/A	N/A	16	N/A

Environmental Health				
Animal bite investigations	153	198	15	15
Rabies Clinics	7	8	1	1
- Number of Animals Vaccinated	1012	1098	74	74
Food Establishment Inspections	151	247	9	9
Temporary Food Inspections	57	66	0	0
Clean Indoor Air Act Complaints (Smoking)	6	0	0	0
Mobile Home Park Inspections	12	37	1	1
Swimming Pool Inspections	18	11	0	0
ATUPA Checks (Underage Tobacco Sales)	70	108	0	0
- ATUPA Violations	2	3	0	0
Wellhead Replacement Projects In Progress	N/A	N/A	5	5
Wellhead Replacement Projects Completed	N/A	N/A	4	4
Children's Camps	8	7	0	0
Agriculture Fairgrounds	2	2	0	0
Nuisance Complaints	16	7	0	0
Enforcement Actions	29	72	2	2
Weights & Measures				
Inspection Sites	123	110	12	12
-Devices Inspected	475	604	42	42
Training Hrs/Equipment Maintenance	24	27	0	0