



## TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

**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: July 17, 2024

RE: Board of Health Meeting - Thursday, July 18, 2024, 7:30 a.m.,  
**Meeting Conducted at:**  
Health and Human Services Building, **2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room B**, 1062 St.  
Rt. 38, Owego, NY 13827.  
**Videoconferencing at:**  
2382 Bodle Hill Rd., Owego, NY 13827  
12 Beechwood Lane, Owego, NY 13827

### REVISED AGENDA

#### Introduction of Guests-

- Laura Bennett, Public Health Educator

#### Presentation- Tioga County Public Health Lead Program

#### Old Business

- Meeting Minutes
- Enforcements
- Tioga Casting Property Update

#### New Business

- Sanitary Code Revision Approval
- Fee Schedule Discussion

#### Informational

- Agency Updates –June 2024

#### Additional Items

- None

#### Next Meeting Information

- **REMINDER: No meeting in August**
- Next Meeting is on September 19, 2024

# TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

## MEETING MINUTES June 20, 2024

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

T. Hills, DVM, President  
W. Simmons, Vice President  
R. Kapur-Pado, DO (Arrived at 7:34 a.m.)  
T. Leary, FNP (Departed at 8:59 a.m.)  
T. Nytch, DVM  
J. Raftis, DO, FACEP  
W. Standinger III, Legislator (Arrived at 7:37 a.m.)

### **ABSENT:**

None

### **OTHER(S) PRESENT:**

H. Vroman, Public Health Director  
A. Reigelman, Secretary  
P. DeWind Esq., County Attorney (Arrived at 7:39 a.m.)

### **GUESTS:**

Katie Wait, Public Health Educator and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator (Departed at 8:04 a.m.)

**CALL TO ORDER:** at 7:32 a.m. by Dr. Hills.

**PRSEENTATION:** Ms. Vroman introduced guest speaker Ms. Katie Wait who presented the Tioga County Public Health COVID-19 After Action Report (AAR). Distributed copies of the full report to members and shared electronic presentation. Ms. Wait discussed the process for creating the COVID AAR from its beginning in the summer of 2023 and finalizing it by January 2024. It was needed as a means to capture Public Health's pandemic response. Information was gathered from staff survey responses, internal facilitated discussion responses as well as facilitated discussions with external key informants. Results found showcased Public Health's strengths (communication, case investigation, contact tracing) and areas for improvement (enforcement, testing, plan/ICS use) through the pandemic, and with that formulated an Improvement Plan with corrective actions to be able to bridge the gap and see how Public Health can do better next time.

The Board commended Ms. Wait on her work in this effort. Discussed various frustrations felt during the pandemic as well as the "digital divide" within the community and how to handle in the case of another pandemic. The Board complimented Public Health on the running of vaccination clinics, which Ms. Vroman attributed to Ms. Wait as she was primarily responsible for coordinating.

Brief discussion of why the County did not have testing early in the pandemic. Ms. Vroman explained that Public Health did not have the correct testing license at that time. Currently have correct licensure.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- Meeting Minutes: No discussion; motion to approve prior minutes made by Ms. Leary; seconded by Dr. Kapur-Pado, all were in favor, none opposed, motion approved.
- Enforcements: Ms. Vroman provided additional information on enforcements. Explanation provided for difference between low, medium and high-risk establishments and how often they are inspected.
- Rabies Order: Dr. Hills sent revised order to the Board electronically prior to the meeting. Mr. Simmons commended Dr. Hills efforts in revising the order. Ms. Vroman noted that she had a recent conversation with another individual who was concerned about the rabies vaccine killing pigs, adding that public comment may be received on this. Dr. Hills stated that Tioga County is

## TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

not unique in asking that pigs get vaccinated, confirmed with the State Department of Agriculture and Markets that is the State Fair's protocol as well (all livestock are to be vaccinated).

- Motion to approve revised rabies order made by Mr. Simmons; seconded by Dr. Kapur-Pado, all were in favor, none opposed, motion approved. Prior to signing the approved order, it will be posted on the Tioga County Public Health website for fourteen days for public feedback. An email will be provided to be able to respond to.
- Dr. Raftis noted that he had a conversation with Tioga County Fair Board representative who was very pleased with how approachable the Board of Health was on this matter.
- Sanitary Code Update: Ms. Vroman, Mr. Scherrer (Director of Environmental health), Mr. Kopalek (Supervising Public Health Sanitarian), and Board of Health subcommittee members (Mr. Simmons, Dr. Nytech, and Legislator Standing) have had two meetings so far to be able to review Article 1-6 of the Sanitary Code. Ms. Vroman noted that no significant recommendations have been made so far. In Article 2, had questions for County Attorney DeWind. Will be working on Article 7-15 and then will be complete with the review. Ms. Vroman inquired if the Board would prefer that the subcommittee bring the fully revised Sanitary Code to the Board for adoption or to send portions of the Sanitary Code in advance for review. The Board agreed that receiving sections in advance to review would be better. Ms. Vroman will compile what has been revised so far and put in a format to easily read and will send to the Board.

### **NEW BUSINESS:** None

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** All seven Board of Health members were in attendance as well as Ms. Vroman, County Attorney DeWind and Ms. Reigelman. Motion made by Mr. Simmons, seconded by Ms. Leary, to move to Executive session to discuss a matter which will imperil the public safety if disclosed at 8:24 a.m. Motion carried. Motion made by Mr. Simmons to adjourn Executive session at 9:20 a.m. Motion carried.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Post Executive Session-Ms. Vroman recommended issuing an order after receiving more information. Either the Board of Health or Public Health Director can issue. Would have to call an emergency meeting session of the Board, which in By-Laws states must have 14 days' notice. County Attorney DeWind noted that notice can be bypassed under certain circumstances, added that the Public Health Director can get Board by-in by email for ratification or in person at next meeting. The Board shared support for calling emergency session if needed.

### **INFORMATIONAL:**

- In Public Health News- Article 28 changes and certificate of needs to come, Ms. Vroman will share information when received.
- Staffing- Mr. Scherrer is in his new position and new Public Health Educator and Office Specialist III have started.
- Administrative Hearing is scheduled for July.
- Have been meeting with community partners for Strategic Plan, including the Mayor of Waverly, Southern Tier Aids Program, Director of A New Hope Center and new Director of Cornell Cooperative Extension.
- Held a Management Retreat to be able to discuss and look at the future of the department.
- In Progress Tasks-
  - Looking at the efficiency in rabies investigations and providing rabies post exposure prophylaxis (RPEP). Public Health Nurse has been doing outreach to emergency departments to educate on protocol for RPEP. Seeing an uptick in rabies cases and an increase in people needing RPEP. Need to spread education to the public on this as well.
  - Very close to accepting electronic payments.
  - Transitioning to electronic forms to be more user friendly.



# TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

Meeting adjourned at 9:34 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Abigail Reigelman.

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Terry Hills, DVM, President

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Abigail Reigelman; Secretary

Minutes approved July 18, 2024

DRAFT



July 2024 Enforcements

<u>Business</u>	<u>Type of Violation</u>	<u>Fine Paid/Date</u>	<u>Repeat Violation(s) within 12 Month Period</u>
JSK20 Inc. John's Fine Food 88 North Ave. Owego, NY	ATUPA	\$300.00 6/26/2024	No
Jonathan Bump Links at Hiawatha Landing 2350 Marshland Rd. Apalachin, NY	Water	\$150.00 6/27/2024	No
Charles Otto Tioga Downs Day Care 2384 River Rd. Nichols, NY 13812	Water	\$200.00 7/8/2024	No



## 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](http://ph.tiogacountyny.gov)

Heather Vroman, MEd., Public Health Director



# AGENCY REPORT

May 23 -June 19, 2024

### Highlights

- Updates in staffing: we welcomed our new Office Specialist III, Betti Dow and Public Health Educator, Kristin Russell!
- A few members of our team distributed water during the Strawberry Fest 5K Race. Public Health lawn signs were put up for runners and spectators to read to help get our regular messages out to this audience.
- We hosted a Lead Renovator training sponsored by Cornell University, seven attendees became certified in the EPA's Lead Renovation, Repair, and Painting Program. This certification is required for any work that may disturb lead-based paint in homes built before 1978.
- We held and facilitated a Tioga County School Nurses meeting, which had 10 nurses attend! During this meeting we presented public health updates, immunizations, communicable diseases and dental services.
- Summer Safety Guides for 2024 were delivered to Tioga County elementary schools.

### Health Education

- Held a Child Safety Seat Check Event in partnership with Family Resource Center at the Inspire S-VE Community Center. A total of 14 seats were inspected and 5 car seats were replaced.
- Presented and demonstrated child car seat safety to DSS CPS staff.
- Attended the Statewide Harm Reduction Symposium with representative from Tioga County Mental Hygiene which was great way to connect with other health departments and their partners throughout New York State.
- For Creating Healthy School and Communities grant, met with Newark Valley School District to discuss partnering in Years 4 & 5 of the grant.
- Attended Senior Social Hour in Waverly and Berkshire to provide tick outreach as part of the NYSACHO Climate Grant.
- Our Emergency Preparedness Coordinator presented to Board of Health on the COVID After Action report. COVID-19 After Action Reports were mailed out to our Key Informants.

### Environmental Health

- Held Rabies Vaccination clinic at Hickories Park, vaccinating 170 pets. Stray Haven partnered and provided 53 distemper/parvo vaccines.
- Environmental Health and Care Coordination completed two home visits for children with elevated lead levels.
- Hosted a water operator training at Health and Human Services.
- EH staff have met with various New York State representatives to discuss various aspects of the environmental health program updating our processes in water inspections, children's camp inspections, lead investigations, etc.

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

- Dental Van provided toothbrushes for the children attending the summer Sheriffs camp along with water bottles and sunglasses.
- Dental Van finished services at Spencer- Van Etten School District.
- Our PHN continues to educate our providers on post rabies exposure prophylaxis.

- Early Intervention continues to have a provider shortage. We send waitlists to providers making them aware of children in need of services. Service Coordinators continue to offer parents guidance and support to assure children get high quality case management.
- We met with staff from the NYSDOH Regional Office. This was an introductory meeting for our staff, during which they met several new public health nurses working with us on several programs, including Lead Poisoning Prevention, Newborn Screenings, and maternal-child health initiatives.

### **Administrative Services**

- Deputy Director participated in the Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management (B-TAM) training hosted by Tioga County Emergency Services.
- Quality improvement initiatives continue to develop. The current QI project, which is evaluating the animal bite investigation documentation and oversight, is in the evaluation stage. Due to the QI process, we have made several improvements to forms, tracking, and communicating with pet owners.
- In meeting our Strategic Plan goals, we conducted several meetings with community partners to re-establish our partnerships, present our current initiatives, and hear about their concerns and thoughts on public health challenges in the community. Partners PHD met with include A New Hope Center and Cornell Cooperative Extension-Tioga.
- PHD is leading subcommittee made up of internal staff and Board of Health members to update the Tioga County Sanitary Code.
- Management Team met to discuss programs and budget planning for 2025.

### **Ongoing Support/Partnerships**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| - Allies in Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition                  | - Rural Health Network                                   |
| - Child Fatality Review Team                                      | - Safe Harbor Committee                                  |
| - Family Enrichment Network (Head Start)                          | - S2AY Pivotal Partners Finger Lakes                     |
| - Lourdes PACT Advisory Board                                     | - Team Tioga   |
| - Mothers and Babies Perinatal Network                            | - Tioga County Board of Health                           |
| - New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) | - Tioga County Commissioner's Advisory Council           |
| - New York State Association for Rural Health (NYSARH)            | - Tioga County Council of Governments                    |
| - New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC)                  | - Tioga County Immunization Coalition                    |
| - Racker Center   | - Tioga County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) |
| - Rural Economic and Partnership (REAP)                           | - Tioga County Mental Health Sub-Committee               |
|   | - Tioga County Non-Profit Network                        |
|   | - Tioga Opportunities                                    |

#### Attachments:

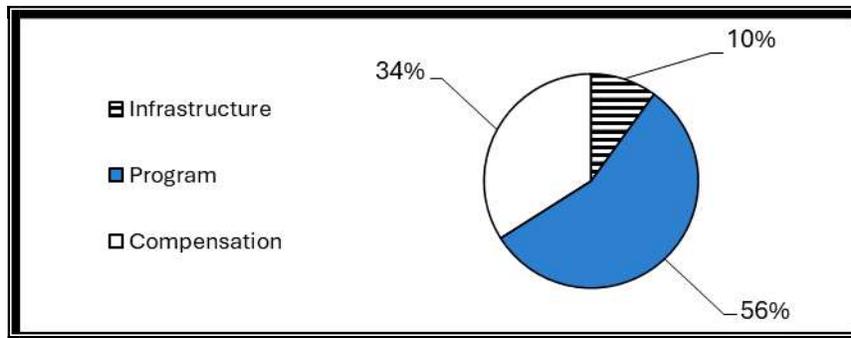
1. Financial Snapshot, YTD thru 5/2024.
2. Picture: Public Health Staff at Hickories Rabies Clinic, June 6, 2024
3. Picture: Public Health Staff at 2024 Strawberry Fest 5K, June 13, 2024
4. Flyer: "What the Health!?", June 2024.
5. Bulletin Boards: "Cute Yes, Rabies Maybe" & Message to 2024 Graduates, Health & Human Services Building, Owego, June 2024.
6. Bulletin Board: Don't Get Sick from a Tick, 56 Main Street, Owego, June 2024.
7. Billboards: "Don't Get Sick from a Tick" & "Cute Yes, Rabies Maybe," June 2024.
8. Data Spreadsheet May 23- June 19, 2024.

**Financial Snapshot  
Year-to-date through May 2024\*1**

	<b>Budget 2024</b>	<b>Actual YTD 2024</b>	<b>Percentage of 2024 Budget</b>
<b>REVENUES</b>			
Fees	1,137,608	211,480	19 %
State/Federal	3,673,559	75,820	2 %
Local	3,394,573	2,187,719	64 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,205,200</b>	<b>2,475,019</b>	<b>30 %</b>

<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Compensation	2,727,487	841,025	31 %
Program Expense	4,952,648	1,389,613	28 %
Core Infrastructure	525,065	244,381	47 %
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,205,200</b>	<b>2,475,019</b>	<b>30 %</b>

**Allocation of Expenses  
Year-to-date through May 2024**



**\*Notes:**

1. 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.



Hickories Park, Owego  
Rabies Clinic June 6, 2024



2024 Strawberry Fest 5K, June 13, 2024



# What the Health!?

June 2024

## JUNE IS MEN'S HEALTH MONTH

### VISIT YOUR PCP!

Schedule your annual check-up with your primary care provider. If you don't have a PCP, get one!

### ASK FOR HELP!

Men are more likely to die from suicide. Seeking help is not a sign of weakness, and it could save your life!

### LIMIT ALCOHOL!

Limiting alcohol intake can lower your risk of heart disease, cancer, and unintentional injury.

### TAKE PRECAUTIONS!

Wear a seat belt, follow traffic safety laws, drink responsibly, and wear a helmet when riding a motorcycle or bike.



Child Safety Seat Check Event!

Wednesday, June 12th

11:30am - 1:30pm

Inspire S-VE Community & Fitness Center

57 East Tioga Street, Spencer, NY

# SUMMER

## TIPS FOR A SAFE, FUN SUMMER!

### A

#### APPLY SUNSCREEN

Apply sunscreen with at least SPF 15 before going outside. Cover all areas of exposed skin.

### F

#### LOATATION DEVICE

Use a floatation device, such as a life jacket, if you are not a strong swimmer and while boating. Never swim alone.

### E

#### XERCISE SAFELY

If exercising outside, exercise in the morning or evening to beat the heat! Wear a helmet when riding anything with wheels.

### T

#### ICKBORNE ILLNESS

Check for ticks after coming in from outside. Avoid tall grass, leaf litter, and woody/brushy areas!

### y

#### IELD TO TRAFFIC

Pay attention and stay off your phone/electronic device when crossing busy streets or congested areas.

## CUTE, YES! RABIES? MAYBE!



## DON'T PET OR FEED UNFAMILIAR ANIMALS!

### RABIES VACCINATION CLINIC!

Thursday, June 6th, 2024

5:30pm - 7:30pm

Hickories Park in Owego



Pre-register: [ph.tiogacountyny.gov](http://ph.tiogacountyny.gov) / \$10 suggested donation



Large Bulletin Board: HHS Building, June 2024



Small Bulletin Board, HHS Building, June 2024

**Tioga County Public Health**

## DON'T GET SICK FROM A TICK!

### TICKBORNE ILLNESS IS ON THE RISE IN TIOGA COUNTY!

When you think of tickborne illness you probably think Lyme Disease, however, Lyme is just one of many tickborne illnesses and they can all have devastating effects on the body. In our area, Lyme Disease, Anaplasmosis, Babesiosis, Ehrlichiosis, and even Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever have been reported!

Tickborne Illness	2023	2022
Anaplasmosis	19	40
Babesiosis	4	11
Ehrlichiosis	1	0
Lyme Disease	49	179
Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever	2	13
<b>Total Cases Reported</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>243</b>

**SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF TICKBORNE ILLNESS**

- Fever/Chills
- Aches and Pains
- Rash

Many tickborne illnesses do not have similar signs and symptoms. If you get a tick bite and develop these symptoms within a few weeks, see your healthcare provider.

**PREVENT TICK BITES**

How many ticks expect ticks? Ticks live in grassy, brushy, or wooded areas. Avoid these areas whenever possible. Avoid contact with ticks by walking in the center of trails.

Wear clothing and gear. Products containing DEET are available to use to treat boots, clothing, and camping gear.

Use EPA-registered insect repellents.

Check your clothing, gear, and pets for ticks. You can tumble dry clothes in a dryer on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks on dry clothing.

Shower soon after being outdoors to wash off unattached ticks. Showering is also a good time to do a tick check.

Check your whole body for ticks after being outside or have someone else help check hard to see areas.

**TICK REMOVAL**

- Use clean, fine-tipped tweezers to grasp the tick as close to the skin's surface as possible.
- Pull upward with steady, even pressure. Don't twist or jerk the tick.
- After removing the tick, thoroughly clean the bite area and your hands with rubbing alcohol or soap and water.
- Never crush a tick with your fingers. Dispose of a live tick by putting it in alcohol, flushing it in a toilet, or wrapping it tightly in tape or placing it inside a sealed bag/container.

Learn more at [ph.tiogacounty.gov](http://ph.tiogacounty.gov)

Bulletin Board: 56 Main Street, Owego, June 2024



Billboards, Various Locations, June 2024

# DATA SPREADSHEET

May 23- June 19, 2024

<b>PUBLIC HEALTH ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>Y-E 2022</b>	<b>Y-E 2023</b>	<b>May-24</b>	<b>Jun-24</b>	<b>Y-T-D</b>
<b>Community Health</b>					
Communicable Disease	885	2438	99	61	1776
- General Infectious Diseases (Campylobacterious, Salmonellosis, etc)	N/A	61	4	5	250
- Zoonotic Diseases (Anaplasmosis, Lyme, etc)	220	375	36	42	151
- Vaccine-Preventable Diseases (COVID-19, Influenza, etc)	400	1897	50	13	1316
- Hepatitis	89	15	0	0	8
- PPD Test Administered	0	6	0	0	1
Child Passenger Safety Seats Inspected	40	47	1	16	26
- Child Seats FAILED Inspection	31	36	0	15	24
Immunizations total child and adult	35	62	1	0	13
Children Lead Tested (6 years and under)	712	913	61	78	426
Newly Identified Children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels	N/A	22	0	1	6
Current Children with EBLL Caseload	N/A	N/A	34	34	N/A
- Welcome Baby Packets Mailed	N/A	77	20	20	153
People Trained w/ Narcan	1	145	11	0	11
Opioid Overdose Reporting Forms received	3	3	0	1	3
<b>Dental</b>					
New Clients	340	311	24	28	148
Dental Screenings	1120	1141	71	103	559
- Clients with Low Decay Risk	265	374	28	38	222
-Clients with Moderate Decay Risk	496	419	15	30	124
- Clients with High Decay Risk	347	344	29	35	215
Extractions	100	102	11	14	66
<b>Children Services</b>					
Early Intervention Referrals	148	206	13	14	91
- Early Intervention CURRENT Caseload *Monthly total	N/A	N/A	37	36	N/A
- EI children waiting for service(s)	N/A	N/A	2	3	N/A
<b>Preschool</b>					
- Children in tuition based program	N/A	N/A	34	36	N/A
- Children receiving transportation services under Serafini contract	N/A	N/A	22	21	N/A
- Children receiving transportation by parents	N/A	N/A	12	15	N/A
<b>Child Find</b>					
- Current Children being served	17	N/A	16	15	N/A
<b>Environmental Health</b>					
Animal bite investigations	153	198	25	30	113
- Individuals requiring Rabies Series (N)	7	2	17	1	31

Rabies Clinics	7	8	1	1	5
- Number of Animals Vaccinated	1012	1098	112	171	860
Food Establishment Inspections	151	247	12	13	114
Temporary Food Inspections	57	66	6	23	29
Clean Indoor Air Act Complaints (Smoking)	6	0	1	0	1
Mobile Home Park Inspections	12	37	1	3	14
Swimming Pool Inspections	18	11	1	3	4
ATUPA Checks (Underage Tobacco Sales)	70	108	0	37	72
- ATUPA Violations	2	3	0	1	2
Wellhead Replacement Projects In Progress	N/A	N/A	13	8	56
Wellhead Replacement Projects Completed	N/A	N/A	3	9	21
Children's Camp Inspections	8	7	0	5	5
Agriculture Fairground Inspections	2	2	0	0	0
Nuisance Complaints	16	7	1	2	5
Enforcement Actions	29	72	2	8	24
<b>Weights &amp; Measures</b>					
Inspection Sites	123	110	16	20	90
-Devices Inspected	475	604	43	22	133
Training Hrs/Equipment Maintenance	24	27	4	16	30