

CATTARAUGUS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH



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David L. Smith, Mayor
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Donna Vickman, LPN

MINUTES May 4, 2022

The 904th meeting of the Cattaraugus County Board of Health (BOH) was held at the Old Library Restaurant on May 4, 2022.

The following members were present:

Joseph Bohan, MD Sondra Fox, RN, MSN, C.S.

Zahid Chohan, MD

Legislator Kelly Andreano

Kathryn Cooney-Thrush, NP, MSN

Theresa Raftis

Mayor David Smith

Donna Vickman, LPN

Also present were:

Kevin D. Watkins, MD, MPH, Public Health Director

Erin Whitcomb, Assistant County Attorney (virtual)

Alyssa Dean, Fellow

Brenda Hanson, Resident (virtual)

Ray Jordan, Senior Public Health Sanitarian

Debra Lacher, Secretary to the Public Health Director

James Lawrence, Emergency Preparedness Director

Collette Lulay-Pound, Administrative Officer

Rick Miller, Olean Times Herald Reporter (virtual)

Barb Parish, Supervising Community Health Nurse

Dave Porter, Hearing Officer

Bob Ring, Environmental Health Director

Legislator Chairman, Howard VanRensselaer

Traci Wind, Health Educator Asst.

Gilbert Witte, MD, Medical Director

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Bohan. The roll was called and a quorum was present. Dr. Bohan asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from April 13, 2022. A motion to approve the Board of Health (BOH) meeting minutes from April 13, 2022 was made by Dr. Chohan, seconded by Ms. Raftis, and unanimously approved.

DIRECTORS REPORT: Dr. Watkins updated the Board on the 2022 County Health rankings. The County Health rankings are produced by the University of Wisconsin and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. The population in Cattaraugus County continues to decline due to an aging population, and youth graduating and moving on to other counties/states because of the limited number of jobs in the area. The county health rankings are based on two major factors. One is the health outcome and the second is the health factors. Health outcomes have two measures, one is the mortality (length of life) and the second is morbidity (quality of life).

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Mortality is measured in years of potential life lost. Based on the County Health Rankings, life expectancy is age (75), and if a resident dies prior to age (75), then the resident adds to the community's years of potential life lost. In 2021 and 2022 the years of potential life lost in Cattaraugus County was (7,600) and (8,200) respectively compared to New York State (NYS) where the years of potential life lost in the same years were (5,400) and (6,000) respectively. In 2022 COVID deaths were added into the mortality measure where previously it had not been. The five most common causes behind the years of potential lives loss for Cattaraugus County include cancer, heart disease, unintentional injury, chronic lower respiratory disease, and diabetes. Based on the 2022 County Health Rankings, Cattaraugus County ranked 58/62 in length of life.

The second criteria of the health outcome is morbidity or quality of life which is based on how people look at themselves as a community including their physical, mental, emotional and social health from birth to adulthood.

There are four measures that are used when evaluating the quality of life of a community. They include: 1) Poor or fair health, 2) Poor physical health, 3) Poor mental health, and 4) low birthweight. Based on the 2022 County Health Rankings, Cattaraugus County ranked 61/62 in quality of life.

Overall, based on the 2022 County Health Rankings Cattaraugus County ranked 60/62 for health outcomes.

Health factors are the second portion of how the county health rankings are produced. There are four measures; health behaviors, clinical care, social and economic factors and physical environment.

Health behaviors include tobacco use, obesity, alcohol impairment deaths, and sexual activity. Based on the 2022 County Health Rankings, Cattaraugus County ranked 56/62 in health behaviors.

Clinical care includes the number of primary care physicians, dentists, mental health providers that are in the community, mammography screenings, flu vaccinations and preventable hospital stays. Based on the 2022 County Health Rankings, Cattaraugus County ranked 59/62 in clinical care.

Social economic factors include high school education, some college, unemployment, children in poverty, income inequality, children in single-parent households, social associations, violent crime, and injury deaths. Based on the 2022 County Health Rankings, Cattaraugus County ranked 55/62 in social economic factors.

Physical environments include air pollution-particulate matter, drinking water violations, severe housing problems, driving alone to work and long commute-driving alone; Based on the 2022 County Health Rankings, Cattaraugus County ranked 55/62 in physical environments.

Overall, based on the 2022 County Health Rankings, Cattaraugus County ranked 59/62 for health factors.

Dr. Watkins concluded by stating that Cattaraugus was ranked among the least healthy counties in New York State (Lowest 0%-25%).

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Factors leading to this poor health ranking includes: preventable chronic diseases such as heart disease, cancer, chronic lower respiratory disease and strokes leads to premature deaths and plays a significant part in the overall poor health outcome of the Cattaraugus County community. Tobacco use, obesity, excessive drinking are some other things that contribute to premature deaths. Changing the culture of the community will be slow but working together and changing health outcome policies may help place people in the right trajectory to lead healthier lives.

Dr. Chohan asked what made up air pollution-particulate matter, Dr. Watkins responded that pollutant particles should have an aerodynamic daily diameter reading of less than 2.5 micrometers when measured, Cattaraugus County daily particulate matter measured 7.3 micrometers. These particulate matters come from diesel buses, engine idling for passenger vehicles and school buses, driving to work alone, and soil cultivation to name a few.

This year influenza virus cases have begun to rise late in the season. Since April 23rd, there has been (3) consecutive weeks of widespread activity in NYS. In Cattaraugus County from October 1st to May 3rd there has been (181) cases of influenza; (161) were influenza A and (20) cases were influenza B. Influenza activity throughout NYS as of date continues to be very high.

Dr. Watkins presented a COVID-19 update to the Board, he stated that the number of positive cases have started to increase in Cattaraugus County, NYS, and the United States. The new variants that are prevalent throughout NYS include the omicron variant BA.2 and the omicron sub-variants of BA.2.12 and BA.2.12.1. He stated that it is expected that these variants will continue to emerge and we will have to learn to live with them. As of date, there has been (18,990) positive cases, of which (1,729) were self-reported, and (18,500) cases have recovered which gives us a (97%) recovery rate. There have been (247) deaths which is a (1.3%) death rate due to COVID-19. The age group of 19 and under appears to be the age group that has the highest number of positive cases. At least (57%) of the residents have received at least one vaccine dose and (22,012) residents have been boosted, of which, (1,839) residents have received a second booster. In June, the FDA committee will review data for vaccine for children ages 6 month-5 years of age. They will also meet to see if the current COVID vaccines need to be redesigned to target mutations of the virus.

ENFORCEMENT LIST: Mr. Porter, Hearing Administrator Officer reported on the administrative hearing held April 12, 2022.

DOCKET #22-005:

Respondent: Spencer Murray, 8708 State Rd. Colden, NY, 14033.

Violations: 10NYCRR 14-1.90(a) "Your Chef" is operating as a caterer in Cattaraugus County without having a permit to operate as required by 10NYCRR 14-1.90(a).

Recommendation: The \$150.00 civil compromise offered be changed to a \$150.00 fine which was paid on 4/25/22. The respondent must show proof of completing a certified manager training course and obtain a permit to operate prior to operating in Cattaraugus County.

A motion was made by Ms. Raftis to accept Mr. Porter's recommendation, seconded by Dr. Chohan, and unanimously approved.

DOCKET #22-008:

Respondent: George Burlingame, 1892 Four Mile Rd., Allegany, NY 14706.

Violations: 10NYCRR Sec.17.11 (a) (3) failure to correct the violation of refuse (debris on the ground of Lot 10 by 1/31/22 per violation letter dated 1/12/22).

Recommendation: The \$50.00 civil compromise offered be changed to a \$50.00 fine and then doubled to \$100.00 for not appearing after being properly served. Failure to fix the violation and pay the \$100.00 fine on or before 5/31/22 will result in; a \$10.00 per day per diem for every day not in compliance.

A motion was made by Mayor Smith to accept Mr. Porter's recommendation, seconded by Dr. Chohan, and unanimously approved.

DOCKET #22-009:

Respondent: Todd Boser, 1859 Four Mile Rd., Allegany, NY 14706 DBA Bonaview Mobile Home Park (MHP).

Violations: Sanitary code of the CCHD Sec. 8.4 & 10NYCRR Sec. 17.10. Respondent failed to submit a full electrical inspection of the park, performed by a certified electrical inspector by 12/15/21 per permit to operate condition. 10NYCRR Sec. 17.10 failed to correct violation of misc. debris/garbage and discarded furniture throughout park by 12/31/21 per permit to operate condition.

10NYCRR Sec. 17.11 (b) failed to correct violation of waste tires by 12/31/21 per permit to operate condition.

Recommendation: The respondent be given until 6/30/22 to be in total compliance of the inspection 10/27/21, the conditions on the permit to operate #1-#3 effective date 11/1/21 and carried over to a temporary permit to operate dated 5/1/22 to 7/31/22. The 6/30/22 is a hard date and must be met.

Failure to be in compliance will result in a \$500.00 fine and failure to be able to gain a permit to operate. The fine would have to be paid on or before 7/31/22 and the MHP commence closing procedures without a permit to operate.

A motion was made by Ms. Cooney-Thrush to accept Mr. Porter's recommendation, seconded by Legislator Andreano and unanimously approved.

NURSING DIVISION REPORT: Barb Parish, shared that the current homecare census is (260) for the month of April there were (118) admissions, and (119) discharges. The department is currently interviewing for RN, and Community Health Nurse (CHN) positions.

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In the lead program there were (3) newly confirmed cases of children with Elevated Blood Lead Levels (EBLL), [normal <5ug/dl]. Those blood lead levels were (5.2ug/dl), (6ug/dl); and (7ug/dl). The total lead caseload is (108), of which, (57) are ongoing investigations with lead levels ranging from (5ug/dl-26ug/dl), with the average level being (8ug/dl).

In the clinic, HIV testing for the month of April included (16) tests performed with no positives.

Communicable diseases for last month, included (1) case of campylobacteriosis, (10) cases of chlamydia; (4) cases of gonorrhea; (6) cases of chronic Hepatitis C; (1) unconfirmed case of Hepatitis B; There were (20) influenza A's, (1) influenza B; (5) probable Lyme's; (1) group strep A invasive; and (2) syphilis cases.

There was (1) post exposure rabies prophylaxis administered, for treatment of a dog bite. Additionally (40) other vaccines were administered in the clinic for various children and adult immunizations.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT: Mr. Ring shared that the environmental health division has been representing the county at public outreach events including the Olean Home Show, and the Franklinville Maple festival last month.

There is an upcoming free rabies vaccination clinic for dogs, cats, and ferrets. This will be held May 7th from 9am-11am, at the Little Valley County DPW Garage.

This year there will be a mosquito surveillance program. The department will bring on (2) program aides, college students to conduct the surveillance mainly along the Allegany River flood plain. Last year the department conducted aerial larvicide and adulticide throughout the county. A horse tested positive for both West Nile Virus (WNV) and Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) within the county, and mosquito populations were high.

Through the State revolving fund (2) communities, the village of Franklinville and the village of Portville were awarded (2) multi-million dollar grants (1) for water system improvement and (1) for sewer system improvement;

Drinking water and clean water state revolving funds will increase by (400%) than what has been released in the past due to the infrastructure law that was passed by the federal government. The department is trying to guide communities to assist them in applying for these grants.

Two major construction projects for NY water system improvements, will occur in South Dayton and the Town/Village of Ellicottville.

The lead service line replacement program that was adopted by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in 2021, requiring all public water supplies to identify and eventually replace all lead service line connections to homes. Our communities must complete this inventory prior to October 2024. Dr. Bohan asked how many homes in Cattaraugus County would this affect. Mr. Ring replied between (15-25%) of the homes in the county have lead service lines. Anything built after June 1986 would be lead free.

Old/New Business: None to discuss. A motion to adjourn was made Legislator Andreano, seconded by Dr. Chohan and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin D. Watkins, M.D., M.P.H. Secretary to the Board of Health