



# CATTARAUGUS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

1 Leo Moss Drive, Olean, NY 14760, Tel. (716)373-8050, Fax (716) 701-3737



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.  
**Cattaraugus County**  
**Health Department**  
Established 1923

*Joseph Bohan, MD, President*

*Giles Hamlin, MD, Vice-President*

*Zahid Chohan, MD*

*Sondra Fox, RN, MSN, C.S.*

*Richard Haberer*

*Theresa Raftis*

*David L. Smith, Mayor*

*James Snyder, Legislator*

*Kathryn Cooney Thrush, NP, MSN*

## MINUTES December 3, 2018

The 871<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Cattaraugus County Board of Health (BOH) was held at The Point Restaurant, 800 East State Street, Olean, New York on December 3, 2018.

The following members were present:

Dr. Joseph Bohan

Richard Haberer

Dr. Zahid Chohan

Theresa Raftis

Dr. Giles Hamlin

Mayor David Smith

Sondra Fox, RN, MSN, C.S.

James Snyder Sr., Legislator Chair

Also present were:

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

Tom Brady, County Attorney

John Dutkiewicz, Resident

Nancy Gavin, Resident

Jennie McCarthy, Guest Speaker

Lillian Mascho, Guest Speaker

Rick Miller, Olean Times Herald

Dr. Paul Schwach, Clinical Physician

Donna Vickman, Legislator

Raymond Jordan, Sr. Public Health Sanitarian

Debra Lacher, Secretary to Public Health Director

Colette Lulay-Pound, Administrative Officer

Lynne Moore, Director of Patient Services

Dave Porter, Hearing Officer

Eric Wohlers, Environmental Health Director

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Joseph Bohan. The roll was called and a quorum declared. Legislator Snyder, Sr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the BOH meeting held on November 7, 2018, it was seconded by Sondra Fox and the motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Hamlin made a motion to approve the Professional Advisory minutes from the October 24, 2018 meeting, the motion was seconded by Mayor Smith and unanimously approved.

Dr. Bohan introduced Jennie McCarthy, a member of Farmersville United, a group of local residents opposed to the wind turbines which are proposed for construction in Cattaraugus and Allegany Counties in the towns of Farmersville, and Freedom. Ms. McCarthy voiced her concerns about the health impact of residents who will live near this wind turbine project. She spoke about the effects of infrasound exposure, in addition to the negative physical and psychological effects she believes would be fostered by the presence of wind turbines. Mrs. McCarthy shared handouts with those in attendance which supported her point of view. Following her presentation a time for discussion and questions was held. Donna Vickman, Legislator, shared that the town board was having a meeting tonight to address this project. She stated that the Farmersville town board is designing an informational survey to be mailed out to landowners to get their feedback on this proposal. Assistant County Attorney, Tom Brady asked Ms. McCarthy if the planning board issued a certificate for environmental compatibility yet. She replied she did not know, Attorney Brady recommended that she find out who sits on that State Board created for this purpose, as that State Board will be responsible for the environmental review of this project. Dr. Watkins added that he will reach out to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and the Centers of Disease (CDC) to see if more concrete information is available regarding the adverse effects of industrial wind turbines in residential areas.

Dr. Bohan introduced Lillian Mascho, a resident from West Valley, NY who asked to address the Board regarding medical marijuana. Ms. Mascho shared her story of how she overcame addiction to opioids, prescribed by her medical providers, due to a back injury, by using prescribed medical marijuana. Her concerns included: the expense as it is not covered by health insurance, the unknown contents of the liquid form as it smells like alcohol, and the limited availability to purchase medical marijuana locally. She travels to Buffalo monthly to fill her prescription and stated she has invested over \$4,000.00 for the medical marijuana. Her hope is that New York State Department of Health (NYSDOH) can address affordability of medical marijuana, and increase the locations of dispensaries in order to make it more readily available. Ms. Mascho shared handouts to those in attendance which outlined costs, formula types, and a letter from another impacted resident. Dr. Watkins stated that he will take these concerns back to the State as he has a meeting coming up later this month.

**DIRECTORS REPORT:** Dr. Watkins provided handouts for those in attendance. The first was the Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP) and the CHIP indicator tracker which he reviewed with the Board. The two priority areas that are the main focus for the CHIP are “Prevent Chronic Disease” and “Promote Mental Health and Prevent Substance Abuse”. When looking at the first priority area “Preventing Chronic Disease” the department had three main focus areas:

**Focus area #1: the number of agencies that have passed healthy meeting and healthy vending machine policies.** The baseline was (8) organizations in 2016, (4) more were added in 2017, and (10) more in 2018.

**Focus area #2: the number of municipalities that have complete street policies.** These are policies that will help to enhance a community by offering walkable areas, bike paths and all modes of transportation. In 2016 there were no policies enacted, in 2017 (6) municipalities passed complete street policies, and in 2018 (0), the goal was (5) per year. This will be an on-going project in 2019 and the department will start to work with State and local elected officials to see if we can move this initiative along.

**Focus area #3: to increase screening rates for cardiovascular disease, diabetes, breast, cervical and colorectal cancers, especially among disparate populations.**

The department and Olean General Hospital had agreements with Foothill Medical Group (FMG), Universal Primary Care (UPC), and Olean Medical Group (OMG) to review their screening rates for diabetes, breast, cervical and colorectal cancers screening on a quarterly basis.

**Cattaraugus County overall Breast Cancer Screening rate is 69%, the goal is to increase the rate to 75% among these three medical providers.**

Foothill Medical Group (FMG) breast cancer screening rates for Medicare/Medicaid Patients ages 50-74: 2016 Breast Cancer Screening Rate (29%); 2017 Breast Cancer Screening Rate (32%); 2018 Breast Cancer Screening Rate (60%).

Universal Primary Care (UPC) breast cancer screening rates for Medicare/Medicaid Patients age 50-74; 2016 Breast Cancer Screening Rate (56%); 2017 Breast Cancer Screening Rate (60%); 2018 Breast Cancer Screening Rate (60%).

Olean Medical Group (OMG) breast cancer screening rates for Medicare/Medicaid Patients ages 50-74; In 2016 Breast Cancer Screening Rate (64%); 2017 Breast Cancer Screening Rate (61%); in 2018 Breast Cancer Screening Rate (80%).

**Cattaraugus County overall Colorectal Screening rate is 62%, the goal is to increase the rate to 65% among these three medical providers.**

Foothill Medical Group (FMG) Colorectal Cancer Screening rates for Medicare/Medicaid Patients ages 50-74; 2016 Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate (23.7%); 2017 Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate (56%); 2018 Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate (39.8%).

Universal Primary Care (UPC) Colorectal Cancer Screening rates for Medicare/Medicaid Patients ages 50-74: 2016 Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate (48%); 2017 Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate (51%); 2018 Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate (53%).

Olean Medical Group (OMG) Colorectal Cancer Screening rates for Medicare/Medicaid Patients ages 50-74: In 2016 Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate (37%); 2017 Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate (38%); In 2018 Colorectal Cancer Screening Rate (71%).

**Cattaraugus County overall Screening rate for Diabetes with hemoglobin A1C (HgA1C) testing is 49.5%, the goal is to increase the rate to 55% among these three medical providers.**

Foothill Medical Group (FMG) Screening rates for Diabetes with HgA1C testing for Medicare/Medicaid Patients ages 50-74: 2016 Screening rates for Diabetes (69%); 2017 Screening rates for Diabetes (94%); 2018 Screening rates for Diabetes (94%).

Universal Primary Care (UPC) Screening rates for Diabetes with HgA1C testing for Medicare/Medicaid Patients ages 50-74: 2016 Screening rates for Diabetes (43.7%); 2017 Screening rates for Diabetes (43%); 2018 Screening rates for Diabetes (40%).

Olean Medical Group (OMG) Screening rates for Diabetes with HgA1C testing for Medicare/Medicaid Patients ages 50-74: 2016 Screening rates for Diabetes (N/A); 2017 Screening rates for Diabetes (N/A); 2018 Screening rates for Diabetes (94%).

When looking at the second priority area of the CHIP, “Promoting Mental Health, and Prevent Substance Abuse”, Dr. Watkins explained to the Board that four focus areas were monitored.

**Focus area #1: the numbers of schools where evidence based training programs focusing on preventing and reducing adolescents experimenting with drugs were actually implement and offered:** in 2016 there were none, 2017 there were (5), and in 2018 there were (6).

**Focus area #2: the number of drugs collected from drug drop boxes:** in 2016 there were (430 pounds) collected, in 2017 there were (1,761 pounds) collected, and in 2018 there were (1,136 pounds) collected.

**Focus area #3: the number of people trained on how to administer Narcan:** in 2016 there were (253) trained, in 2017 there were (272) trained, and in 2018 there were (391) trained.

**Focus area #4: the number of individuals who are trained in suicide prevention:** in 2018 there were (379) individuals trained.

Legislator Vickman asked why more support was not garnered by the local medical facilities for the screening of residents. Dr. Watkins replied that there were a few barriers encountered when collecting the data and those barriers included, instituting new initiatives with providers (i.e. screening for diabetes by testing a patient’s HgbA1C), capturing data from different Electronic Medical Records (EMR’s) and staff turnover.

A motion was made by Legislator Snyder to submit the CHIP progress report to NYSDOH, the motion was seconded by Dr. Hamlin and unanimously approved.

Dr. Watkins reviewed the department’s strategic plan progress report with the Board. The Strategic plan is on-going, it has six goals and most of the objectives have been met and those objectives not yet met, are on target to be met. A motion was made by Legislator Snyder to accept the strategic plan progress report, it was seconded by Mayor Smith and unanimously approved.

**NURSING DIVISION REPORT:** Mrs. Moore reported that the homecare census is (317). There were (52) new admissions last month, and (82) new admissions this month.

The lead program is currently following (48) children. Testing at a local headstart in November found (1) child with an elevated blood lead level of 40.2ug/dl (normal, 5ug/dl) and another child was found to have a blood lead level of 34ug/dl, both were due to deteriorating paint in the home. The lead coalition met on November 14 and the Seneca Nation of Indians discussed the impact of the HUD grant in reference to lead, mold, and radon.

An influenza point of dispensing (POD) clinic will be held at St. Bonaventure on Wednesday, December 5, 2018. There has been a total of (10,694) influenza vaccines given in Cattaraugus County with no laboratory confirmed cases of influenza identified in Cattaraugus County as of date; State-wide, influenza A is most prevalent.

Communicable disease cases for the month of November included, (2) confirmed cases of chronic Hepatitis C, (1) case of Hepatitis A, (2) cases of salmonella.

STD's cases for the month of November included, (18) cases of chlamydia, (3) cases of gonorrhea, and (2) confirmed cases of syphilis.

Laurie McClory who is the department's head communicable disease nurse will be retiring in January.

Mrs. Moore reported that she and the nurse practitioner, Kerry Perese, attended NYSDOH Family Planning Provider's meeting in Albany. At this meeting they confirmed that chlamydia and gonorrhea are on the rise and NYS is seeing an alarming number of syphilis cases. The Capital district has the highest syphilis rate per 100,000. Cattaraugus County had (2) confirmed cases in 2017, and (6) confirmed cases as of date for 2018.

Two residents were administered rabies post exposure prophylaxis for the month of November, both due to exposure of raccoons.

**ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION REPORT:** Mr. Wohlers updated the Board on the Food Service Manager Training required for all medium and high risk food service establishments in Cattaraugus County. He stated that there are still approximately (50) establishments that have not submitted proof that they have taken the training. Staff was asked to phone the remaining operators. If establishments still need the course, they will need to pay a \$125.00 fee to get a temporary thirty day permit extension. Two more classes are being offered in December, or the training completed can be taken on-line. Hopefully all facilities will be in compliance by the end of December. Dr. Bohan asked if any of the mailings addressed the \$125.00 extension fee, Mr. Wohlers replied yes, this was clearly spelled out in detail in the correspondence.

A couple of years ago NYSDOH passed emergency regulations on legionella because of an outbreak in NYC. Those regulations were finalized and the State created a new electronic data base that every facility in NYS that has an open cooling tower must register that tower. Facilities must attest to completing certain disinfectant procedures, testing for legionella quarterly, and they must do an annual inspection and certification by a trained industrial hygienist. There are fewer than (20) cooling towers in Cattaraugus County. The State is now asking that the environmental health division now work with cooling tower operators to make sure they are properly sampling, disinfecting, and maintaining their cooling towers. Essentially, increasing the department's workload without any new resources to support this mandate.

Legislator Snyder asked what the environmental health interest was in cooling towers. Mr. Wohlers replied that legionella bacteria multiplies rapidly in warm water environments. Most of the large outbreaks were associated with the vapor coming off of an open cooling tower that hasn't been maintained properly. Dr. Bohan asked if other States were doing this type of surveillance. Mr. Wohlers replied that New York State is at the forefront.

A new application has been submitted for the next two year grant cycle for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and the department has asked for \$400,000.00 for this grant cycle. The current contract expires next Friday December 14<sup>th</sup>, and the department is pleased to report that we have spent all of the \$350,000.00 granted.

**Enforcement Report: Mr. Porter reported on Docket # 18-036:**

**Respondent: Kristine Knapp, 28 Chestnut Street, Apt. 225, Salamanca, NY 14779**

**Violations: SCCCHD 14.7.1 A complaint investigation revealed a large accumulation of garbage stored in a vacant house owned by the respondent, address 14 Linwood Avenue, City of Salamanca, NY 14779.**

**Administrative Hearing 11-6-18**

Recommendation: That the BOH postpone a decision on this matter until further notice as there may be some major changes.

A motion to support this recommendation was made by Mayor Smith, seconded by Mrs. Fox, and unanimously approved.

A nominating committee was appointed by Dr. Bohan for next February, which included Sondra Fox, and Theresa Raftis.

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Mayor Smith, and seconded by Legislator Chair Snyder, Sr. and unanimously approved.

The next BOH meeting will be Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,



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