



CATTARAUGUS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

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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

Richard Haberer

Theresa Raftis

David L. Smith, Mayor

James Snyder, Legislator

Kathryn Cooney Thrush, NP, MSN

MINUTES June 1, 2018

The 866th meeting of the Cattaraugus County Board of Health was held at The Point Restaurant, 800 East State Street, Olean, New York on June 1, 2018.

The following members were present:

Dr. Joseph Bohan

Dr. Zahid Chohan

Dr. Giles Hamlin

Sondra Fox, RN

Theresa Raftis

Mayor David Smith

Jim Snyder Sr., Legislator Chairman

Kathryn Cooney Thrush, NP, MSN

Also present were:

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

Ben Shields, Resource Officer at Gowanda Central School, Guest Speaker

Eric Firkel, County Attorney

Barb Hastings, Legislator

Robert Neal, Legislator

Donna Vickman, Legislator

Rick Miller, Olean Times Herald

Raymond Jordan, Sr. Public Health Sanitarian

Debra Lacher, Secretary to Public Health Director

Lynne Moore, Director of Patient Services

Dave Porter, Hearing Officer

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Bohan. The roll was called and a quorum declared. Legislator Snyder, Sr. made a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Health (BOH) meeting held on May 2, 2018, it was seconded by Mayor Smith and the motion was unanimously approved.

Dr. Bohan introduced guest speaker Officer Ben Shields a second generation police officer with more than 17 years on the job. Officer Shields has held various assignments including detective on southern tier regional drug task force, and more recently the school resource officer at Gowanda Central School. He is a certified Narcan instructor, and a member of the Cattaraugus County SWAT team.

Officer Shields briefly shared his employment background, and thanked Mayor Smith, BOH member for arranging his visit with the board. He shared that currently there are approximately (10) Security Resource Officers (SRO) within Cattaraugus County. Salamanca City School District has (3) full-time SRO's, Gowanda has (1), Pioneer has (1 ½), Randolph has (1), Cattaraugus/LV has (1) Olean has (1) and Allegany/Limestone has (1) full-time SRO's. Cattaraugus County is one of the first counties in Western New York to embrace this program. Monthly SRO meetings are held in Cattaraugus County, and trainings are available. Chautauqua, Niagara, Erie, Wyoming, and Allegany Counties have sent multiple representatives to Cattaraugus County to learn how to set up a SRO's program. These programs are modeled after the sheriff triad program, the position entails being a police officer at the school, a mentor, and an educator. Officer Shields stated that at the end of the day policing is a reactive career, since most of the work is not stopping crime from happening but reacting to a crime that has been committed. A SRO is in the field trying to prevent a student from making decisions that will ruin the student's life. Every year Gowanda makes a list of all the students in the school, then the teachers and administrators go through the list checking which students have a positive repore with them. The students are given a comparable list of teachers and then asked which teachers they feel they can talk to. This helps the school pinpoint the 5 or 6 students who need help with self-esteem and need embraced. School Districts SRO's are like a built in educator and one education program that is provided by the SRO's is speaking to students about drugs and alcohol. Another program that the Gowanda schools have is the Kids Escaping Drugs Program, which is a parent drug and alcohol forum program. Speakers come in to talk to parents, letting them know what to look for, and educating them on what certain drugs look like. This forum gives the parents the tools to stop destructive behavior proactively.

Legislator Snyder asked officer Shields about his feelings toward legalizing marijuana. Officer Shields stated he was not against it but he was not really for it either. It depends on whether the plan is for medicinal usage. He stated that his biggest concern with the legalization of marijuana, is the decriminalization of this for our youths. A recent study in Cattaraugus County shows that kids are using marijuana at age 11 and 12. The frontal lobe of the brain doesn't fully develop until age 24-25, and when a person is slowing down that development process with alcohol and marijuana they are limiting their potential for the rest of their life. Dr. Chohan interjected that a report he read in the Journal of the American Medical Association, Canadian researchers looked at 25 years of data on fatal crashes in the U.S. due to the use of marijuana specially on April 20 which is known as a popular "4/20" holiday for marijuana enthusiasts. The researchers compared the number of drivers involved in fatal crashes from 4:20 p.m. to midnight on April 20, and compared it to the same time frame one week earlier and a week later. The authors found that the risk of a fatal crash was 12% higher on April 20. Among drivers under age 21, the risk was nearly 40% higher.

Dr. Bohan asked if we are headed for a metal detector at every school. Officer Shields said that he believes that the more security there is at schools the better, but the problem with metal detectors is if someone has ill intent to cause harm to others, the metal detectors aren't a real barrier. Several layers of security is the best defense. Officer Shields shared his phone number and his email address mrshields@gslearn.org to all in attendance.

Dr. Bohan congratulated the Health Department on their recent NYSDOH consolidated review which culminated with no deficiencies in the Article 28 (family planning) program. Dr. Watkins gave credit to the staff for a job well done.

DIRECTORS REPORT: Several handouts were provided to those in attendance. Two of the handouts provided included an opioid resource list and a Narcan usage report. Dr. Watkins stated that Cattaraugus County is seeing a decrease in the number of opioids overdose in the emergency room, calls for emergency medical services (EMS) for opioid overdoses, and most importantly, deaths due to opioids. As noted on the Narcan usage report, EMS personnel provided only (13) individuals with Narcan, and as of date, there has been only (2) overdose deaths secondary to opioids in 2018. Those (2) deaths have been identified as multiple drug intoxications, with fentanyl as one of the drugs identified.

Dr. Watkins shared some information on the new novelty called “Dragon’s Breath”. He stated that “Dragon’s Breath” is made using colorful balls of cereal, and is described as having a flavor similar to Fruit Loops. The cereal is dipped in liquid nitrogen or liquid nitrogen can be poured over the cereal and served in a cup. The eater uses a stick to skewer the cereal puffs. Once the cereal is in the eater's mouth, the cold of the liquid nitrogen combines with the warmth of the mouth and releases visible fog vapors that comes out of the nose and mouth.

A short video clip was shown showcasing the product. Dr. Watkins stated that the danger of ingesting liquid nitrogen cannot be understated. He stated that the risks far outweigh any potential novelty of the treat: Patrons who touch or eat the snack before blowing on it multiple times could be severely burned. Medical providers have posted pictures of children with second-degree burns to their mouth who attempted to eat the dessert.

Dr. Watkins discussed a case report that was published in the journal of Clinical Endoscopy that described a 13 year old boy who had eaten a snack to which liquid nitrogen had been added for rapid cooling. The patient complained of sudden onset of severe abdominal pain and shortness of breath immediately after ingestion. Upon hospital admission, it was determined that his abdomen was tense and severely distended with tenderness. Chest X-ray showed a large volume of pneumoperitoneum (abnormal amount of air or other gas in the stomach). Exploratory laparotomy, revealed large amounts of gas under tension, multiple erythemas along the lesser curvature of the stomach, and a 4-cm linear perforation was identified in the notch of the stomach (angularis incisura). A copy of the case report was distributed to all in attendance.

Dr. Watkins informed the Board that a meeting with several other public health directors and commissioners on how Local Health Departments in New York will handle a request for permits from vendors wanting to serve this product led to a lot of dialogue. It was determined that Local Health Departments have the discretion to deny a permit under 14-1.190(d) which states that the food service establishment being constructed must maintain and operate in compliance with this Subpart and not present a danger to the health of the consumer or to the public. The second option is require food service operators to develop and submit documentation to the local health department describing how they will ensure that patrons are not served residual liquid nitrogen. This documentation would be in the form of a Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point (HACCP) plan.

Although Cattaraugus County has not yet had a request from any vendors to serve this product, the department is looking to inquire how the Board of Health will want the department to proceed with any requests that may come before the department. Dr. Bohan stated that liquid nitrogen is a dangerous substance to consume, and serving this to children is something we should try to avoid.

Mrs. Fox asked if putting limitations on liquid nitrogen in Cattaraugus County would hamper other companies that utilize other products like carbon dioxide (CO₂) to make things like dry ice to ship frozen food products.

Dr. Watkins responded that limiting this novelty should have no effects on shipment of food products that is shipped with dry ice, since the use of dry ice (to keep food frozen) is a totally different concept than consuming the product as with the "Dragon's Breath" novelty. Dr. Chohan stated that he believes requests for permits to serve this trendy novelty should be denied after reading this clinical report and knowing the potential danger of consuming this product. Legislator Vickman, and Mayor Smith both concurred that this novelty is too dangerous to consider allowing permits to be issued. Legislator Neal stated once you permit something like this, it becomes harder to fight the crisis down the road. County Attorney Firkel, stated that he would have to look into banning this as a practice in Cattaraugus County and it would need to be narrowly tailored. Attorney Firkel suggested requiring a comprehensive HACCP plan for any vendor requesting a permit to serve this product and possibly all food establishments that are interested in using liquid nitrogen. Dr. Bohan asked that a written proposal be brought back to the Board in August.

Dr. Watkins stated that Lyme disease is on the rise in New York State. Lyme disease is caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi* and transmitted to humans by a bite of an infected black legged tick. The tick that transmits Lyme disease is the *Ixodes scapularis*. The bacterium circulates between small animals such as the white-footed mice, and the ticks feed on the mice. Ticks then spread the disease to humans and pets. Mice transmit Lyme disease efficiently, infecting up to 95 percent of all ticks that feed on them. More mice mean more infected ticks the following season.

Young deer ticks, called nymphs, are active from mid-May to mid-August and are about the size of poppy seeds. Adult ticks, which are approximately the size of sesame seeds, are most active from March to mid-May and from mid-August to November.

Symptoms of Lyme disease include fever, headache, fatigue, and erythema migrans rash. If left untreated, it can spread to the joints, heart, and nervous system. Lyme disease is known as the great imitator, as it mimics other diseases like multiple sclerosis, arthritis, chronic fatigue syndrome, fibromyalgia, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), attention deficient hyperactivity disorder, and Alzheimer's disease. Pennsylvania has lead the nation in confirmed cases of Lyme disease for (5) straight years, and New York State (NYS) is now catching up with PA. In 2013 NYS had over (3,500) cases compared to Pennsylvania who had nearly (5,000) cases. In 2014 NYS had nearly (3,000) cases and Pennsylvania had over (6,400) cases. In 2015 there were over (3,000) cases in NYS and Pennsylvania had over (7,000) cases. In 2016 NYS had over (2,600) cases, while Pennsylvania had nearly (9,000) cases. Cattaraugus County has had a number of Lyme disease cases, with (12) case in 2015, (17) cases in 2016, (33) cases in 2017, and as of date (6) suspected cases for 2018.

Tick dragging has been completed in multiple areas of Cattaraugus County including Allegany State Park. In 2016 there were (22) nymphs collected, (4) were positive with *Borrelia burgdorferi* which is an infection rate of 18.2%, in 2017 there were (9) nymphs collected, (4) were positive for *B. burgdorferi* which is a 44% rate of infection. In this same area in 2016 (57) adult ticks were collected, (55) tested, and (27) were positive with *B. burgdorferi*, a 49% infection rate, in 2017 (116) adult ticks were collected in Allegany State Park, (50) were tested, (32) were positive with *B. burgdorferi* which is a 64% infection rate.

Gargoyle park; in 2016 (66) nymphs were collected, (66) tested, (12) were positive with *B. burgdorferi* a 18% infection rate. In 2017 (62) nymphs were collected, (50) tested, (17) were positive with *B. burgdorferi*; a 34% infection rate.

In this same area, (108) adult ticks were collected in 2016, (51) tested, (25) were positive with *B. burgdorferi* which is a 49% infection rate. In 2017, (123) adult ticks were collected in Gargoyle Park, (50) were tested, (16) were positive with *B. burgdorferi* which is a 32% infection rate. A handout was provided documenting the collection sites for ticks in Cattaraugus County. Dr. Watkins talked at length regarding the surveillance data and the number of ticks that were positive for the bacterium that causes Lyme disease.

Lab tests which identify antibodies to the bacteria can help confirm the diagnosis. These tests are most reliable a few weeks after an infection, after the body has had time to develop antibodies.

Prevention methods includes owners spraying their properties with pesticides in addition to mowing grass very low and removing brush and leaves to prevent ticks from accumulating. Other prevention methods include staying in the middle of trails when hiking, wearing light-colored clothing so ticks can be seen, throwing clothes in the dryer on high heat after coming inside, and treating clothing or skin with chemicals that kill or repel ticks, such as permethrin or DEET.

Dr. Watkins summarized by stating ticks are not born with the Lyme spirochetes. Ticks pick up the bacteria when feeding on an infected host. White-footed mice are more important numerically. Urban expansion and hunting has eliminated many of the mice's natural predators, (foxes, coyotes, snakes, etc.) allowing the mice population to grow, and with them comes infected ticks. Maybe curtailing the white-footed mice population (re-introducing the natural predators to the areas) may reduce the cases of Lyme disease seen in the area.

NYS has decided that they are going to become more active in the fight against Lyme disease by placing feeding stations for deer in certain counties and while the deer feed on corn at the station, treated rollers will brush insecticide against the animal's neck, head, and ears where many adult ticks tend to feed. In addition, due to rodents being largely responsible for infecting ticks with Lyme disease, the state will expand the use of commercial products to combat the spread of illness by rodents. This includes the deployment of tubes filled with permethrin-treated cotton balls which mice use for nesting material, which kills the ticks in their early larval stage when they attach to mice. The state will also expand its usage of the Tick Control System, a small box that attracts rodents. When an animal enters the box, it receives a low dose of fipronil, which is the active ingredient in many treatments used to eliminate ticks on dogs and cats. Finally, NYS will expand education to the public, and provide data access on tick collections and Lyme disease infection rates in the various Counties.

The final handout was the department's 2018-2021 strategic plan which outlines measurable goals and objectives for guiding day-to-day decisions and how the department plans to accomplish these goals and objectives.

Goal 1 focuses on preventing chronic disease, the objective is to decrease obesity rates by increasing employee access to healthy food and beverages. The focus is on the snack room, with snacks reorganized so that healthy choices are showcased and the department can educate patrons on the calorie content of what is in those snacks. Currently 10% of the snacks are healthy, the objective is to increase that rate to 30% and educate staff along the way.

Goal 2 is promoting mental health and preventing substance abuse. Objective 1 is to provide evidence based suicide prevention, and gatekeeper training for staff who interacts with the public. Objective 2 is to ensure that appropriate Health Department personnel are trained to administer Narcan. Currently 49% of the department's staff has been trained in Narcan administration.

Goal 3 is improving visibility of the health department. Objective 1 is to standardize all communications that are created by Health Department Staff. Objective 2 is to redesign the Health Department website. Objective 3 is increasing social media presence.

Goal 4 focuses on quality improvement, and performance management. Objective 1 focuses on improving procedures and documentations of investigations of infectious or communicable diseases, and non-infectious health problems. Objective 2 provide awareness and training to all Health Department staff who are assigned emergency response roles. Objective 3 standardizes and improves the Real Property Transfer program processes.

Goal 5 focuses on health equity. Objective 1 focuses on making sure the department is socially, culturally, and linguistically appropriate with health promotion strategies. Objective 2 focuses on increasing community access by increasing complete street policies in various municipalities.

Goal 6 focuses on increasing revenue and improving cost control. Objective 1 is to improve workforce development training for nursing staff in order to improve the insurance reimbursement rates. Objective 2 is to improve the lab billing process. Objective 3 is to analyze the costs of the lab to improve cost control. Finally, objective 4 is to analyze the costs of clinic and family planning to improve cost control.

A motion was made by Legislator Chair, Mr. Snyder to accept the Strategic Plan presented, it was seconded by Mrs. Fox, and unanimously approved.

NURSING DIVISION REPORT: Mrs. Moore reported that the homecare census currently has (304) patients. The Medicaid Obstetrical and Maternal Services (MOMS) program has (13) patients. The lead program currently has (7) children with an elevated blood lead level between (10-24.9 ug/dl), and (24) children with blood lead levels between (5-9.9 ug/dl) normal is (<5ug/dl). The lead coalition had their last meeting on May 17th. The coalition is looking to increase the number of children that are being tested for lead, by hosting a specialist in lead education on June 4th. The Seneca Nation will also be handing out pamphlets to their medical providers to help reinforce the need for testing of lead. Rural revitalization is working on bringing a lead certificate program to Olean for contractors, this program will help the contractor's spot lead issues in a home during renovations. The next upcoming meeting of the Lead Smart Partnership will be held on August 23rd.

Communicable disease had a busy month in May with (1) aseptic meningitis that was reported at the last meeting, (1) varicella case which was an isolated case, (1) case of invasive Strep pneumoniae and (1) case of Group B Strep pneumoniae. Flu season ended in May but there were (6) cases of influenza A and (1) influenza B case. There was (1) case of Giardiasis, (17) cases of Chlamydia, (7) cases of Gonorrhea with (4) cases having both Chlamydia and Gonorrhea.

It has been a busy month for rabies, there were (2) dog bites no treatment required, (3) cat bites one person required post exposure rabies treatment. Within the last day there were (3) bat exposure incidents, and (1) fox bite that all required post exposure rabies vaccine treatment.

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION REPORT: Mr. Jordan reported that mosquito, surveillance which includes trapping, and larvae dipping has started this month. There does not appear to be a significant number of larvae at this time, currently there are 12-15 sites set up for larvae dipping, and 13 traps have been set throughout the County. Last week there were a couple of elevated numbers of adult mosquitoes found in traps in the Allegany, Carrollton, and the Town of Great Valley area.

Enforcement Report: Mr. Porter reported on the following enforcement case held on May 8, 2018:

DOCKET #18-012:

Respondent: Ms. Heidi Miles, President, Just A Bite Gourmet, INC. P.O. Box 283, Yorkshire, NY 14173, D/B/A Chanderson's Steak and Seafood. Violation: 10NYCRR Sec. 5-1.72 (c) (1) Respondent failed to submit complete daily records for the operation on the non-community water system for the month of March 2018 to this office by the 10th of the following month.

PREVIOUS DOCKET #17-016:

Recommendation: Change the \$100.00 civil compromise offered, to a \$100.00 fine, to be paid on or before June 29, 2018. A \$10.00 per day per diem will be levied for non-compliance.

A motion to accept the recommendation was made by Mrs. Fox, seconded by Kathryn Cooney-Thrush and unanimously approved.

Mr. Porter reported on the following enforcements from the administrative hearings held on May 25, 2018:

DOCKET #18-014:

Previous Docket #18-011

Respondent: Guang Ming Chen DBA-Super Great Wall, 700 West State Street, Olean, New York, 14760. Violations: 10NYCRR: State Sanitary Code Subpart 14-1 Food Service Establishments; Re: Inspection after BOH orders resulting from a 4-06-18 inspection. Five (5) Category 1 Hazards found and Five (5) category 2 violations were found.

DOCKET #18-014 (continued):

Recommendation: a.) That the respondent pay a fine of \$450.00 to CCHD on or before 6-29-18.

4 x \$100.00=4 Repeat Category 1 Hazards = \$400.00

1 x \$ 50.00=1 first offense Category 1 Hazard = \$ 50.00

\$450.00 TOTAL

b.) Presence of any repeat public health hazards during subsequent inspection will result in permit suspension for up to (3) days. An employee with supervisory responsibility must take the certified Food Protection Manager training course if the permit is suspended, upon completing the course, the uspension will be lifted.

c.) Compliance by 6-29-18 or a \$10.00 per day per diem will be levied.

Existing BOH conditions from 4-6-18 inspection are still to be followed.

A motion was made By Dr. Hamlin to accept the recommendation, seconded by Mayor Smith, and unanimously approved.

DOCKET #18-013:

Respondent: You Wen Tang, DBA-New Lake View Chinese Restaurant. 3042 W. State Street, Olean, NY, 14760. Violations: 10NYCRR: State Sanitary Code Subpart 14-1 Food Service Establishments. Inspection 5-16-18 Six (6) Category 1 Hazards were found and Ten (10) other category 2 violations were found.

Recommendation: a.) That the respondent pay a fine of \$275.00 due to the following findings on 5-25-18.

1 Offense forgiven

1 x \$75.00 =1 repeat Category 1 Hazard = \$ 75.00

4 x \$50.00 =4 first offense Category 1 Hazards = \$200.00

\$275.00 TOTAL

b.) An employee with supervisory responsibility must take the certified Food Protection Manager training course before permit expires on 6-30-18. Failure to take the course by 6-30-18 will result in loss of permit.

c.) Compliance of a.) must be on or before 6-29-18. A \$10.00 per day per diem will be levied for every day not in compliance.

A motion was made by Dr. Hamlin to accept this recommendation, seconded by Mrs. Fox, and unanimously approved.

Dr. Watkins reminded everyone that the next Board of Health meeting will be held on Friday, August 10, 2018, not on the usual first Wednesday of the month. There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Kathryn Cooney-Thrush, and seconded by Dr. Hamlin, and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,



Kevin D. Watkins, M.D., M.P.H.

Secretary to the Board of Health