



COUNTY OF ERIE

BOARD OF HEALTH



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect

Richard A. Ortoski, D.O., *Chair*
Timothy Pelkowski, M.D.
Carla Picardo, M.D.
Mary Jean Taylor, Ph.D.
Timothy Zieziula, J.D.

Erie County Board of Health

Monday, April 24, 2023

Erie County Department of Health - 2nd Floor Conference Room

606 West 2nd Street, Erie, PA 16507

5:00 pm

Present:

Richard A. Ortoski, DO, Chair

Mary Jean Taylor, PhD

Carla Picardo, MD, MPH - via Zoom

Timothy Zieziula, JD - via Zoom

Tim Pelkowski, MD

Absent:

Also In Attendance:

Doug Smith - via Zoom

Erin Mrenak

Steve Oros

Kelly Sharie

Tony Snow, M.D. - via Zoom

Ellen Schauerman

- I. **Call to Order** - Dr. Ortoski, Board Chairperson, called a meeting of the Board of Health to order at 5:06 p.m.
- II. **Public Comments** - None
- III. **Presentations** - None
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** - The Board of Health meeting minutes and division reports from January 30, 2023 were approved on a motion from Mary Jean Taylor, Ph.D and seconded by Timothy Zieziula, JD. All in favor.
- V. **Board Updates**
 - a. **Division Reports** - *Verbal Reports Provided by Erin Mrenak on behalf of the divisions*
 1. ADM - almost finished consolidating buildings. All out of MTB. Submitted our program plan on time with no issues. Introduction of Kelly Sharie to the board to replace Steve as liaison.
 2. CHS - started STD testing. Very short staffed in nursing. Appointments are full every week. We are seeing an uptick in syphilis cases. MCH will conclude June 30th. Will begin Doula services with another company (Birthroot) in Erie to reach out to more vulnerable people. Unable to get any nursing positions filled.



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3. ENV - OpenGov went live today. All payment licenses for food inspections will all be done online. Will have kiosks set up in lobby for those without computers/internet. There is a link on our website that users can click
4. HPQI - Alex Whipple filled vacant Director position. Currently working on a very large tobacco proposal grant. Will know the results in July.
5. Dental - could not find anyone to fill position. Donated dental items.

VI. Director's Report - *Erin Mrenak*

- a. Mark Matlock is no longer with ECDH. Will figure out our financial needs for next meeting.
- b. Reorganizing our work chart to include Covid positions
- c. 2.5mil grant from CDC working to keep Covid positions

VII. Old Business - *Terms*

- a. One Term Expiring on 12/31/2023--Mary Jean Taylor, Ph.D.
 1. Would like to continue until July as she will be moving.
 2. Acknowledge MJ's gift for PHW
 3. Have not heard from Bishop

VIII. New Business

- a. New Board Member – Tim Pelkowski, M.D.
- b. HPQI Director Position Filled – Alexandra Whipple, MPH
- c. Bylaw Update Frequency, review yearly. Add to next agenda in July. Check previous minutes to see when its usually reviewed. Email out to members.
- d. OpenGov
- e. Ellen S. brought to our attention regarding Kratom opium addiction as a concern. Not regulated in PA. No urine tests are available to detect drug in system. Marketed as a pain reliever at gas stations, etc.

IX. Adjournment -The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m. on a motion by Tim Pelkowski, MD and seconded by Tim Zieziula, JD. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Steve Oros, Recording Secretary