



# 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, November 7, 2022

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

Carla Picardo, MD, MPH

Mary Jean Taylor, PhD - via zoom

Timothy Zieziula, JD

#### **Absent:**

Bishop Clifton McNair, III - no contact

#### **Also In Attendance:**

Breanna Adams

Nicole Bolash

Mark Matlock

Erin Mrenak

Amy Machinski

Ellen Schauerman

Tony Snow, M.D. - via Zoom

Steve Oros

Char Berringer

- I. **Call to Order** - Dr. Ortoski, Board Chairperson, called a meeting of the Board of Health to order at 5:18 p.m.
- II. **Public Comments** - None
- III. **Presentations** - Recognition of Char Berringer's resignation.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** - The Board of Health meeting minutes and division reports from August 1, 2022 were approved on a motion from Dr. Picardo and seconded by Dr. O. Corrected Dr. Mary Jean Taylor's title. All in favor.
- V. **Board Updates**
  - a. **Division Reports** - Formal Written Reports Provided in Advance of Board Meeting
  - b. Nicole explained the food summit that will occur early next year. The main idea is to build a long term food sustainability program for the community. It will connect local food vendors, pantry's, grocery stores and farmers together.



**VI. Director's Report-Erin Mrenak**

- a. Replacing Char's position will require some restructuring. Her position is heavily administrative oriented, not so much nursing.
- b. Currently working on a process to streamline nursing tasks due to shortage of staff.
- c. Received a lot of RFPs for new EMR process. Looking at bids and vendors to make tasks more functional.
- d. Budget process is currently at county council awaiting approval for next year.
- e. Delco will get a slice of state funding. Based on per capita.

**VII. Financial Report-Mark Matlock**

- a. Reviewed new budgets for next year by bureaus.
- b. Largest budget submitted--over 18 million. Budget went through with not too many changes as in previous years.
- c. Act 315 and act 12 basically act as appropriations.
- d. Public Health infrastructure grant for 5 years--lump sum payment and will need provide reports.
- e. NFP funding sent in installments throughout the year. Periodic reports need sent throughout the year.
- f. Some grants run calendar years and some run July to June.
- g. Expressed the need for an upgraded Financial Management System to include a grant billing module.

**VIII. Old Business -**

- a. No new Monkeypox cases since last meeting.

**IX. New Business**

- a. **Covid-19 Updates**-Erin provided a brief update
  - 1. Administered over 150 booster shots at pleasant ridge manor.
  - 2. Currently using wastewater to track Covid as results are not always getting reported.
  - 3. People are able to report results online.
  - 4. Will soon have available at-home test kits with a QR code to scan and send results online.
  - 5. Discussed mixed reactions to the new booster shot--fatigue, fever and no reactions.
  - 6. Waste water is not able to test for new variants.
  - 7. Gannon will soon start sequencing variants.
  - 8. RSV, flu, Covid on the rise. Currently working on a RSV vaccination.
- b. **Board meeting location**
  - 1. Plan to continue in person meetings with a Zoom link option at W. 2nd St.
  - 2. Next year's meeting dates are as follows: 1/30, 4/24, 7/31, 10/30. Motioned by Tim Zieziula and seconded by Dr. Carla Picardo.
- c. **Attendance**
  - 1. Discussed board member attendance.



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- X. **Adjournment** -The meeting was adjourned at 6:06 p.m. on a motion by Tim Zieziula and seconded by Dr. Carla Picardo. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Oros, Recording Secretary