



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, October 30, 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

Timothy Pelkowski, MD

Absent:

Also In Attendance:

Erin Mrenak

Amy Machinski

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 5:05 p.m.
- II. **Public Comments** - None
- III. **Presentations** - None
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** - The Board of Health meeting minutes and division reports from July 31, 2023 were approved on a motion from Timothy Pelkowski, MD and seconded by Mary Jean Taylor, Ph.D All in favor.
- V. **Board Updates**
 - a. **Division Reports** - Verbal Reports Provided by Erin Mrenak on behalf of the divisions
 - a. Admin -
 - i. ECDH restarted Staff Engagement committee which has been a positive boost for morale
 - ii. Geospatial Strategy Study will be conducted 11/15 and 11/16
 - iii. Union Contract has been approved
 1. The contract will go retro to January 2023
 - b. Community Health Services
 - i. Wendy Nielson will be retiring from CHS this November
 - ii. Sabrina Selby has accepted the Nursing Supervisor Position



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- iii. Filling nursing positions continues to be a issue. We are currently working with HR to determine any possible solutions. We are also working with HR to determine a increase in wages for nursing positions in efforts to obtain nurses.
- iv. We are requesting a letter of support for the board for increased wages for Nursing positions.
- v. CureMD - we are in the process of upgrading our EMR and making the transition to CureMD. Our scheduled go live date is the first week of December 2023
- c. Environmental
 - i. Environmental received 2 employees as a result of the loss of the Tobacco Funding. 2 union employees were able to remain ECDH employees by bumping into the environmental division per the union contract.
 - ii. Environmental office is currently working on inspections of schools.
 - iii. We are working on updating the current fee schedule as this has not been done in several years. Erie County is on the low end for fees. We have been gathering data from other health departments to determine the appropriate fee increase.
- d. Health Improvement and Preparedness
 - i. The preparedness team organized a community BINGO game for members of the community in honor of National Preparedness Month.
 - ii. ECDH has created 4 Emergency Go Buckets specifically for shelter in place situations.
 - iii. Workforce Development continues to reach out to Colleges and Universities to help build up the relationship with ECDH.

Dr. Carla Picardo, MD, MPH suggested looking into UPMC Jameson at Hamot School of Nursing.

VI. Director's Report - *Erin Mrenak*

- a. Tour new admin area.

VII. Old Business

- a. One Term Expiring on 12/31/2023--Mary Jean Taylor, Ph.D. Moving in 2024. Do we want to extend for a partial year?
 - i. Mary Jean Taylor, Ph.D. is agreeable to remain on the board till June 2024. Erin will follow up with County Executive and County Council.

VIII. New Business

- a. Daniel Barron is the New Fiscal Analyst. He will provide a variety of reports for the board to review including Grant Resource, Renewable Funds, and any New Funding Opportunities available.
- b. Public Comments procedure will be forth coming. Currently information regarding the Board of Health Meetings is currently listed on the County website.
- c. 2024 BOH schedule
 - i. 1/22/2024



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- ii. 4/22/2024
- iii. 7/22/2024
- iv. 10/28/2024

IX. Adjournment -The meeting was adjourned at 5:51 p.m. on a motion by Dr. Carla Picardo MD and seconded by Richard Ortoski, MD. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Machinski, Recording Secretary