

Erie County Board of Health

Monday, May 6, 2024

Erie County Department of Health - 2nd Floor Conference Room

606 West 2nd Street, Erie, PA 16507

5:00 pm

Present:

Timothy Pelkowski, MD

Timothy Zieziula, JD

Mary Jean Taylor, PhD

Richard A. Ortoski, DO, Chair

Absent:

Carla Picardo, MD, MPH

Also In Attendance:

Erin Mrenak

Steve Oros

Ellen Schauerman

Breanna Adams

- 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
- I. **Presentations** - Environmental Health Services *presented by Breanna Adams (Director)*.
 - i. Programing--such as restaurant and septic systems, mosquito control and beach water sampling were explained. Staffing numbers and new computer software were mentioned. The beach grant along with Income and Expense budgets and current fees were also discussed.
- IV. **Approval of Minutes** - The Board of Health meeting minutes and division reports from January 22, 2024, were approved on a motion from Dr. Mary Jean Taylor and seconded by Tim Zieziula, All in favor.
- V. **Board Updates**
 - i. **Division Reports** - Verbal Reports Provided by Erin Mrenak on behalf of the divisions
 - a. **Administration**
 - i. Public Health Office Administrator position is currently vacant. Administrative Office Coordinator to temporary take on additional duties.

b. **Community Health Services**

- i. All clinics are currently operating. Continue to have staffing issues.

c. **Environmental**

- i. Beaches will be open to the public the weekend before Memorial Day.

d. **Health Improvement and Preparedness**

- i. We are performing surveillance on children with evaluated Lead levels. Looking for additional funding. Applied for Opioid settlement funds to hire a new position. Submitted wastewater surveillance program to monitor high risk drugs within the community.

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

- i. Seeking new ways to find funding to keep health department positions. A (new) 12th health department in Pennsylvania opening soon in Lackawanna County.

• **Hepatitis A outbreak**

- Cracker Barrel incident created vaccine clinics and we were able to vaccinate over 400 people.

• **Public Health Week**

- Thank you for lunch during Public Health Week!

• **CHNA**

- Started a steering committee to get started on the Community Health Needs Assessment. Will be all digitalized by this Summer.

VII. **Old Business**

i. Director's Report - Erin Mrenak

- Officer elections - Only have 4 members present--Dr. Ortoski would like to continue as chairperson. Dr. Picardo will continue to serve as vice-chairperson. Tim Zieziula seconded the motion. All concurred. Dr. Mary Jean Taylor may continue to participate until we find a replacement due to her resignation.

VIII. **New Business - None**

- IX. **Adjournment** -The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 p.m. on a motion by Tim Zieziula and seconded by Dr. Tim Pelkowski. All in favor.