



Seneca County Public Health  
Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes



<b>Date:</b> April 20, 2022	<b>Time:</b> 4:00 p.m.	<b>Location:</b> Meeting held via Telephone call (WebEx)-and Conference Room in the Seneca County Health Department Building
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**Present:** In person: Joseph Lorenzetti MD, Grace Freier MD, Dale Freier MD, Scott King, Martha Bond, Mary Jump, Tiffany Folk, Andrew Rude  
**WebEx:** Tim Ryan MD, Joseph Borst  
**Absent:** Kimberly Abate  
**Scribe:** Tammy Reynolds

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items	Owner	Status (open or closed)
Call to Order	Meeting called to order at 4:05 pm by Dr. Ryan.			
Consent Agenda	The March agenda and written Public Health Reports were sent to members prior to the meeting. A. A motion was made to approve the March 16, 2022 meeting minutes by Martha Bond and seconded by Dr. Dale Freier. All members present voted to accept the March minutes. B. A motion was made to accept Environmental Health and Public Health reports as well as the Willard Drug Treatment Consent Order. All members present voted to accept the department reports.	Review/Action	Board	Closed
Approval of Monthly Warrant Expenditures	The Board reviewed the monthly warrant of expenditures. Dr. Ryan asked if anyone really looks over the warrant. Scott said that members of his staff and the finance department combs over it completely to be sure there is no spending errors, etc. A motion was made by Joseph Lorenzetti MD and seconded by Dale Freier MD to approve the monthly warrant expenditures. All members present voted in favor of approving the monthly warrant of expenditures.	Review/ Discussion/ action	Board	Closed
Oaths of Office	Due to FOIL request it was brought to Scott's attention that members of the Board of Health are required to be sworn in by decision of the county attorney. Tina Lotz swore in the various board members. Tina Lotz said that Joe Borst will need to be sworn in even though he sits on the Board of Supervisors. Dr. Ryan will sign his in May.	Scott	Board	Closed

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Partnership with S.C. Planning Dept. to map key water infrastructure using G.I.S.	Mary Jump & Kevin Serrett met with Jill Henry in Planning and her staff. They have a G.I.S. program they are working to get water systems records for the county water systems, also for public sewer systems information as well. She is hoping that Planning will develop a GIS database for various uses.	Mary Jump	Scott	Open
Watershed Protection Law	<p>General Update - Completed first ever inspector class. Currently have 16 inspectors. The property transfer inspections are already taking place. In a few weeks we will be sending out letters to waterfront property owners in Ovid and Fayette informing them of the requirement to have an inspection completed by Nov. 1, 2022.</p> <p>Variance Committee Appointments – Put in place for people to request a forbearance on different aspects of the law if they wish. Committee shall have three members with Phil Griswold, Cindy Garlick-Lorenzetti and Robert Stapleton having agreed to sit on this committee with the knowledge that they serve at the pleasure of the board. A motion was made by Tiffany Folk and seconded by Dr. Ryan to appoint these members.</p> <p>Review &amp; Approve Routine Variances – Dr. Lorenzetti made a motion to approve the waivers with Dr. Grace Freier seconding.</p>	Scott	Scott	Closed
Vaccine Storage	<p>Freezer – Freezer issues seem to have been corrected so we now have taken back our vaccines.</p> <p>MOU – We expect to execute a five year MOU contract with Life Care for SCHD and Life Care to serve as backup vaccine storage for each other's' vaccine. Henkel North America (an Ontario County healthcare facility) has asked to use our freezer as a back-up for their vaccine if theirs should have problems.</p>	Scott	Scott	Closed
Healthy Neighborhoods Grant	Grant that would help to educate eligible homeowners/occupants about home safety by providing smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors, knowing asthma triggers, potential lead paint hazards etc. Initially starts at the south end of county and Waterloo at the north end. This grant is only available to this county due to having our own environmental department. Scott is going to propose a new Sanitarian position for this grant at the next BOS Committee meetings.	Scott	Scott	Closed
COVID-19 Update A. Cases/Quarantines	Averaging about 25-30 cases per day. Currently have three residents in the hospital. Cases seem to be (overall) milder. Case counts in region still considered high per CDC.	Information/ Discussion	Scott	Open

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<p><b>B. Testing</b></p>	<p>Offering testing for one hour per week. Will continue to offer community testing in the near-term, but will continue to assess need. Also offering over-the-counter test kits to the public.</p>		
<p><b>C. Vaccination Clinics</b></p>	<p>Offering boosters (predominantly second dose) to those eligible on Wednesdays. Will gauge the need for the clinics from the demand and adjust accordingly. State has extended the school testing grant into the next school year (through 2023). Dr. Lorenzetti asked where the money goes besides test kits. Scott said it pays for school nurses overtime hours, supplies to the schools etc.</p>		
<p><b>D. Masking</b></p>	<p>Scott told the board about his meeting in Albany with NYS Health Commissioner Mary Bassett. It was requested that the state offer more education to the local health departments since there has been a large turnover of staff since the beginning of the pandemic. There was also a discussion about the “off ramp” for COVID - where do we go from here? Scott asked for advice about the VCC ending as of April 29th, 2022. The board suggested we continue reaching out to positive COVID cases for the time being, esp. those over 65 y.o. and school age.</p>		
<p><b>Departmental Issues</b> <b>A. Staffing</b></p>	<p>Welcome to Andrew Rude, new Public Health Educator. Project Director for CHSC grant position still open - may broach the subject with Cornell Cooperative Extension about having Mo Tidball continue as Interim Project Director until a suitable candidate is found. Director of Preventive Services position remains open. Public Health Fellows Grant – Pays for Dir. Of Prev. Services as well as two lower level positions (technically employees of S2AY/Pivital). Hoping to bring someone in to supplement Environmental Health staff.</p>	<p>Information/ Discussion</p>	<p>Scott</p>
<p><b>Agenda Items Submitted by Board Members</b></p>	<p>Dr. Freier discussed the issue of smoking in public (with marijuana as well as tobacco) in places where children may be present. Andrew said that the law states that if you can legally smoke tobacco and you can legally smoke marijuana in the same places. Martha Bond asked about Scott’s conference with Mary Bassett: who was in attendance and if the commissioner heard everyone’s concerns. Dr. Grace Freier asked about COVID in regards for the next school year. Scott feels that</p>	<p>Review/ Discussion/ Action</p>	<p>Scott  Closed</p>

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	<p>school testing will still be in place but nothing is certain yet. She also asked about mandates for students to be vaccinated. Currently nothing in place. Dr. Ryan asked Dr. Grace Freier to sign the warrants in his absence.</p>			
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There being no further discussions by the Board, motion to adjourn was made Dr. Timothy Ryan MD, and seconded by Dr. Lorenzetti. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

The next meeting will be held May 18, 2022 at 4:00 PM  
Seneca County Health Department Conference Room/via Webex

Written by,  
Tammy Reynolds, Staff Resource Assistant  
Reviewed by,

Scott King,  
Director of Public Health

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