

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)
Monday, April 25, 2016
5:00 P.M.
ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PRESENT:

Richard A. Ortoski, D.O., Chair
Carla Picardo, M.D.
Joy E. Taylor, Esq., MPH

IN ATTENDANCE:

Melissa Lyon
Charlotte Berringer
Karen Tobin
Nicole Bolash
Valerie Bukowski

R. Anthony Snow, M.D.
Kathy Fatica, Co. Council
Pamela Brunner
Chelsey Ricketts

EXCUSED:

Carolynn Masters, Ph.D., Vice-Chair
Bishop Clifton McNair, III

GUESTS:

Sonya Shampoe, RN,
Maternal & Child Health Grant,
Community Health Services Division

- I. **Call to Order:** Chairperson, Richard A. Ortoski, D.O., called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM. Introductions of Board members were presented.
- II. **Public Comments:** None to report.
- III. **Presentation:**
 - Vaccines for Children (VFC): Sonya Shampoe, RN, Maternal Child Health Grant, Community Health Services Division
 - An overview of the Vaccines for Children (VFC) program was presented. Highlights included:
 - CDC provides funds to state and local health depts. to oversee the VFC program
 - Vaccines provided at no cost to children whose families have medical assistance or do not have medical coverage and cannot afford the costs of vaccine
 - Vaccine cost covered - no charge
 - Permissible administration fee of \$23.14 per vaccine may be charged to uninsured families
 - Age range is 18 years old and younger
 - CDC distributes vaccines to medical providers
 - Medical providers who administer vaccines must follow strict compliance guidelines
 - 3 year record retention related to VFC
 - Site visits by health dept. staff (60 providers visited annually)
 - ◆ Verify Provider Profile info
 - ◆ Review provider documentation
 - ◆ Review "borrowing" practices (borrow from VFC vaccine supply, and replace when provider supply replenished)
 - ◆ Physical review of vaccine management plan
 - ◆ Discuss Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System
 - ◆ Assess vaccine storage units
 - ◆ Prepare timeline and follow-up regarding any compliance issues
 - Vaccines are costly
 - Waste - over \$8 million in vaccines lost in 2015 due to expiration or open and unused vials
 - Vaccine waste
 - ◆ Can be due to parent not wanting a vaccine as directed by the medical provider
 - ◆ Can be due to medical provider letting vaccine expire
 - ◆ Vaccine has limited-life once drawn from the vial
 - ◆ Must throw out vaccine by end of business day

- Healthy People 2020
 - PA is even or above the 2020 goals for vaccines administered
- PA Adolescents - HPV only at 33% for PA
- Infants - Percentages close to 90% range
- School children excluded in May 2016 from vaccines not being up to date
 - Health dept. making special appointments for vaccinating children if children can't be seen during regular clinic times
 - Legislators proposing to have an exclusion occur 3 weeks after the start of school in fall 2017
 - Working with families of children enrolling in Kindergarten programs in the City of Erie
 - School districts can make the school laws more stringent than the state law
- Data of how many parents have referral for real reasons
 - PA still allows philosophical or religious reason to refuse the vaccine, in addition to medical exemption
- Working with hospital Electronic Medical Records
 - EPIC registry
 - No history available on shots received/refused per child through UPMC and Allegheny Health
- PA SISS registry is what is most used by health depts. and many medical providers
- Criteria electronic medical records
 - Connectivity issues with immunization registries and costs associated with interfacing
 - Issues related to immunization registries and Medicare and Medicaid

IV. Approval of Minutes: Meeting minutes from October 26, 2015, and February 22, 2016, were not approved due to the absence of Board members who were present at both prior meetings. Both sets of meeting minutes will be presented for approval at the July 25, 2016 Board of Health meeting.

V. Director's Report:

➤ Program Plan

- Requirement of the PA Dept. of Health (PADOH) to receive ACT 315 funds; a source of funding provided to local health departments in Pennsylvania.
 - Fiscal payments of ACT 315 are based on previous year's actual expenditures and the projected county budget for the current year.
 - Formula for ACT 315 payments from the PADOH is an extensive calculation of funds available, population base, and projections versus expenses.
 - PADOH fiscal year is July 1 - June 30; ACT 315 payment calculations cross-over 2 County fiscal years (Jan 1 - Dec 31)
 - Making improvements at ECDH to spend the ACT 315 to the maximum allowed by PADOH
 - More details available from Melissa if requested

➤ WIC Application Postponement Notification

- ECDH submitted an application to the PADOH to administer the WIC program in Erie County for the 4-year term of 2016-2019
 - Negotiation meeting held in March 2016 between ECDH and PADOH, in Harrisburg, to review the ECDH application narrative and expansion proposals for WIC in Erie County
 - After press conference aired in March 2016, PADOH rejected all WIC applications across Pennsylvania for fiscal year 2016-2017, sighting updates to process reviews of applications for future RFA's
- ECDH may not apply for the WIC program for the 2017-2018 fiscal year
 - Campaign year for County Executive, therefore, may not take the risk due to the politically charged atmosphere of the WIC application in 2016

➤ NALBOH Annual Conference, August 10-12, 2016

- Board of Health members encouraged to attend a NALBOH conference
 - Funds have been set aside for 2 Board Members to attend the conference
 - Provide interaction with other Board Members across the U.S.

- Become more engaged with ECDH and the community

➤ County Council Proclamation

- ECDH recognized by County Council during Public Health Week
 - Proclamation will be hung in the ECDH second floor conference room

VI. **Old Business:** None to report.

VII. **New Business:**

➤ Board of Health Election of Officers for FY 2016

- Motion was made by Carla Picardo, M.D., and seconded by Joy E. Taylor, Esq., MPH, to keep the current officers in place for 2016: Richard A. Ortoski, D.O., Chairperson, and Carolynn Masters, Ph.D., Vice- Chairperson. All in favor.
 - Melissa Lyon will call Carolynn Masters, who was elected through absentia from the BOH members in attendance, to notify her of the nominations status.
- Dr. Ortoski thanked everyone for their kind words and cards during his recent surgery.

VIII. **Board Updates:**

➤ Division Reports - Q&A - Formal Written Reports Provided in Advance of Board Meeting

- **UPP Technology** - medical billing for clinic services
 - Bill insurance companies for clients seen at ECDH clinics
 - Slow start due to change in employees at UPP Technology
 - UPP Technology contracted through PADOH to provide billing services for all 10 local health departments in PA
 - Coordinated billing provides for a lower percentage rate of collected fees
- **Dental Grant from Highmark Foundation** - to provide dental services to children who receive services at ECDH, including children seen in the programs of IMMI, MCH and Nurse Family Partnership:
 - Target population - up to 3 years old for dental screenings
 - Dental procedures provided at Erie's FQHC, Community Health Net (CHN)
 - LECOM dental clinic can be used as referral as needed
- **ECDH Grant Writer position in 2016 Co. Budget**
 - Position denied by Co. Council for the 2016 ECDH budget
 - Co. Executive prefers no new positions requested in the 2017 Co. Budget process
 - ECDH is actively tracking missed grant opportunities due to the lack of manpower to pursue grant funding with the hopes that this would be reconsidered by the Co. Executive and Co. Council once the information is shared
- **Vaccines for School Children**
 - Students could be excluded from school if their vaccines are not up to date
 - Many students are from refugee families
 - Working with MHEDS to provide refugee families with proper information regarding the vaccination requirements and to provide vaccination sites
- **Body Art Regulations** - submitted to Co. Council for an Ordinance
 - 1) Drafted Regulations were emailed to all Board Members in February 2016; No comments were received from Board Members; 2) Drafted Regulations were sent to all Erie County Body Art Establishments and medical providers in February 2016; Limited comments received back – 7 total. Comments were sent to all Board Members in March 2016; No comments were received from Board Members.
 - In depth discussion at Board meeting on 4/25/2016, by Board Members on tongue splitting, scarification, implants, and branding
 - Concerns that tongue splitting would be performed by non-medical providers; it changes the function of a body organ
 - Dr. Ortoski requested that Karen Tobin conduct more research of other states that allow tongue splitting

- Dr. Ortoski requested that previous Board meeting minutes be reviewed to verify the Board's opinion on branding
 - Joy Taylor, Esq., volunteered to research law suits pertaining to tongue splitting, both pro and con, and would share her findings with all Board members
 - All findings will be sent to Board Members
 - Board Members agreed to communicate via email regarding Body Art Regulations remaining on County Council agenda for approval on May 17, 2016
 - **Tobacco Grant Funds** - Proposed movement of Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) funds to the Office of Drug and Alcohol
 - HB1844 – Office of Drug and Alcohol not in favor of proposed movement of MSA funds
 - Would affect education and prevention efforts set forth by all Regional Primary Contractors for the Tobacco Control Program in PA
 - Legislator who proposed the MSA funds reallocations withdrew HB1844; movement of MSA funds permanently postponed
 - MSA funds will remain at the State Department of Health in the Tobacco Control Division
 - Extension of current contract until Sept. 2016, to allow time for the State Department of Health to review applications and award new contracts
 - New RFP for 33 months
- IX. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m., on a motion by Carla Picardo, M.D., and seconded by Joy E. Taylor, Esq., MPH. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela K. Brunner, Recording Secretary

The next Health Board meeting is scheduled for MONDAY, JULY 25, 2016 AT 5:00 P.M.

DIVISION REPORTS - APR 25, 2016

Tuesday, April 19, 2016
9:15 AM

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DIVISION REPORTS

Prepared for the Erie County Board of Health

Administration Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. The ECDH applied to administer the Women Infant and Children's Program (WIC). We were in the midst of contraction negotiations when the PADOH decided to reject all WIC applications submitted to administer the program 2016-2020 year. The correspondence indicated that they will rebid the contract in 2017.
- b. The insurance billing project with UPP Technology has resumed with new commitment from the contractor after staff turnover was resolved. UPP technology is in the process of negotiating contracts with each of the insurance providers.

2. New Business:

- a. Dental Grant application to Highmark foundation is currently in a favorable position or funding. This would fund a dental operatory at ECDH with an integrated linkage to medical and dental providers in the community. This would be done utilizing the Public Health Dental Hygienist Licensure to conduct screenings, cleanings, fluoride treatments and sealant primarily targeting women and children.

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. Continued area of concern is the inability to pursue grant funding due to a cadre of barriers (staff time, resources, late notification, etc...) We are tracking missed funding opportunities to tabulate the number of dollars we were unable to pursue. The impact of these lost opportunities will be used to provide a compelling argument to seek a grant writer in the future.

Community Health Services Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. Point of Dispensing (POD) Exercise-see Epi/PHP see below.
- b. Flu season: started late, appears to have peaked the week ending 3/12/16. Still seeing 50-60 new cases a week up to week ending 4/9/16. Seasonal total as of 4/9/16 is 545. Full season totals historically run from 55 ('11-'12 season) to 1600 ('09-'10, first H1N1 season). Hospitalization rate is 9.2 % which is on par with other seasons.
- c. Provided STD testing at a large convention (250 attendees) of gay men. 25 chlamydia, gonorrhea, and syphilis tests were performed. A Community Partner also performed 37 rapid HIV tests. This opportunity occurred through our involvement with the Erie County HIV task force.
- d. Zika virus: through coordination with a large OB practice, 6 pregnant women who had traveled to areas where Zika virus is occurring have been tested for Zika virus. Tests returns so far are negative. Turn around time is 4-6 weeks. No reports of symptomatic non-pregnant individuals who have traveled to these areas have been received.

2. New Business:

- a. Working with community partners to assure availability of childhood vaccines for Erie School District children who are likely to be excluded from school on 5/2 due to missing vaccine doses.

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. Awaiting a final contract from PA DOH for Maternal-Child Health funding that will include implementation of a new service: Baby & Me, Tobacco Free. This will be geared toward pregnant women who smoke. It uses diaper vouchers as incentives for not smoking during pregnancy and the 1st year of the infants' life.

Environmental Health Services Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. Body Art-the Department only received comments from 7 people during the 30 day public comment period on proposed revisions to our Body Art Regulations; a final draft is being presented to County Council.

2. New Business:

- a. The Department is working with the PA Department of Health to distribute a survey to local residents to assess knowledge on ticks and Lyme disease, risk factors and prevention. As a partner in the Northwest PA Tick Taskforce, we have requested funding for a an education campaign to post trails and distribute brochures about ticks and Lyme disease.
- b. The Department received the West Nile Virus grant from Department of Environmental Protection for the 2016 surveillance and control of mosquitoes. The grant award was for \$35,620.
- c. The Presque Isle Bay Advisory Committee was created to address concerns within Presque Isle Bay. Now that the Bay is no longer on a list as an Area of Concern, the committee is changing its name to PA LEEF-Lake Erie Environmental Forum. This will allow the committee to expand to any issue involving Lake Erie, Presque Isle Bay, local streams and watersheds including invasive species, emerging pathogens, harmful algal blooms, etc. The first meeting under the new structure was held April 18th.
- d. Citations were filed against 24 permittees for failure to pay their \$100 annual fee for inspection of their Small Flow Treatment Facility. Many have since paid or pled guilty. Several are still pending.

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. We are preparing for the 2016 Beach Season. The Health Department's laboratory will again be used to analyze beach samples from Presque Isle State Park and Freeport Beach in North East. Monitoring and notification protocols have been updated and we will continue with the method of advisories, restrictions, and precautionary advisories when conditions are poor.

Epidemiology/Public Health Preparedness Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. A Point of Dispensing (POD) Exercise was conducted at the Perry Hi-Way Hose Company on March 31. ECDH Public Health Preparedness and Community Health Services coordinated the event and staff from all divisions participated. 102 doses of Tdap (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) vaccine were administered to emergency response personnel as well as the general population with a focus on the rural population. Community partners who helped at the event were Lifeworks, EMMCO West, Erie County Emergency Management Agency, and Erie County Sheriff's Office. An exit survey was given to clients and comments were very positive.

2. New Business:

- a. ECDH has been awarded a \$13,000 Helping Today grant from the Erie Community Foundation to be used for the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey. This is a telephone survey that will be administered by University of Pittsburgh to capture self-reported data about individual health behaviors.
- b. ECDH will proactively provide information about the Zika virus along with steps to prevent mosquito bites to the residents of Erie County. The CDC has officially linked Zika virus infection in pregnant women with birth defects and expects Zika-carrying viruses to appear in the United States within the year.
- c. An ECDH epidemiologist is a member of the data subcommittee of the Heroin Overdose Community Awareness Task Force and provides statistics where applicable.

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. Epidemiology will partner with Health Promotion & Quality Improvement to mentor an undergraduate intern this summer. One proposed project is a collaboration with the MultiCultural Resource Center to conduct a health survey of Latino clients.

Health Promotion & Quality Improvement Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. QI Team update: working on webpage redesign, call-down efficiency, time and travel database improvements, and team-building activities (most recently the neighborhood clean-up).
- b. HB1844: Each Pa Representative has been visited at least once on this matter. The bill has not been eliminated at this point.
- c. ECDH employees picked up over 25 bags of recyclables and garbage during a neighborhood clean-up that was held during Days of Caring.
- d. The Million Hearts event with the Erie Bayhawks wasn't as well attended as we would have liked but was enjoyable for all who went.
- e. An abstract, authored by 2 of ECDH's health educators, on ***A Matter of Balance*** (falls prevention) was chosen for publication by/at the 2016 Safe States Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

2. New Business:

- a. Mini grant applications are available in the Safe and Healthy Communities/Injury Prevention grant for several initiatives:
 - i. Up to \$5,000 to use towards furnishing a workplace lactation space for breastfeeding moms returning to work.
 - ii. Up to four schools will receive \$550 to assist with basic infrastructure needs or to develop a garden.
 - iii. Up to six schools will receive \$500 to purchase outdoor safety equipment.
- b. We have been awarded a VISTA who's focus will be on food access .
 - i. The VISTA will form the Food Policy Advisory Council (FPAC).
 - ii. Heavy partnership with planning.
 - iii. Make connections with existing organizations to form (consolidate existing groups) a FPAC -Research and advise on food policy (urban & rural Ag zoning, community gardens, work with corner stores on WIC/SNAP).
 - iv. Connecting County farmers to city revenue streams.
 - v. Help to grow market by recruiting vendors.
 - vi. Grow customer base by advertising to local neighborhood and businesses in close proximity (i.e. Erie Insurance, UPMC).
 - vii. Apply for funds to double SNAP/WIC (from USDA) Build Eats and Arts.

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. The Tobacco Control Program RFP came out on 4/23 and is due on May 25th, for a 33 month contract, beginning October 1, 2016. The overall amount of funds allocated for three years of tobacco control programming decreased by \$42,564 since the last RFP in 2013. Programmatically, this will not affect our application because the change in staffing in that program has allotted over \$60,000/per year of unspent funds in personnel costs.