

ERIE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH (BOH)
Monday, February 22, 2016
5:00 P.M.
ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

PRESENT:

Carolynn Masters, Ph.D., Vice-Chair
Bishop Clifton McNair, III
Joy E. Taylor, Esq., MPH

IN ATTENDANCE:

Melissa Lyon
Charlotte Berringer
Karen Tobin
Nicole Bolash
Valerie Bukowski
Pamela Brunner
Chelsey Ricketts

EXCUSED:

Richard A. Ortoski, D.O., Chair
Carla Picardo, M.D.

GUESTS:

-Breanna Adams, Environmental Protection
Specialist, Erie Co. Dept. of Health
-David Bruce, Times News
-Alyssa Martin, Gannon University
Nursing Student

- I. **Call to Order:** Vice-Chairperson, Carolynn Masters, PhD., called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.
 - **Approval of Minutes:** Meeting minutes from October 26, 2015, were not approved due to the absence of current Board members who were present at the October 26th meeting. The October 26, 2015 meeting minutes will be presented for approval at the April 25, 2016 Board of Health meeting.
- II. **Welcome to New Board of Health Members:**
 - Bishop Clifton McNair, III, and Joy E. Taylor, Esq., MPH, both gave an overview of their educational and professional backgrounds. Welcome! Thank you for your willingness to serve on the Board of Health.
- III. **Public Comments:** None to report.
- IV. **Presentations:**
 - **Presentation – Body Art Regulations Revisions Overview – Environmental Health Services Division:** Karen Tobin, Director, and Breanna Adams, Environmental Protection Specialist
 - The current Body Art Regulations were established in 2006 with a revision in 2008. The current draft of the suggested revisions to the Body Art Regulations has been sent to the 22 licensed body art establishments in Erie County for their review and comments, with a return request date of March 18, 2016. The establishments are appreciative of the ability to provide feedback on the proposed regulation changes. The comments may be used to critique the Regulations before a County Ordinance is prepared for passage by County Council. The main highlights of the revisions include:
 - Definitions: 1) Cosmetic Tattooing will fall under the Body Art definition.
 - Licensing: 1) based on calendar year from date of opening; 2) ECDH must be contacted in case of an emergency like fire, flood, power outage; 3) Application fee added; 4) Inspection fee increased.
 - Tattoo/Body Artist: 1) Cleanliness and sterilization requirements clearly defined; 2) Annual blood borne pathogen course requirement, including posting of the certification at the facility.
 - Facility Requirements: 1) Water and sewer must be approved by ECDH; 2) Separate handwashing sink for artists, in addition to restroom facilities.
 - Equipment: 1) Work surfaces must be smooth and easy to clean; 2) Designated, separate room for cleaning and sterilizing equipment; 3) Inks and pigments must be used according to manufacturer recommendations; 4) Equipment sterilization processes clearly defined; 5) Jewelry standards defined.

- Customer Education: 1) Customer clarification on medical risks in relation to healing processes before performing body art; 2) Aftercare instructions, orally and written, including referral to family physician for any needed treatment.
- Consent and Prohibitions: 1) Per PA State Law, parental consent required for persons under 18 years of age; 2) Proposed Prohibition of: tongue splitting, subdermal implants, suspension or scarification.
- Waste Disposal: 1) Separate waste hauler for infectious waste.
- Records: 1) Retention of 2-year minimum of all records.
- Penalties: 1) Fines range - \$100 - \$300, as necessary.
- Board of Health members requested to see the comments provided by the 22 body art establishments. Current feedback from some of the 22 licensed body art establishments would prefer higher fines for violations to limit the individuals who do not abide by industry standards. It was explained that the only requirement to become a body artist is to possess blood borne pathogen certification. Body artists who are found in violation do not have their license revoked if they correct the violation. Citations can be filed for violations.

V. Director's Report:

- ECDH Budget: Melissa Lyon reviewed the 2016 Approved ECDH County Budget adopted by County Council in November 2015. Melissa discussed the variances in the approved ECDH budget:
 - Grant Writer/Accreditation Coordinator: Position was denied by County Council.
 - Discussion for a county-wide grant writer, with position funding across multiple county departments, is in the early discussion phase for a possible 2017 county administration budget proposal.
 - ◆ Bishop McNair is in full support of a grant writer position, noting the important need to find additional resources for funding.
 - Refugee Health Coordinator: Position funds of \$59,000 were put into a Restricted Account in the 2016 Health Department budget due to the Pennsylvania budget impasse.
 - County Ordinance prepared for County Council to release the restricted funds in support of the Refugee Health Coordinator position. The County Council Ordinance is scheduled for a second reading by Council in March 2016. Passage of the Ordinance seems favorable.
- WIC Application Submission: Pennsylvania Department of Health changed the funding regulations for the grant period of Oct 1, 2016 – Sept 30, 2019, separating out Erie County from the northwest regional WIC coverage area. The Erie County Department of Health (ECDH), along with one other known organization, applied for the Erie County WIC grant. Service enhancements were included in the ECDH WIC grant application. If the grant is awarded to ECDH, the transition phase will begin in August 2016. WIC is a federally funded program, with funds administered through the Pennsylvania Department of Health. Award notification should be received by July 2016.

VI. Old Business:

- Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Survey (BRFSS):Carolynn Masters, PhD., requested an overview on the status of the BRFSS for Erie County, which was provided by Valerie Bukowski, EPI Research Associate, Erie County Department of Health:
 - Current funding sources for the Erie County BRFSS are ECDH, United Way, Community Health Net, and the non-profit hospitals. ECDH has also applied for a grant from the Erie Community Foundation.
 - The BRFSS telephone survey and resulting report will be conducted by the University of Pittsburgh, School of Public Health as a sole source provider. The University has been conducting the BRFSS for Allegheny County and for Pennsylvania Department of Health.
 - The BRFSS provides an overview of the trends within our community and the greatest health needs to target for behavioral changes including obesity, tobacco use, and nutrition, to prevent diseases, such as diabetes and heart disease. The overarching trends such as poverty and access to healthcare also affect behavioral outcomes.

- Erie County is fortunate to have a BRFSS specific to our region; other counties within the state have to use the statewide BRFSS and extrapolate information to address health trends in their areas.

VII. Board Updates:

- Division Reports (Reviewed prior to meeting)
 - Carolynn Masters, PhD., explained the importance of receiving and reviewing the Division Reports in advance of the Board of Health meeting. If a Board member has a question about any of the content in the Reports, they can either call or email Pamela Brunner, who will assist in directing them to the appropriate Health Department divisional manager to address their inquiries.
- Division Reports Updates:
 - Insurance Billing for Clinical Services at ECDH: All clinical services at ECDH have been provided free of charge. Clinical services can be billed for insurance reimbursement to any client who has insurance. ECDH is working with UPP Technology to establish an insurance billing system to offset the costs associated with client clinical visits. This is still in the planning stages.

VI. New Business:

- Board of Health Election of Officers for FY 2016: Election of officers will take place at the April 25, 2016 Board of Health meeting when all Board members are present.
- Board Membership Advocating for Health Department: Carolynn Masters, PhD., asked how Board members could advocate on behalf of the Health Department or programs within the Health Department.
 - Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) Funding: HB 1844 (Rep. Aaron Kaufer) has been voted out of committee and onto the House floor, which suggests pulling MSA funds from the PA Department of Health/Tobacco Control Bureau and placing them under the PA Department of Drug and Alcohol. This movement of the MSA funds would have a huge impact on the ECDH and severely affect all tobacco programming/services.
 - Talking points will be sent to the Board members to advocate, with the legislators, for the retention of MSA funds with local health departments.

VII. Adjournment:

- The meeting was adjourned at 5:59 p.m., on a motion by Bishop Clifton McNair, III, and seconded by Joy E. Taylor, Esq. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela K. Brunner, Recording Secretary

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

DIVISION REPORTS - FEB 22, 2016

Tuesday, February 16, 2016
2:10 PM

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH DIVISION REPORTS

Prepared for the Erie County Board of Health

Administration Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. Insurance billing project is still underway. Delays have occurred due to State Budget impasse and local spending policies prevented ECDH from paying invoices on time. Also the project lead has left UPP Technology and there has been a transition. Since this is a PADOH encouraged project and lead by the PA Immunization Coalition I am confident that it will kick off in 2016.
- b. The 2016 ECDH Budget was passed with the following actions:
 - i. County Council did not approve funding for the proposed grant writer
 - ii. County Council placed the funding into a restricted line for Refugee Health Coordinator Position due to State Budget Impasse and flat funding of ACT 315. This has been requested to be unrestricted effective 2.9.16 and retroactive to 1.1.2016.
- c. Customer Service Area construction is completed. There are few minor improvements that are still required to enhance the safety of that area.

2. New Business:

- a. ECDH submitted an application to administer the USDA funded Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women Infants and Children (WIC). The proposed budget for four years including transitional costs was ~7.9 million dollars.
- b. Kathy Fatica is our new liaison at County Council. Welcome!

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. N/A

Community Health Services Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. Immunization grant has been cut by \$16,895 which is 4.4% of the budget. The cut was absorbed in personnel costs as there have been personnel changes since the original budget was constructed. Net result: no impact on current services or staffing. The cut reflects reduced CDC funding to PA DOH for immunization services.
- b. Flu season is slow to start locally, statewide and nationally. CDC is reporting that flu activity is increasing in the United States and that it has received several reports of severe flu infections. Recent reports of serious illness in young- to middle-aged adults have been linked to the 2009 H1N1 virus. This strain is covered in this seasons' vaccine.

2. New Business:

- a. Zika virus: The dept. has answered both consumer and media questions regarding this new and emerging infectious disease. The population that is recommended for testing now

- includes persons returning from travel to areas with disease transmission who were either symptomatic while traveling, or became symptomatic after returning to the US and also all asymptomatic pregnant women who are returning from travel to these areas. The health dept will screen callers first, then refer to local resources for the drawing of the specimen for testing. Testing procedures have been shared with local labs and hospitals. A very large local OB practice has also agreed to draw the specimens for testing the pregnant women that meet these criteria. Specimens will be couriered to the PA DOH lab, who then forwards them to the CDC lab. There is not currently a lab in PA that can perform Zika testing. There are no current identified Zika cases in Erie County.
- b. Childhood Lead Poisoning (CLP): the Flint Michigan water situation, along with a widely circulated Vox.com news article (<http://www.vox.com/2016/2/3/10904120/lead-exposure-flint-pennsylvaniaon>) on CLP in PA has sparked local media and (minimal) consumer inquiries about lead poisoning in Erie County. The Environmental Division has addressed questions related to water quality and CHS is translating data and addressing testing and follow-up. Lead testing, regardless of the result, is reportable to PA DOH by public health regulation. PA does not have a legal mandate to test children for lead. In Erie County, childhood lead testing is ordered by medical providers. MA requires testing of children at age 1 or 2 yrs or at least < 7yo. This is also the recommended time frame for most privately insured children. The majority of CLP in Erie County has historically been linked to our <1978 housing stock, which is substantial across Erie County. If lead is identified, medical providers are then to educate families on things they can do related to nutrition, housecleaning, hand hygiene and limiting exposure to chipped/peeling paint. The frequency of recommended f/u testing depends on the level of the initial testing. Medical intervention with chelation is not appropriate until a level of $\geq 45\mu\text{g}/\text{dL}$ is reached. Prior to the ECDH CLP services closing in mid-2013, there was an average of 3 children/year who had levels that were that high. The week of 2/16 a blast fax was sent to pediatricians and family practice physicians reminding them of resources for CLP information for themselves and their customers. Included in that correspondence was information regarding the Erie City Redevelopment Authority and St. Martin Center which both have programs to address housing rehab throughout Erie County related to CLP.

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. The renewal application for Title V Maternal-Child Health services was submitted to PA DOH on 2/9/15. A new service proposed in the application is the implementation of the evidence informed Baby & Me, Tobacco Free program. This focuses on tobacco cessation for pregnant women and diaper vouchers if they sustain the not smoking behavior for the year after giving birth. Current contract expires 6/30/16. We do not know when we will be notified of acceptance.

Environmental Health Services Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. Environmental Fee Schedule-the existing fee schedule is being revised to add permits for temporary camping, pool application review fees, fees for follow-up inspections, and fees for late submittal of applications. Most license fees will be increased because the last increase was in January 2012.
- b. Body Art Establishments-the existing Body Art Establishment regulations are being revised. Most revisions clarify requirements for sterilizing equipment, providing hand washing sinks, and jewelry. We have also added scarification, suspension, implants, and tongue splitting under prohibited acts. We recently sent the draft regulations to all licensed Body Art Establishments in Erie County with a 30 day comment period. IT will assist in moving this program from paper reporting to computerized inspections and reports.
- c. The Department has signed a new agreement with Logistics Plus Linguistic Solutions for interpreting and translation services. The interpreter previously use by the Environmental

Division, Tony Lee, recently passed away. This new agreement will provide phone and in-person interpretation for health inspectors and other staff. Several Environmental educational handouts will be translated in other languages.

- d. Growing Greener grant for septic system improvements-we are partnering with Environment Erie to hold 5 workshops for home owners in need of septic system improvements. \$320,000 is available; homeowners will be reimbursed for 50% of their expenses on installing systems, repairing systems, or maintaining systems. Funds were on hold in 2015, but have now been released. The first two workshops will be held in May.

2. New Business:

- a. The food safety violation cited the most time on 2015 inspection reports: Time/temperature control for safety food was not held cold at 41 degrees or below. Simply put, facilities are not monitoring refrigeration temperatures. All training courses, inspections, and education material this year will focus on addressing this problem. The regulations do not require facilities to maintain temperature logs. We do have the authority to mandate them, once we find a violation. A new policy was written to address citing the violation AND the Person in Charge for failing to perform their duties AND mandating temperature logs be completed and retained.

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB)Taskforce-taskforce members are working on revisions to our HAB response strategy. EPA has established drinking water levels for algal toxins that will be incorporated into our recreational water strategy. New warning signs are also being created to get the public's attentions in the area where a HAB is identified.

PHP/Epidemiology Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. PHP Coordinator and the Refugee Coordinator observed a flu thruout at the Multicultural Resource Center (MCRC) for refugees. 77 individuals, with the majority being Bhutanese and Tibetan, received a flu shot. Five refugees received their first ever flu shot.
- b. Point Of Dispensing planning is going well for our exercise scheduled on March 31, 2016. Tdap will be administered. Please feel free to promote the event to community members they may per-register electronically. ECDH.org, documents/forms, point of dispensing (POD) Pre-registration Form.
<https://www.eriecountypa.gov/media/378474/ecdoth-pod-pre-registration-1.pdf>
- c. Ebola plan was completed and submitted to State. Working with the Universities in Erie County to create appendices to the Ebola plan.

2. New Business:

- a. An Executive Summary for the 2016 Erie County Community Health Needs Assessment was completed and posted on the ECDH website.
- b. ECDH will be the lead organization in a community collaborative to conduct a 2016 Erie County Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) survey. The last BRFSS was completed in 2011. In addition to contributing funds toward this project, ECDH has applied for a Helping Today grant from the Erie Community Foundation. Deadline for submission was February 1. A copy of the application is included in the Board member information folder. As Board Chair, Dr. Ortoski electronically signed the grant application on behalf of the Board.
- c. ECDH epidemiology is collaborating with Dr. Christopher Magno, College of Humanities, Education, and Social Sciences, Gannon University on geo-mapping projects. Mapping of sites listed in the Erie County Community Wellness Directory is projected to be completed by one of his classes. Melissa Lyon provided a Letter of Support for this project.

- d. Situational awareness training for all ECDH staff was conducted by Mercyhurst University, Public Training Institute and completed in January. There were three classes with 100% participation.
- e. We are planning a personnel call down to help facilitate our 3 of 5 capacity testing in February.

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. A 2016 BRFSS will be completed in 2016. The Institute for Evaluation Science in Community Health, Department of Behavioral and Community Health Sciences, Graduate School of Public Health, University of Pittsburgh will conduct the survey and report the results.
- b. On July 1, 2016, ECDH will be taking over the NW PA Medical Reserve Corps. St. Vincent's no longer wanted to maintain and facilitate the program. This was a mutual arrangement by both entities. Transition has just started with AGH Saint Vincent's.

Health Promotion & Quality Improvement Division Report

1. Old Business/Current Projects:

- a. Tobacco Control Program: The Governor has recently signed off on the MSA funds line item. Once funds are released from the Commonwealth, subcontracts will be established to begin the diabetes programming in the 6 NWPA counties chosen by PADOH.
- b. Section 2 of the annual PHAB report was submitted on October 27, 2015.
- c. There has been a change with the QI Team leadership however, the team has continued to take on projects and suggest improvements.

2. New Business:

- a. Tobacco Control Program:
 - i. The Tobacco RFP for the next grant period is expected to be released within the next few months (March or April) and the current contract has been extended through September 30, 2016. ECDH plans to apply for these funds.
 - ii. HB 1844 would move MSA funding from PA DOH to Drug and Alcohol, potentially disrupting or eliminating current programs. The bill has been voted out of committee and heard on the floor. Contact has been made with all legislators in the NW PA region to advocate against this change in funding.
- b. Safe & Healthy Community:
 - i. Million Hearts SAF-Educate local leaders and partners on the Million Hearts initiative and discuss and identify potential collaborative opportunities to increase hypertension control; and increase physical activity, nutrition, and overall health improvement in communities and work site settings.
- c. The PADOH is hosting a Chronic Disease Conference in June. One session at the conference is going to focus on environmental changes that have been implemented to improve the health and safety of citizens. Erie was mentioned as a possible speaker for this session.

3. Future Planning/Areas of Concern:

- a. Continued advocacy for MSA funds to remain at PADOH.
- b. Narrowing down effective templates and/or system for ECDH's Performance Management System.