

**Board of Health**  
**Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2015**

The following members were present: Susan Dougherty CNM, NP, Tim LaFever, Dr. Willard Simons, and Dr. Leo Cusumano.

Others present: Lori Ballengee, Janet Norris.

Members absent: Dr. David Brubaker, Dr. Zahi Kassas, Kevin LaForge, Legislative Representative.

Medical Advisor absent: Dr. Christopher Depner.

The meeting was called to order at 7:40pm by Board of Health President Dr. Leo Cusumano.

The minutes from the June 17, 2015 meeting were approved as read by a motion from Susan Dougherty and seconded by Dr. Willard Simons. **Motion Carried**

Lori Ballengee, Public Health Director, reported on the recent POD (Point of Dispensing) Drill held at the Health Department. A POD Drill was held to assimilate what would be done in the event of an Anthrax outbreak. New York State Department of Health wanted the Health Department to try and process 200 people through the POD in two hours. 167 people went through the clinic in 2 hours. The Health Department did not meet their quota but did a very good job overall as indicated by the New York State Health Department representatives who were present to review the drill. NYSDOH was very impressed with the mock press interviews that were held. Chairman Crandall, the Sheriff, County Administrator, Emergency Services personnel, Public Works personnel all participated in the drill. NYSDOH representatives indicated our tablets and laptops were outdated and need to be updated and that would help us to expedite procedures and help us move people through at a much quicker pace.

Lori reported the 2016 budget has been reviewed and no cuts have been made to the budget. Lori defended the budget to the legislators in August 2015. Lori indicated she wants to add another full time Public Health Educator to her staff.

Lori reported Senator Young came to the Health Department and presented us with a \$50,000 check for the Cancer Services Program. The Allegany Cattaraugus Cancer Services Program will be purchasing a new car to use for outreach to Allegany and Cattaraugus County residents as well as other items to promote cancer screenings and assist clients with copay assistance and medical help.

Small changes were made to the Family Planning policies and procedures and these changes were approved by a motion from Tim LaFever. This motion was seconded by Dr. Willard Simons. **Motion Carried.**

Family Planning has started with EMR (electronic medical records), eClinical Works and this program is working well so far. Family Planning staff has not started billing with it yet, as they are setting up the infrastructure.

Quality improvement audit results of Family Planning charts revealed many ways to improve on reminder/recall of patients but the initial issue of incorrect follow up involved three people. One has been appropriately tested by us and is fine, the second was called and scheduled for December (was initially told the wrong time frame). The third patient, the index case is being followed by another provider and has not yet been retested as contraindicated at this time.

Only two schools (Andover & Fillmore) have open houses with flu vaccine this year. The others either discontinued open house night or had them before flu vaccine was available. This is significant in our ability to reach students for flu vaccination.

New Lead pamphlets were disseminated to the Board of Health for their review. The Health Department is actively case managing five lead cases at this time.

There were no patient complaints.

In regards to the Crossroads Water Improvement project, County engineering review is completed. Project engineer will provide updated blue prints to coincide with changes that have been made. The Health Department action with respect to these plans should be complete as of this point in time.

The County engineering review has been completed for the water main extension project on Route 417 from Wellsville to ARVOS Group (Alstom). The project plans have been approved and Health Department action is complete.

Revocation of Disinfection Waivers (Chlorination of Public Water Systems): systems affected are Val-E-Vue Court, Houghton-Letchworth KOA Campground-Upper well system and Best Inn. This summer has seen a rash of bad water samples from throughout the county affecting public water systems. The 3 systems indicated all experienced total Coliform Rule violations that required Disinfection Waivers they had to be revoked with as per requirement the owners/operators of those systems must install chlorinated disinfection systems to treat the water for bacterial growth. To date, only the Best Inn still doesn't have its disinfection system installed. This requires this facility to remain under a boil water order.

The situation of numerous bad water samples this summer isn't unique to Allegany County, but has been reported to be happening throughout WNY this year. The cause is likely to varying weather conditions experienced this summer, where dry periods have alternated with very wet periods.

Cooling tower regulations and Legionnaire's Disease Prevention: New York State DOH regulations require all cooling towers in the state to be registered with NYSDOH to be inspected annually, and to have testing of coolant water for possible Legionella contamination. Local health departments may play a role in enforcement activities should entities with cooling towers fail to register, have inspections conducted, have water sampled, etc. The Health Department has sent letters out to all entities within the county that could possibly have one or more cooling towers to inform them of the registration process and the follow-up inspections and water testing requirements.

Since this legislation was run through the state legislature and signed into law by Governor Cuomo so quickly, at this point in time there is no mechanism in place to track on what registrations have been made and if inspections have been conducted. The drop dead date to have these initial items taken care of by owners/operators of cooling towers is September 18, 2015.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm with a motion from Tim LaFever. This motion was seconded by Dr. Simons. **Motion Carried**

Respectfully submitted,  
Janet Norris