

Chautauqua County Board of Health  
MINUTES

**Meeting Date/Time:** Thursday, March 21, 2024 6:00 p.m.

**Location:** HRC 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room, 7 North Erie Street, Mayville, NY 14757

**Scribe:** Sherri Rater

**ATTENDANCE:**

BOH Members	P/A	BOH Members	P/A	Others Present	Title
Dawn Columbare	P	Dr. Kidder	P	Jessica Wuerstle	Environmental Health Director
Dr. Erlandson	P	Dr. Krahn	E	Sherri Rater	Communications Coor.; Board of Health Scribe
Dr. Faulk*	P	Dr. Pender	E	Greg Bacon	Jamestown Post Journal/Dunkirk Observer
Matt Hanley	P	Legislator Marty Proctor	P		
Rick Ketcham	E	Mark Tarbrake	E		
Dr. Khan	P	Lacey Wilson*	E	*Non-voting	

<b>Call to order</b>	The meeting was called to order at 6:11 p.m. by Elizabeth Kidder. The Board welcomed Dawn Columbare and Legislator Marty Proctor as their newest members to the Board.
<b>Privilege of the Floor</b>	none
<b>Approval of 1/18/24 minutes</b>	Khan made a motion approve the January 18, 2024 minutes; 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Hanley; all in favor; motion carried.
<b>New Business: Agreements to Settle</b>	Agreements to settle were reviewed. No action is needed. Of the violators, one chose not to settle and it went to a hearing, which is next on the agenda. Fine amounts are being reviewed with the intent to increase the amount to, at minimum, cover our costs.
<b>Hearing Officer Recommendation</b>	<p><u>Hearing Summary:</u> In the matter of Cloudz, the owner, Subrey El Baneh, after discussion, the owner admitted to the violation of New York State Public Health Law, Article 13-F, Section 1399-cc, as tobacco products were sold to a minor at this establishment and consented to the settlement agreement of a fine of \$300 with a \$250 surcharge and two points assessed against him pursuant to NYS Public Health Law noted above. The Hearing Officer recommends Board accept the agreement.</p> <p><u>Discussion summary:</u> Additional fees were incurred for this case because it was brought to a hearing. Wuerstle will research additional costs and bring them to the Board for future consideration.</p> <p><u>Motion:</u> Khan moves to charge respondent with a fine of \$300 and a surcharge of \$250 to be paid within 90 days and 2 points assessed to the retailer; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Erlandson; all in favor; motion carried.</p>

<p><b>Old Business:</b> Village of Fredonia Water Update</p>	<p>Wuerstle Reporting: Natalie Whiteman and I have provided much information and guidance to Village Officials and Fredonia water has been in the news a lot lately. We plan to hold a public panel forum at 6pm on April 10<sup>th</sup> at the Fredonia Opera House where we intend to ‘follow a rain drop’ through the watershed, to the reservoir, over the dam or into the water plant and out into the distribution system to allow residents to gain a better understanding of what actually happens, to point out the problems that currently exist, the concerns for the future, and potential fixes. We’re also engaging Dr. Courtney Wigdahl-Perry, an environmental science professor and SUNY Fredonia who does a lot with water quality and blue green algae with Chautauqua Lake and Dr. Matt Lanning, a geology/hydro geology professor at SUNY Fredonia to give a trusted academic perspective as well.</p>
<p><b>Director’s Report</b></p>	<p>Wilson submitted a Directors Report that was reviewed. Notably:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Dental Needs:</b> The UB School of Dental Medicine has a Rural Dentistry Program. For many years a mobile dental van has been placed in Chautauqua County, providing dental services to nearly 1200 children annually. Some of the funding may be going away. Senator Borrello is working to see how much of the funding is coming from state funds. We realize there is a shortage of dentists and we want to try to work with UB as best we can to continue these services. Funding has been shrinking the last few years as there are less locations across the county. UB Dental sent out cease and desist letters to dentists and some pediatric a couple years ago asking to not refer to the UB dental van in Chautauqua County.</li> <li>• <b>Substance Use:</b> We are looking to collaborate with the District Attorney’s Office to improve our ability to follow up on some of the tobacco and vaping sales violators. It is a very new collaboration and we are figuring out how we can partner together to make more of a dent in this area, specifically with the flavored vape products. The other concern is the general safety of our staff as they are going out to the shops. Our sanitarians and public health technicians don’t have the safety training that an officer does and they are going into some dicey situations and taking minors with them.</li> </ul> <p>Steve Kilburn has joined us in the Health Department focusing on substance abuse and addition response. One of the things he will be spearheading is improving access for mothers, infants and children to services and treatment. As part of the Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome (NAS) diagnosis and trying to strengthen the screening and referral networks in Chautauqua County, Positive Directions are already making referrals in Chautauqua County but wants to re-formalize the network. We will be working with Davina Moss-King of Positive Directions, TCC, UPMC labor and delivery and pediatric offices. We do not want to duplicate efforts. Steve may be reaching out to members to engage their insights.</p> <p>A big part of Steve’s job will be to work with the Legislature to try to figure out ways to best spend the Opioid Settlement Funds. A large portion of those funds are being utilized to fund the Medicated Assisted Treatment (MAT) program at the jail as it is an unfunded mandated program. Steve has been leading the Chautauqua Substance Abuse Response Partnership for the last several years and that committee is more of an advisory board consisting of stakeholders throughout the county. The biggest challenge now is finding funding for our jail MAT program. The annual cost is approximately \$800K and are not currently covered by Medicaid. There is something in the Governors budget that may change that but we are unsure if that will pass.</p> <p>Overdose deaths are down YTD compared to the last few years. We hope that the combined efforts with our community partners. Steve managed a couple of grants over the last few years within the county. The medium age of overdose deaths is in the 40s we aren’t seeing as many younger people and we hope that is attributed to the education and awareness that is provided at the schools. People aren’t dying from Heroin overdoses, mainly fentanyl and sometimes paired with methamphetamines and cocaine. Could this be a</p>

	<p>result of the fear of OD that was instilled last year.</p> <p>The biggest challenge we have is treatment retention. The transition between pediatric ADHD medication and providing for their needs as adults has improved.</p> <p>Discussion was had about Cannabis regulations. Cannabis is regulated under the penal law and therefore law enforcement is responsible for regulations. Tobacco and vaping is regulated under NYS health law and that is why we are charged with enforcement. There is a lot of data to suggest that children using any drug (tobacco, cannabis, etc.) are more likely to develop addictive behaviors as adults. Getting them the health they need early on is so important.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Hep A</b> outbreak occurred at the Erie, PA Cracker Barrel where one employee tested positive. We notified our residents via a press release and vaccinated 20 residents. We also gave 80 doses of Hep A vaccine to Erie County to assist with their vaccination efforts as they ran out of vaccine.</li> <li>• We did lose a nurse at the jail. We are conducting a salary study. We have had an issue with recruiting nurses within the county jail. We increased their work week from 35-40 hours/week. This is a high-risk population where a lot of inmates are acutely ill and with mental illness and substance dependence issues. It is extremely important work and often goes unnoticed. Members note that nursing shortages are being seen in many other areas. College application enrollment is down for nursing programs as well.</li> </ul>
<b>Other</b>	Tom Erlandson has spoken with Ken Dahlgren about smoking and he would be happy to come to the next meeting.
<b>Adjournment</b>	Columbare made a motion to adjourn at 7:25pm.
<b>Future Meeting Dates</b>	May 16, 2024; July 18, 2024; September 19, 2024; November 21, 2024