



Cortland County Board of Health
 County Office Building
 60 Central Avenue
 Cortland, New York 13045
<http://cchd.cortland-co.org>

~ **Final Approved Minutes** ~

Tuesday, August 17, 2021 4:00 p.m. Cortland County Office Building, RM 308

ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Present	Absent
Bonni C. Hodges, PhD - President	x	
Marisa Clifford, DDS	x	
Cindy Johnson, MD	x	
Ngozi Mezu-Patel, MD	x	
Nicole Villapiano, MD		x
Susan Williams	x (via phone)	
Mary Wright, RN		x
Cathy Bischoff, Legislator Member	x	

Others in Attendance

Lisa Perfetti, Interim Public Health Director; Nicole Anjeski, Deputy Public Health Director; Mike Ryan, Director Environmental Health

MINUTES

Approve Minutes of July 20, 2021

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
 MOVER: Ms. Cathy Bischoff
 SECONDER: Dr. Marisa Clifford

REPORT August 2021

Health Education

Nicole Anjeski reviewed highlights of the report:

- New outdoor polices in Chenango and Tompkins Counties. Updated the Guthrie Cortland Medical Center signs prohibiting all tobacco products and electronic nicotine devices.
- Still waiting to hear about the HNP grant monies, this money was allocated through the NYS budget, now just waiting on the budget department of the NYSDOH to release the funds to counties. In the meantime visits are being made to those that are in immediate need for home safety products.
- Narcan kits are still being distributed through the health department with eleven kits distributed in July, but the majority of community education is through the Healing Communities and Family Counseling Services.

Approve **August 2021** Health Education Report

<p>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Ms. Cathy Bischoff SECONDER: Dr. Marisa Clifford</p>

Environmental Health

Mike Ryan reviewed highlights of the report:

- There were \$300 in penalties that the need board approval.
- EH staff are increasing their activity in all programmatic duties.
- The division was down three staff over the last week because of a breakthrough COVID-19 result, 1 staff was in isolation and 2 were on quarantine.

Approve **August 2021** Environmental Health report and approval of **July 2021** penalties

<p>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Ms. Cathy Bischoff SECONDER: Dr. Marisa Clifford</p>

Nursing

Lisa Perfetti reviewed highlights of the report:

- Two Hepatitis A cases, both known IV drug users, creating a barrier to finding the correct contacts. In both cases not all contacts were known, or only partially known by a first name, no other identifying information. Identifiable contacts were notified and are seeking vaccination.
- COVID-19 isolation and quarantine activities are continuing, seven days a week.
- Team Cluster Buster (out of NYSDOH) (these teams help with communicable case investigations for the department) will be on short hiatus while they wait for the new student interns to start for the Fall semester.

Approve **August 2021** Nursing report.

<p>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Ms. Cathy Bischoff SECONDER: Dr. Marisa Clifford</p>

Children with Special Needs Program

Lisa Perfetti reviewed highlights of the report:

- More in-person visits are continuing, creating the need for less zoom visits. This is going really well for the families.
- Will be using Laserfiche to help with records retention and keeping track of current EI families, this will help eliminate paper copies. EI is currently working with the records retention department to get this up and running.
- NYS is working on improvements to the EI hub, this will also help with making more electronic access to charts, and less paper copies.
- There are only a few children on a waitlist.
- Homer School District has received grant funding to start a Pre-K program, this will help with providing services for families in this district.

Approve **August 2021** Children with Special Needs report.

RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Ms. Cathy Bischoff
SECONDER: Dr. Marisa Clifford

Administration

Lisa Perfetti and Nicole Anjeski reviewed the highlights of the report:

- Lisa reiterated the need for staff for the department, and that the continuation of the lack of staff will hinder the department's continued functions.
- During the early phases of the COVID-19 pandemic we have the availability of staff from other county departments to help with the burden on health department staff, this is no longer available to us, making it more difficult to complete tasks.
- NYSDOH has stopped issuing guidance, they are having all LHD's follow the recommendations from the CDC.
- The daily COVID-19 grid will no longer be put on FaceBook, it will be available Monday-Friday on the website only, with weekend data included in Monday's update. We have started a weekly lookback summary each Monday on the previous week to provide data to the public.
- Lisa has repeatedly asked the Cortland County Leadership with help disseminating data and information but this has not been done.
- NYSDOH did not provide guidance to the schools this year, they referred both LHD's and Schools districts to the CDC school reopening guidance and the American Academy of Pediatrics.
- After talking with Dr. Mezu-Patel, it was determined that quarantine will continue for those considered close contacts (6 feet for 15 minutes or more during a 24 hour period), this will be consistent across all quarantines, except children in a classroom setting. For those in a classroom setting, children who are completely masked for the entire time and within 3-6 feet of another will not be quarantined (this is not true for indoor physical education classes, lunch rooms, and band/choir classes). Other exceptions to quarantine will be those who are asymptomatic and vaccinated, these contacts will not be required to quarantine.
- The BOH was asked to support the recommendations of the CDC, NYSED and American Academy of Pediatrics guidance in the form of a letter that will be sent out to Cortland County Schools Districts this week. Dr. Hodges will review this letter before dissemination.
- Lisa also requested that the BOH support the health department in advocating the need for the Public Health Nurse and Epidemiology Manager positions. These two positions are a critical need for the health department and it is important that the BOH become involved. The Board agreed and will be providing a motion of the BOH to distribute to the full Legislature before the next full legislative session next week. Dr. Hodges will also be speaking on behalf of these positions and the health department at the legislative meeting on 8/26.
- Nicki informed the group about the upcoming PHAB virtual site visit and that the Board should expect and invite for participation on the last day of the site visit (the site visit will last three days in total). PHAB expects members of the governing body to participate in some questions, an exact time and agenda will be provided to the Board.

Lisa Perfetti reviewed the Causes of Death report:

- Nothing new and/or unusual to report.

Approve **August 2021** Administration report and Causes of Death Report.

<p>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Ms. Cathy Bischoff SECONDER: Dr. Marisa Clifford</p>

OLD BUSINESS

- Susan Williams was voted in as the new Vice President of the BOH.

<p>RESULT: APPROVED [UNANIMOUS] MOVER: Dr. Bonni Hodges SECONDER: Ms. Cathy Bischoff</p>
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NEW BUSINESS

- Ms. Bischoff provided information of the upcoming County campaign encouraging vaccination. The County wants to engage those in the anti-government, anti-vaccine, and vaccine hesitancy groups in the hopes of increasing our vaccination rates. They will be using a campaign called “Keeping it Real”, this will consist of using billboards, bus wraps, media and personal stories. Ms. Bischoff would like feedback from the other members of the BOH, she will send the group a PowerPoint presentation of the potential campaign.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m. by President Bonni C. Hodges, PhD.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Health is scheduled to be held Tuesday, September 21, 2021 at 4:00 p.m., Cortland County office building, room 308.

Cortland County Board of Health Final Approved Minutes August 17, 2021. Respectfully, submitted by Nicole Anjeski, Deputy Public Health Director and Lisa Perfetti, Interim Public Health Director

Approved: 9/21/2021

Mailed: 9/24/2021