

TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MEETING MINUTES February 17, 2022



BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT :

J. Picco, DDS, President (Arrived. 7:48 a.m.) (By Zoom)
T. Hills, DVM, Vice President (By Zoom)
K. Millar, CRNA (By Zoom)
R. Kapur-Pado, DO (By Zoom)
W. Standing III, Legislator (In Person)
T. Nytech, DVM (In Person)

STAFF PRESENT:

L. McCafferty, Secretary (By Zoom)
P. DeWind, Esq., County Attorney (By Zoom)
D. McCann, Director of Administrative Services (In Person)
A. Reigelman, Secretary to the Public Health Director (In Person)

ABSENT:

J. Raftis, DO, FACEP

GUEST:

K. Holochak, Senior Public Health Educator (Arrived at 7:46 a.m.)(Departed at 8:14 a.m.)

CALL TO ORDER: 7:36 a.m. by Dr. Hills who Chaired meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Ms. McCafferty announced that Ms. Holochak will be joining to provide update on substance abuse.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

- Meeting Minutes: Motion to Approve prior minutes made by Dr. Kapur-Pado; seconded by Dr. Nytech; all in favor, motion approved.
- Enforcements: Dr. Nytech inquired what the food violation was in regard to. Ms. McCafferty clarified that violations were based on cleanliness and temperature insufficiencies.
- Vacancy Recommendation to Tioga County Legislature:
 - Dr. Nytech motioned for discussion to approve both candidates; Mr. Standing seconded motion.
 - Dr. Kapur-Pado clarified name of the two candidates as Jim Simmons and Teresea Leary.
 - Dr. Nytech stated that he believed both were excellent candidates. Even though it would increase the Board to 10 members; did not think that would be an issue.
 - Mr. Standing agreed, and commented that if there was an issue that it could be whittled back by attrition.
 - Dr. Kapur-Pado requested clarification. In response, Mr. Standing stated that if two candidates are admitted now as current Board members resign, positions do not need to be filled.
 - Mr. Millar added that he "attrits in July."
 - Dr. Hills asked if there was any further discussion on the matter, no member replied. Dr. Hills moved to motion that both candidates be recommended to the Legislature, all in favor to say "Aye." All members in attendance were in favor, vote was unanimous.



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- Ms. McCafferty stated that this recommendation will be presented to the Legislature at the March committee meeting.
- Dr. Nytch inquired if Board will need to notify candidates before sending recommendation to the Legislature. Members discussed notification to selected /not selected candidates, as no applicants have received notification as of this date.
 - Decision made by Board to wait to notify all candidates until Legislature approval.

PRESENTATION:

- N/A

NEW BUSINESS:

- N/A

INFORMATIONAL:

- Ms. McCafferty stated that revised calendar was sent (electronically) to the Board to include August/December meeting breaks; in process of organizing speakers to cover discussed topics. Will send another revised calendar with topics included as speakers are finalized.
- At this time, Ms. McCafferty introduced Ms. Holochak for an update on the recent activities and events in Tioga County surrounding substance abuse.
 - Marijuana:
 - Ms. Holochak provided handout from the Rockefeller Institute of Government listing local municipality's status of Opting-In vs. Opting-Out of Marijuana Dispensaries/on-site consumption.
 - Five municipalities opted-in: Berkshire, Candor (Town & Village), Town of Nichols, Village of Owego, Village of Newark Valley (for dispensaries only)
 - Ms. Holochak attended call, Cannabis Conversation, which provided overview of Marijuana Regulation and Taxation Law. Seems New York State is all over the place, could not provide answers to a lot of questions. Very apparent that New York is still a long way from opening dispensaries, possibly not until 2023.
 - Discussion about local "Sticker Shops"/Sticker Shop raids in Tioga County by Sheriff's Department.
 - Public Health and ASAP Coalition are focusing on education to the community; topics including:
 - Marijuana being illegal for under 21
 - Edibles and children
 - Do not drive while high
 - THC and pet poisoning
 - Will be reaching out to municipalities to see what Public Health can do to help.
 - Dr. Hills attested to seeing pets who have been poisoned.
 - Dr. Nytch brought up concern of mixing drugs (alcohol/cannabis/opioids) and how law enforcement will handle this.
 - Discussion about how dispensaries will be enforced, whether by Health Department or other entities; Ms. McCafferty stated that there are a lot of variables and much discussion on the matter, no clear answer though at this point.
 - NARCAN Emergency Boxes:
 - Ms. Holochak stated that another project, currently working on with CASA Trinity, is distribution of NARCAN Emergency Boxes around the community in public locations including: CASA Trinity, Catholic Charities, and Red Door.
 - In Tioga County, could take up to 30 minutes to get an ambulance, NARCAN that is made available in this way can help prevent overdoses.



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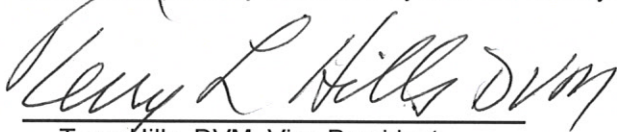
- Dr. Nytch asked how to prevent people from stealing- Ms. Holochak stated that individual site locations will be responsible for their own inventory of NARCAN and to reach out to CASA Trinity or Public Health if in short supply.
- ASAP Coalition is funding the creation of boxes; NARCAN is supplied by Public Health/CASA Trinity (which is free from New York State).
- Ms. McCafferty asked if the Board had any questions about the January Agency Report (distributed electronically)
 - Provided update on Public Health activities:
 - Getting back to pre-Covid times; however still doing Covid as it is a reportable disease, and we are responsible for containment and control. Educating about vaccines.
 - Mask mandates removed from a lot of areas, still in place for schools, healthcare, congregate care facilities;
 - Dr. Kapur-Pado asked if Public Health is dispensing masks for schools.
 - Ms. McCafferty replied that Public Health works in conjunction with Tioga County Emergency Services to get supplies to school districts.
 - Dr. Hills inquired about the New York State self-reporting system.
 - Ms. McCafferty replied that the self-reporting system is self-reliant; if positive, can go online to get self-attestation, orders.


At 8:22 a.m. Health & Human Services Building location experienced intermittent internet connection loss. Upon full return at 8:25 a.m., Ms. McCafferty stated that the next Board of Health meeting will be March 17, 2022.

Dr. Hills, and various Board members, wished Ms. McCafferty well with her recovery.

Motion to adjourn made by Dr. Nytch, seconded by Mr. Standinger. Meeting adjourned at 8:26 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa McCafferty.


Terry Hills, DVM, Vice President


Lisa C. McCafferty, R.S., MPH, Secretary

Minutes approved March 17, 2022