



TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

IN ORDER TO ASSURE A QUORUM,

PLEASE RSVP TO 607-687-8630

IF YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

TO: Members of the Board of Health

FROM: L. McCafferty, Secretary

DATE: May 12, 2022

RE: Board of Health Meeting - Thursday, May 19, 2022,
7:30 a.m., Multi-Purpose Conference Room, 2nd Floor of Health and Human
Services Building at 1062 St. Rt. 38, Owego, NY 13827.

AGENDA

Introduction of Guest

- Laura Bennett, Public Health Educator

Presentation

- 2022 County Health Rankings

Additional Items

Old Business

- Meeting Minutes
- Enforcements

New Business

- TCPH Stipulation Policy

Informational

- Agency Updates – April 2022
- ASAP Marijuana Letter to Municipalities
- Memo-Office of Cannabis Management

Next Meeting Information

- June 16, 2022



TIOGA COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

MEETING MINUTES April 21, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT (All Attended In Person):

T. Hills, DVM, Vice President
W. Standinger III, Legislator
T. Nytch, DVM
W. Simmons
T. Leary, FNP
J. Raftis, DO, FACEP
K. Millar, CRNA
R. Kapur-Pado, DO (Arrived at 7:38 A.M.)

STAFF PRESENT:

L. McCafferty, Secretary
P. DeWind, Esq., County Attorney
A. Reigelman, Secretary to the Public Health Director

ABSENT:

J. Picco, DDS, President

GUEST:

Robert Williams, Tioga County Deputy Director of Emergency Services, TC Deputy County Fire Coordinator, TC Coroner

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

Dr. Hills introduced new member, Ms. Teresea Leary, who provided a summary of her background.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

Dr. Hills introduced Mr. Williams, who presented on Tioga County Emergency and Fire Services.

PRESENTATION:

Mr. Williams provided a detailed overview of Tioga County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Fire Services (Hardcopy and electronic handouts; electronic presentation slides).

- EMS/Fire Service demographics/delivery methods: wide variation throughout the County
 - Organizations include: fire districts, joint fire districts, village fire departments, city fire departments, incorporated fire departments, Not for Profit fire departments/EMS, municipal based EMS, industrial fire brigades, etc.
 - Staffing: some only volunteer-based; others a combination of paid and volunteer.
- Funding sources: particular organizations are funded through different avenues. Sources include: tax funding, 2% funds from NYS insurance recovery, local fund raising, bill for services, by contract, private funding, etc.
- Mutual aid Coordination within Tioga County/ with adjacent Counties and throughout New York State.
- Challenges faced/ areas of concern:
 - Distance-Longer response times (which is dependent on mutual aid).
 - Staff aging out, and lack of interest in younger generation.
 - Legislator Standinger added that Candor EMS has started a Junior EMS Program, with Candor High School.

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- All agencies are autonomous-sometimes an issue working together with other Fire/Ems organizations within the County
- During COVID-had volunteers leave, and have not returned.
- Expensive vehicle maintenance
- **Projects:**
 - Research study of local county organizations-to assist with staffing among other things.
 - 3-phase project for Emergency Communications-changing from low band to high frequency, will help with various dead zones in County and future outages.
 - Ms. McCafferty requested that Mr. Williams come back to speak on these projects when they have been finalized.
- **Q&A**
 - Dr. Nytech inquired why EMS/Fire is run by separate municipalities and not by the County as a whole unit.
 - County is prohibited by law to have its own Fire Department. However, EMS and Fire Services are separate units. Would take law changes through state and county level to have a county-run ambulatory service.
 - Example is Essex County, which does supply full EMS.
 - Mr. Millar inquired if there is currently a Council of Governments for local fire districts.
 - An Advisory Board was created, but has since been disbanded by fire chiefs.
 - Mr. Millar questioned how many calls that are received are non-emergent, and if that is also a challenge faced by fire/EMS staff.
 - Many received, but still have to respond no matter the situation; does lead to staff burnout.
 - Ms. McCafferty added that there is constant mixed messages coming from the State (especially seen during COVID in regard to EMS).
 - New York State made claim that EMS was widely available to assist with COVID-19 vaccine clinics (EMS is required to be onsite, yet with volunteer organization).
 - Governor Cuomo granted temporary approval to allow EMS to give vaccinations.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS:

N/A

OLD BUSINESS:

- Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve prior minutes made by Dr. Kapur-Pado; seconded by Mr. Simmons; no discussion, all were in favor, motion approved.
- Enforcements:
 - Ms. McCafferty advised that a new column is present on the Enforcement page to show the stipulation status. Will have current stipulation policy as an agenda item at next month's meeting.
- Board of Health Calendar: Tentative calendar for the rest of the year, if anything else comes to mind let the Secretary know.

NEW BUSINESS:

- N/A

INFORMATIONAL:

- Ms. McCafferty asked the Board if they had any questions in regard to COVID-19, Public Health has been receiving ongoing pro/con perspectives from the public about masks, precautions.
 - Mr. Simmons inquired what Public Health is doing to respond to the high percentage rate of COVID-19 in the county.

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- Ms. McCafferty stated that Public Health is messaging: no mask-shaming, if sick stay at home, etc. on various media platforms (Facebook, billboards, local newspapers, monthly reports, handout flyers)
 - People are tired, and don't seem to care anymore.
 - Increase is Statewide across numerous counties.
 - Many different messages coming from the state as well.
- Ms. Leary added that she sees COVID everyday. Symptoms are super light, displaying as allergy symptoms (sniffles), lack of accuracy of at-home tests.
- Mr. Williams let the Board know that Emergency Services has lots of COVID-19 at-home test kits if wanted.
- "In the Field of Environmental Health" was provided to the Board as a handout (hardcopy/electronically). Ms. McCafferty stated that it is a nice overview of the different areas of Environmental Health. She let the Board know that Dan Scherrer is scheduled to present on the topic of water supplies later in the year.

County Attorney DeWind let the Board know that regulation was extended to allow virtual meetings to continue for a couple more months (June 2022). Can continue with blended in-person/Zoom meetings. Ms. McCafferty asked for input from the Board on preference. Consensus in person.

Ms. McCafferty let the Board know that the next meeting will be May 19th and will be held in the Health & Human Services Building Multi-Purpose room.

Dr. Hills concluded meeting at 8:51 A.M. and thanked everyone for attending.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa McCafferty.

Joseph Picco, DDS, President

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

Minutes approved May 19, 2022



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Tioga County

May 2022 Enforcements

<u>Business</u>	<u>Type of Violation</u>	<u>Fine Paid/Date</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Brooke Grant Dandy Store #14 814 West River Rd. Nichols, NY	ATUPA	\$350.00 4/21/2022	First
Jin Xou New Hong Kong #1 326 Broad St. Waverly, NY	Food	\$230.00 4/25/2022	First



TIOGA COUNTY ADVOCACY, SUPPORT AND PREVENTION COALITION

Sent to Mayors +
Supervisors of
Towns/Villages.

On March 31, 2021, Governor Cuomo signed the Marijuana Regulation and Tax Act (MRTA) legislation which legalizes 21+ adult use of cannabis. The Tioga County Advocacy, Support And Prevention Coalition, Tioga County Public Health Department, and Tobacco Free Broome and Tioga want to make sure that your town/village is aware of the impact that this can have on your local community.

The Clean Indoor Air Act (CIAA) was implemented in 2003, to protect New Yorkers from daily exposure to secondhand smoke and the illnesses it can cause. The CIAA prohibits smoking and vaping (added in 2017) in almost all public and private indoor workplaces, including restaurants and bars, to protect workers and the public from exposure to harmful secondhand tobacco smoke and vaping aerosols. According to the NYS Department of Health, exposure to secondhand smoke can cause illness and death in infants, children, and adults. It can cause bronchitis, pneumonia and ear infections in children and more frequent attacks in children who have asthma. Secondhand smoke is also a cause of almost 50,000 deaths from heart disease, stroke and lung cancer in the U.S. every year.

Cannabis has been included in the existing CIAA under the MRTA. Since cannabis is illegal under federal law, there have been a limited number of studies examining health risks associated with marijuana use and exposure in the United States. However, peer-reviewed, and published studies do indicate that exposure to secondhand cannabis smoke may have health and safety risks for the general public, especially due to its similar composition to secondhand tobacco smoke.

Since the CIAA only covers indoor spaces, municipalities are authorized to make laws that are broader in scope. Since secondhand cannabis smoke contains many of the same cancer-causing substances and toxic chemicals as secondhand tobacco smoke, **municipalities that already have established smoke-free policies can amend them to include cannabis language to protect the public from secondhand cannabis smoke exposure.**

To receive more information on either, adding cannabis language to an EXISTING smoke-free grounds policy, OR to inquire about information for a NEW smoke-free grounds policy for your municipality, please reach out to Ashli Mikeska at amikeska@casa-trinity.org or by phone at (607) 223-4066 or Kylie Holochak at HolochakK@tiogacountyny.gov or by phone at (607) 687-8612.

The Office of Cannabis Management Fact Sheet and a Model Ordinance have been added to this document for reference.

Thank you so much for your time and attention,
Ashli Mikeska

Coordinator, Tioga County Advocacy, Support And Prevention Coalition
amikeska@casa-trinity.org
607-223-4066




Department of Health

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

MARY T. BASSETT, M.D., M.P.H.
Commissioner

KRISTIN M. PROUD
Acting Executive Deputy Commissioner

To: City/County Directors of Environmental Health
District Directors
New York City Department of Consumer and Worker Protection

From: Sheri Ford, Director 
Bureau of Community Environmental Health and Food Protection

Date: May 10, 2022

Subject: Sale of Marijuana and Products Containing THC or Cannabinoid Hemp at
Facilities Regulated by the State Tobacco Enforcement Program

This guidance memorandum is in response to questions received about the retail sale of marijuana and products containing tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) or cannabidiol (CBD) identified at facilities during Tobacco Enforcement Program compliance checks. The New York State Office of Cannabis Management (OCM) regulates retail sale of marijuana and products containing THC or CBD. Existing and proposed regulations pertaining to the retail sale of these products, associated press releases and fact sheets, and other information is available at the OCM website: <https://cannabis.ny.gov/>.

The purpose of Tobacco Enforcement compliance checks is to verify compliance with Public Health Law Article 13-F (Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act/ATUPA), regulations that restrict the retail sale of tobacco and vapor products and other related products. The retail sale of marijuana and products containing THC or CBD is not regulated under ATUPA. Verifying retailer compliance with OCM regulations is not required at the time of tobacco enforcement compliance checks. This information is for your awareness and is intended to provide guidance to respond to complaints and for instances when staff find these products during compliance checks.

Existing State regulations do not yet allow for the sale of non-medical cannabis (also known as adult-use cannabis). Retailers that sell or propose to sell products containing THC or CBD are to be licensed by the Office of Cannabis Management. A list of licensed retailers is not available at this time; however, general licensing questions should be directed to OCM at 1-888-626-5151 or info@ocm.ny.gov. Those with questions about specific products containing THC or CBD should contact hemp@ocm.ny.gov.

Certain products containing THC or CBD are prohibited from sale, including smokable products containing CBD sold in a cigarette form or labeled as a smokable product. Retailers licensed by OCM may sell vapor products containing CBD to individuals twenty-one (21) years of age or older. Complaints regarding the sale of marijuana or products containing THC or CBD at retail facilities can be referred to OCM at complaints@ocm.ny.gov.

If you have any questions about this information, please contact your regional field coordinator or Steven Martin at steven.martin@health.ny.gov or (518) 402-7600.

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