



**MINUTES**

<b>Committee/Project/Meeting:</b>		Genesee-Orleans Board of Health (BOH)	
<b>Date:</b>	<b>Month, date, year</b>	<b>Recorder:</b>	Samantha Weber, Senior Account Clerk
<b>Time:</b>	4:30 p.m.		
<b>Location:</b>	Genesee County Health Department/Zoom		
<b>Attendance:</b> Paul Pettit, Public Health Director Brenden Bedard, Director of Community Health Services - Deputy Public Health Director Darren Brodie, Environmental Health Director Kimberly Castricone, Administrative Officer Scott Senf, Administrative/Budget Officer Sherri Bensley – Representing for; Kaitlin Pettine, MPH, MCHES, Health Promotions Director Deborah Krenzer-Lewter, Director of Children with Special Needs Paul Grout, BOH President Cheryl Kast, P.A. BOH Member Kelly Rose Nichols, DO, BOH Member Fred Miller, BOH Member/Orleans County Legislator Gregg Torrey, BOH Member/Genesee County Legislator			
<b>ZOOM:</b> Dr. Mary O’Bear, BOH Member.			

**AGENDA/TOPIC**

**ACTION/NEXT STEP**

**BOH Minutes**

June 3, 2025,  
August 5, 2025,

**Discussion:**

Motion: Kelly Rose Nichols, DO  
Second: Cheryl Kast, P.A.  
Approved: 10/07/25

**PUBLIC CONCERNS/DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS:**

**Paul Pettit** – Public Health Director (GO Health)

**DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):**

Nothing to report at this time.

**DIVISIONAL REPORTS**

**COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT:**

**Brenden Bedard** – Director of Community Health Services/Deputy Public Health Director

**DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):**

**TB:** Earlier this year we had the active case with a migrant farm worker. That individual is almost done with his treatment now. His contract have also completed their treatments as well. We did recently receive a new case in Genesee County – we are currently in the investigation process and have tested eight individuals within the case.

**Immunizations:** We are starting to see the back to school influx with the clinics.

Orleans County does two flu clinic at local schools. Our Genesee County nursed have been helping with these for the last few years as well. We are also still working with the Mennonite community in Orleans County providing them with immunizations for measles and information on the other immunizations they could obtain through our services.

**LEAD:** New elevations 2 in Genesee County and 1 in Orleans County since August.

We have the Lead Care II machine, which allows us to test the children without having to wait for the PCP.

**Maternal Child Health:** we are still getting referrals. We have been seeing a lot with the baby café in Genesee and Orleans County with steady attendance in both locations.

**Communicable Disease:** Genesee County has seen an increase in all STI's, chlamydia is over 50%, gonorrhea and syphilis are up 75% since January to August. We did some research and found that the reason for the steep increases in STI's is because they have been doing more testing at the detention facility in Batavia.

**Tic Surveillance:** This summer we were unable to do this do to staffing issues, but we are hopeful to resume this in the fall.

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## **ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT:**

**Darren Brodie** – Environmental Health Director

### **DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):**

**Staffing:** We are now fully staffed again in Orleans County as of 10/27/2025.

**Grants:** Hud funding. We have unofficially received the funding. We are just waiting on the official letter from HUD. This will allow us to add additional staffing to focus on the needs in Wyoming and Livingston counties.

**Rabies:** Genesee County has had 77 calls this season with the need for 12 referrals for treatment. Orleans County has had 47 calls this season with the need for 10 referrals for treatment.

**ATUPA:** Recalled that we are looking into developing a local law (similar to Erie Counties permitting law) – permitting facilities to sell tobacco/ tobacco products and vaping products to close NYS loopholes. We have partnered up with Tobacco Free GOW – they submitted a copy of the Erie County law to an attorney they work with who provided feedback on the law. He advised it was pieced together from other areas – similar to a document that is 33 pages long. We are looking to get your support to draw up our own, so that we can get a better idea of what we would need in our area for Genesee and Orleans County.

**Fee Schedule:** Feedback from the Public has prompted a restructuring; to make it easier to use.

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**FINANCIAL REPORT:**

**Kimberly Castricone** – Administrative Officer, Orleans County

**Scott Senf** – Administrative/Budget Officer, Genesee County

**DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):**

Kim Castricone: We just finished our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and should have that report for you in December. We just had our budget meeting today, so we are working on the 2026 budget now.

Scott Sent: submitted 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter summary and we just completed the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and will have the for you in December. We are currently working on the 2026 budget and should have that completed in November.

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**CORPORATE COMPLIANCE REPORT:**

**Kimberly Castricone** – Administrative Officer, Orleans County

**DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):**

Kim Castricone: There were no new regulations or changes. We have Orleans County staff working on their training now and Genesee county did theirs earlier this year.

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**DIVISIONAL REPORT:**

**Sherri Bensley Public Health Educator/PIO Genesee County Health Department**

**For: Kaitlin Pettine, MPH, MCHES, Health Promotions Director**

**DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):**

**Staffing:** We do have a new staffer – Laiken Ricker. She is a Public Health Specialist in Orleans County.

**CHA/CHIP:** (Community Health Assessment/Community Health Improvement Plan). 2025-2030. The Community survey report is complete and will be included in the appendix. Our community conversation had a general focus like Healthcare Access & Literacy, Social & Environmental factors, Nutrition & Physical Health, Mental Health & Well-being, along with Aging-Related issues. Our steering committee met on September 4<sup>th</sup> and will meet again on October 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the CHIP. We are required to select at least three priority areas, and it's strongly suggested to include at least one social determinant of health as one of the priorities.

**National Diabetes Prevention Program:** Nola is currently conducting two classes being conducted in Orleans County with approximately 8 people between the two classes – held in Holley and Albion.

**Tobacco Use & Prevention:** Sherri Bensley just completed the *Tobacco Specialist* Training in May with a certification. Laiken is scheduled to attend this training in October and Kaitlin in May of 2026. With these trainings we are looking to discuss Tobacco and Vaping programming, with plans to begin smoking cessation and support groups in both counties. Juul settlement funds will be used to help fund this program.

**Outreach:** We have been busy with a variety of events like health fairs, family nights, school/church activities, sports events, festivals and Fais.

**Workshops/Trainings:** which include multiple Narcan trainings, CPR trainings in both Counties. Nola has conducted some Grr to Glimmer workshops – focusing on burn out and how to combat that. At the Genesee County Department of Labor, we held a Healthy Relationships class.

**Coalitions/work group meetings:** Our team is apart of many work groups and committees in both counties. They are going well and keep us busy. Some examples of the types of groups we participate in are; The Human

Services Council, The Interagency Council, The GOW Veterans Taskforce, Suicide Prevention Coalition, Genesee Region Advisory Committee (GRAC), WNY Anti Vaping Coalition, and Long Term Care Taskforce; just to name a few.

**Leave Behind Kits:** we have kits in the following areas.

Genesee County – We have several Fire departments supplied with kits, City of Batavia, Town of Batavia, Elba, Alabama, and LeRoy Ambulance. Some other sites include Genesee County Department of Social Services, Orleans County – Also has several Fire departments supplied with kits, Medina, Albion, Barre, and Carlton. They are also supplied at the Orleans County Department of Social Services, Orleans County Probation, Spectrum Health and Human Services.

**Naloxboxes:** We continue to offer Naloxboxes to community organizations and businesses. There are some currently at 400 Towers, Nortera, and ABCD in Batavia.

**PIO Update:**

County website: has successfully made the transition to the Genesee County platform.

Press Releases: Regarding Rabies, Radon, the Healthy Neighborhood Program, Bat Awareness, Oral Rabies Vaccine Field Evaluations, Vaping Education, Cat and Dog bite incidents and more.

WBTA Radio: In July we sent details out to the public regarding Bat and Rabies awareness.

GO Health Minutes: “gohealthny” on You Tube; you can subscribe and see all of the materials we have posted along with the GO Health Minutes.

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**DIRECTORS REPORT:**

**Paul Pettit** – Public Health Director (GO Health)

**DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):**

**Staffing:** We have hired for a Lead Educator, and it feels good to say we are currently fully staffed in both counties.

**Federal Impact:** We do not have any direct impacts currently. There is a concern that we may see a cut with the PHEP program; we do currently have funding through June of 2026. We are not sure how that will play out in Washington next year. Another concern we are keeping an eye on is the change with insurance and the influx of under insured or non-insured residents. Governor Hochul has resigned her executive order lifting the eligibility requirements for the Covid vaccine set by the Federal Government; allowing anyone in NYS to receive the vaccine who wants it. This is the second time she signed it; it will have to be resigned every thirty days. This also allows for pharmacist to administer the vaccine.

**Rural Transformation Fund:** In the “Big Beautiful Bill” there is a one time investment into rural health. It is a 50 Billion dollar investment that will be coming through CMS. It will be split up into two sections of 25 billion. The first being an application that only states are allowed to apply for and the other 25 billion will be more targeted – with a more complete application process – based on how the funds would be used, one criteria is that funding awards would be based on certain prioritizations, aligning with current federal policies, etc. We know that New Yorks policies do not align with the Federal Government, so we do not anticipate being in the running for the second portion of funds... These funds are focused on transformative work – it is not intended to be bail out funds. It is anticipated to launch in January of 2026.

**Fluoride:** The Village of Albion has advised that they have not made any changes yet but have plans to in the future.

**BOH Member Replacement:** With Dr. Mary Obear leaving at the end of her term this year, we are on the lookout for a replacement member. **Thank you, Dr., Mary O'bear for your years of service to this committee!**

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**OLD BUSINESS:**

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

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**OTHER:**

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

Approved: 10/07/25

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**NEXT MEETING:**

Orleans County/ZOOM December 2, 2025 @ 4:30PM

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