



MINUTES

Committee/Project/Meeting:		Genesee-Orleans Board of Health (BOH)	
Date:	December 2, 2025	Recorder:	Samantha Weber, Senior Account Clerk
Time:	4:30 p.m.		
Location:	Orleans County Health Department/Zoom		
Attendance:			
Brenden Bedard, Director of Community Health Services - Deputy Public Health Director			
Darren Brodie, Environmental Health Director			
Kimberly Castricone, Administrative Officer			
Cora Young, Emergency Preparedness Educator			
Kaitlin Pettine, MPH, MCHES, Health Promotions Director			
Kristine Voos, MPH, CHES®, Epidemiology Coordinator, Accreditation Coordinator, Public Information Officer			
Paul Grout, BOH President			
Deanna Page, BOH Vice President			
Cheryl Kast, P.A. BOH Member			
Fred Miller, BOH Member/Orleans County Legislator			
Gregg Torrey, BOH Member/Genesee County Legislator			
ZOOM: Paul Pettit, Public Health Director			
Dr. Mary O’Bear BOH Member			

AGENDA/TOPIC

ACTION/NEXT STEP

BOH Minutes from October 7, 2025,

Motion: Deanna Page
Second: Cheryl Kast
Approved: 12/02/25

Discussion:

PUBLIC CONCERNS/DISCUSSIONS/PRESENTATIONS:

Paul Pettit – Public Health Director (GO Health)

DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):

No new developments to report at this time.

DIVISIONAL REPORTS

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPORT:

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

DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):

Community Health Services: We have been busy throughout October and November.

Immunizations: Two flu clinics were held in Orleans County at the Holley school and Kendall School (this is done yearly) and we were also able to provide a couple of clinics at the local jail this year for some inmates needing vaccinations. In Genesee County we were able to go out to a few of the local farms and provide the Flu vaccine to some seasonal farm workers. We also provided some pre-exposure treatments to college Vet-tech students in attendance at GCC.

Tuberculosis: Genesee County – we are still working with an individual; the treatment is going very well with supervision by our nursing staff and treatments 3x a week.

Orleans County – we have a few latent TB cases that are being followed up on as we continue to work with our Partners at the Monroe County Health Department—TB experts.

Maternal Child Health: The baby café that was set up in Genesee County is doing well; and has consistently had a good turnout. Unfortunately the grant funding for the site in Orleans County is ending at the close of 2025, unless we are able to obtain additional funding, this program will be ending in Orleans County for 2026.

Lead: Genesee County: we have not had any new cases since our last meeting.

Orleans County: 2 new cases since our last meeting.

Communicable disease: We are starting to see a rise in respiratory illness and as of today (12/2/25), the State has declared Flu “prevalent” statewide. We have also received four cases of pertussis (unvaccinated family) in Genesee County. We still have our Respiratory illness dashboard on our website, giving the public access to our local numbers for the respiratory illness prevalent in the area. We now also have wastewater reports available for viewing of the high risk substances being detected in the waters.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT:

Darren Brodie – Environmental Health Director

DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):

Staffing: We have hired a new Environmental Health Specialist in Orleans County Michael Stilwell. Our part time staff will be leaving us at the end of the year due to budget cuts. With this adjustment the core staff will be picking up their tasks going forward.

Grants: We have received a letter from senator Schumer’s office congratulating us on the next cycle of funding... but we are still waiting to hear back if we have been awarded – with the governmental shutdowns we are anticipating a delay in communication at this time.

Lead: We have received word that the Lead level is being lowered. If this is accepted it will make it harder to clear up housing with the lower rating.

ATUPA (Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act): Medina Smoke shop – we had a Notice of violation and an offer of stipulation out to them; for the thousands of flavored vapes in stock (\$33,850.00 @ \$10 per unit). In the meantime, there was a bust by the Medina Police Department alongside the office of cannabis management. Those notices have not been received by the facility; we have since received them back after the Law enforcement situation. I have been currently dealing with the county attorney now that the notices cannot be delivered. The County attorney anticipates we may not see a collection on the fines now that they are entangled in a criminal enforcement.

Rabies: Between 10/7/2025 through 11/19/2025

Genesee County had 36 investigations. 1 cat, 4 dogs, and 1 skunk were submitted for testing. The skunk did come back positive for rabies, resulting in one person being recommended for treatment. An additional

person was recommended for treatment after being bitten by a stray cat that could not be located. Orleans County had 17 investigations. 3 stray cats were submitted for testing. One of the cats was positive, which resulted in two individuals being recommended for treatment. We are currently in the process of scheduling the free rabies clinics for 2026 in both counties. We are weighing the options for weekends vs weekday clinics, hours and locations due to staffing restrictions and the possibility of electronic clinics to reduce paperwork in systems like CDMS.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Kimberly Castricone – Administrative Officer, Orleans County

Scott Senf – Administrative/Budget Officer, Genesee County

DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):

Kim Castricone: The 3rd quarter was submitted. The budget for 2026 is done; we anticipate it being submitted and approved on 12/4/2025. We will be working on the budget for our fourth year of the Public Health infrastructure grant; we have two more years left on that grant. Lastly, we are just tidying up the year end.

Scott Sent: Unavailable.

CORPORATE COMPLIANCE REPORT:

Kimberly Castricone – Administrative Officer, Orleans County

DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):

Kim Castricone:

No new developments to report at this time.

DIVISIONAL REPORT:

Cora Young - Emergency Preparedness Educator

DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):

The PHEP report has been completed and shared for your review.

To summarize: All of our grant capacities and deliverables for 2025 & 26 are current and have been accepted as submitted. We have been working on updating plans and aligning them with grants and deliverables provided by the State. For example, through our MRC Strong grant; we worked on creating a play book, for ease of operation/ flow should someone have to take over the plan/group (a how to guide). Though this process we were able to transfer the unit from David Bell to Cora Young as the new unit leader; utilizing the play book as part of that process. This allowed us to test the new playbook set up which proved to be effective.

Partnership Building: We have done a lot of work on the COADs (community organization active in disaster). We have groups in both counties now being led by Emergency Management and the Health Department. In the event of a disaster, we now have a group of organizations that can be called upon allowing us to have a network to support us during a response.

Climate Mini-grant: Which helped with winter daytime warming centers and summer cooling centers.

Staff Exercises, Drills & Trainings: We are working on establishing an annual In-service safety review which would consist of a PowerPoint that covers all safety and preparedness related polices. We are also working on completing a respiratory protection plan in collaboration with community health services.

Emergency Response: We are conducting monitoring and preparations associated with H5N1, and measles.

For the response we also had some of our MRC deployed for the Batavia Bus crash in Genesee County. Some of the volunteers were stationed at the offsite - first aid center. We have ongoing development of the mission sets – allowing for “just in time training” (a box of materials); we can just grab and go should an event happen.

Website: We worked on the nine areas of focus for the new launch along with formatting the content.

Trailer's: We have reorganized the trailers, by establishing categories. For example, one was set for sheltering that is now fully stocked and ready to go as a response to weather related events we may be called to aid in. Along with the we also updated our grab and go bins we may need in three different events; shelter management, medical counter measures, and enhanced PPE needs.

MRC Advisory Board Annual Report 2025: This covers our volunteer program and our accomplishments for the past year. Our next meeting for this will be December 11, 2025, and welcome anyone from the Board to attend.

DIRECTORS REPORT:

Paul Pettit – Public Health Director (GO Health)

DISCUSSION (CONCISE SUMMARY):

County Budgets for 2026: Genesee County was approved 11/24/2025 and we anticipate Orleans County to be approved on 12/4/2025. This was definitely more challenging than years past with the cuts we had to implement and anticipate 2027 bringing more of the same.

Rural Health transformation funding: NYS put in the application for the \$50 billion set aside as part of “the Big Beautiful Bill” for Medicare/Medicaid for rural health. There are two sets of funds, \$25 billion each one being noncompetitive and the other being competitive based on alignment with policies... Our communities should be good to receive some funds should NYS be awarded a part of the first \$25 billion that is set for Rural communities. We are not sure at this time how this will be allocated. We are waiting to hear the deals.

STAMP: New Plans have been received. They will be heading East towards Oakfield. They have to get consent and approval from the Health Department. We do not have the capacity for commercial septic. We have advised them that we will not be doing this approval within house due to potential conflicts and have contracted with LaBella Associates for engineering needs.

CredibleMinds: Mental Health Community Wellness web-based platform. To create a community wide assessments, evidence based screenings, real time feedback, and referrals. It is not intended to replace council and is being funded through the Opioid abatement settlement funds. We are looking to get his launched in the new year.

Jewel Settlement funds: The funds have started to roll out. We have a couple of years' worth of funds because it was backlogged. We will be setting funds up in early 2026 (around \$270,000 for Orleans and \$330,000 for Genesee County) for five years through 2030. Both counties have set up the Health department as the gate keeper of the funds so we will be looking at how we can utilize the funds internally and to partner with community organization by set up mini grants to utilize the funds.

Notice of Additional funds for Children with Health care needs Grant: extra funds for inclusion, like playgrounds or community gardens. Genesee County was given \$31,000.00 and Orleans County was given \$29,000.00; we need to have it used by the end of September 2026.

New Rural Health Network Grant: For the GOW region. R-AHEC (rural area health education center), out of Warsaw was awarded the grant. Previously it was managed by Lake Plains community care network; which has now run its course. So, when these funds became available A-Heck applied and received them for the region; to aid in rural health programming and to facilitate the grant funds for that purpose. We will be setting up an advisory board that will be working directly with A-Heck and their board to ensure they are working on areas of concern within our region.

New Board Member: Dr Matthew Fernaays will be joining in 2026; he will be filling the vacancy as we say goodbye to Dr. Mary O’bear. We would like to take a moment and Thank her for her years of service. I would also like to thank the Divisional staff for all of their hard work throughout the year and to the Board members for their dedication to this board.

OLD BUSINESS: NA

NEW BUSINESS:

- Update Workforce Development Plan 2026.
- GO Health Branding and Communication Plan.
- CHA/CHIP Executive Summary and Full Doc.

Motion: Gregg Torrey
Second: Deanna Page
Approved: 12/02/25

OTHER: NA

ADJOURNMENT:

12/2/2025 @ 5:25pm

NEXT MEETING:

Genesee County/ZOOM February 2, 2026 @ 4:30PM
