

**Ulster County Board of Health**  
**May 10, 2010**

**Members PRESENT:** Thomas Stellato, MD, President  
Joan Authenrieth, RN, Vice President  
Marc Tack DO, Secretary  
Douglas Heller, MD, Medical Examiner  
Dominique Delma, MD  
Elbert MacFadden, MD

**UCDOH PRESENT:**

LaMar Hasbrouck, MD, MPH, Public Health Director  
Kevin DuMond, Environmental Health Services Director

**EXCUSED:**

Nereida Veytia, Patient Services Director  
David Clegg, Esq  
Marion Ostrander, RN, MS

**ABSENT:**

**GUESTS:**

Lee Cane, League of Women Voters of the Mid-Hudson Region

**Approval of Minutes:** The March and April minutes were reviewed, amending the minutes to add Marion Ostrander to the absent list on both minutes. A motion was made by Dr. Tack to accept the amendments and approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Ms. Authenrieth and unanimously approved.

**I. New Business:** No new business

**II. Agency Reports:**

a. Medical Examiner: Dr. Heller reported on the following:

- **Training:** Attended a 1 day, NYS Coroner 101 training on March 19, 2010. Although not all topics were applicable to the Ulster County Medical Examiner's office (UCME), approximately 30-45% of the training was, especially topics such as reporting requirements and areas of jurisdiction.
- **Monthly Calls:** UCME office has been busy - mostly in spurts. The majority of the calls were for unattended deaths. However, there have been a fair amount of motor vehicle deaths. Dr. Stellato inquired about the need for the ME to be present if someone dies at home. Dr. Heller explained the ME is only called when the death is suspicious or unexpected. Unsuspicious or expected deaths are directed to the primary care physician (PCP). Those instances when there is no PCP or there is no history of chronic illness will be sent for autopsy.
- **Local Funeral Directors:** Attended a meeting on May 10, 2010, with local Funeral Directors. The need to establish a protocol/system for the following was determined:

1. Rotation schedule for local funeral homes, defining who gets called when, creating equitable distribution of services.
  2. UCME to notify funeral homes of autopsy results, as the funeral home is typically the first line of contact for families.
  3. Paperwork system for items such as death certificate amendments and monthly reporting.
- **Orange County ME Office:** A meeting is scheduled on May 19th to discuss the potential organization of the Ulster ME Office.
  - **Discussion:**
    1. Dr. Tack inquired as to where a person could access a death certificate. Dr. Heller explained that death certificates are held by the township in which the death occurs.
    2. Dr. Tack also inquired about the possibility of establishing an on-line database to access death certificates and autopsy information. Currently, the only database store such information is the UCDOH ME database which is for internal use only.

b. Director's Update:

- **Director's Update Newsletter:** Dr. Hasbrouck distributed the May Director's Update (see attached).
- **Prophylaxis Meds Discussion:** On April 24<sup>th</sup> there was a reported case of Meningitis in the Ellenville Region. Those in recent contact of this individual needed to receive preventative treatment. Many of these individuals were sent to Ellenville Regional Hospital. Ellenville Regional thought it was the responsibility of the Public Health Director to write the scripts for these individuals. Dr. Hasbrouck explained the role of UCDOH is to assess the risk and identify places for treatment. Treatment is to be provided by identified facility(s), in this instance Ellenville Regional Hospital. The following discuss took place:
  - o Who provides treatment to those individuals without a PCP or individuals visiting the area? Who signs for these meds? A need to establish a process for administering prophylaxis meds was identified.
  - o What is the chain of command when these cases are identified and there are after hours questions. Facilities can contact UCDOH Nurse on-call (there is an on-call schedule provided to the area hospitals.) The on-call nurse then contacts Dr. Hasbrouck as needed. Dr. Tack expressed a concern that the hospitals were not in receipt of pertinent contact numbers.
  - o Who notifies close contacts and direct to resources? UCDOH Communicable Disease Unit are responsible for directing these calls.
  - o Dr. Tack suggested a meeting with local ERS to define process would be helpful.

c. Patient Services:

Dr. Hasbrouck reported on the following:

- **Saugerties and New Paltz Satellite sites:** Continuing to search for appropriate sites to host WIC and Immunization clinics twice a month. The official closing of the satellite sites is 6/30/2010. Currently, area churches have been the best option. Locating sites to serve the Saugerties area are currently moving forward. Identifying sites for New Paltz have proven to be more difficult. UC Buildings and Grounds have been tasked with assisting in the scouting out of facilities. Dr. Tack suggested partnering with local schools to conduct these clinics. Dr. Hasbrouck explained the use of this venue was explored but UCDOH was confronted with the difficulty of meeting the logistical needs of the clinics such as providing privacy and access to the buildings for hours of operations. UCDOH will revisit the use of schools to service the New Paltz area.
- **Sale of Long-Term\CHHA license:** Of the bids received, 2 were considered but were narrowed down to 1 agency (WillCare) who will be awarded the bid. The Ulster County committee tasked with overseeing the sale of the license will meet with the selected agency regarding the purchasing and management contract, pressing forward to meet the 6/30/2010 deadline. Dr. Tack expressed his concerns about this agency being awarded the bid, as this will limit health care options for Medicare patients, which will result an increase in the nursing home inpatient numbers and restricting home health care availability.
- **H1N1 Recognition Certificate:** UCDOH received State DOH recognition for the work done to ensure public health during the H1N1 pandemic of 2009.
- **Strategic National Stockpile Training:** Scheduled on 5/26.

d. Environmental Health:

Mr. DuMond reported on the following:

- **Lead Program:** The Environmental Health Services Division has applied for a lead program grant which will allow UCDOH to partner with other community agencies and begin identifying high risk houses in the area and thereby reducing the amount of kids in the community testing positive for high lead levels. The NYS point person, Steven Martin, is in receipt of the UCDOH's proposal and has responded back to UCDOH. James Rodden, UDOH PH Sanitarian and lead person in this initiative is currently reviewing the State's response. Dr. Stellato inquired about the number of individuals in Ulster County who test positive for lead. This information will be provided at the June BOH meeting.

- **NYS DOH Audit:** Conducted on 4/27 & 4/28. The exit interview was held on 4/28 and the overall report was good. NYS DOH acknowledged the positive turn around the UCDOH has made since the last audit. It will be 30 days before UDOH receives the formal report. The formal report will be available for BOH review at the June BOH meeting. Mr. DuMond extended kudos to the staff for a job well done.
- **Golden Hill Health Care Update:** The bid was awarded to Enrich to install the copper silver system at the facility.
- **Wawarsing Update:** No new news to report. Currently the Bill to offer a buyout has been Assembly and Senate approved and is still being held within the budget process.
- **Sanitary Code:** UCDOH received a memo from the County Attorney's office, stating the deadline for the remaining Code revision drafts to be submitted by 5/26/2010. Mr. DuMond expressed concerns regarding this deadline, especially as the Department is entering its busy season for summer permits.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by Dr. MacFadden and seconded by Dr. Delma.

Respectfully submitted by:

Katrina Kouhout  
Secretary to the Public Health Director  
On behalf of UC Board of Health