

ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

February 14, 2022

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

- **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. Approval of October, November and December 2021 Minutes

- **NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Board items

- Vote on 2022 Schedule
- Vote on Slate of Officers, Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary

- b. Commissioner's Report (Dr. Smith)

- COVID Update

- a. Up-to-date Stats
- b. New Mask Mandate Update (Governor Hochul and County Executive)
- c. Testing Update (Employee)
- d. POD Update

- Department of Health

- Staffing Updates

- a. Medical Examiner
- b. Environmental Health
- c. Fiscal
- d. Patient Services

MEETING CONCLUSION

Ulster County Board of Health
February 14, 2022
6:30 p.m.
Held Virtually

PRESENT: Dr. Walter Woodley, Stephanie Turco, Naomi Stevens, Dr. Gina Carena, Kathleen Rogan

EXCUSED:

ABSENT:

UCDOH: Dr. Carol Smith- Commissioner of Health

GUEST: Phil Erner, UC Legislator, District 6

1. Old Business

- a. **Approval of Minutes:** Approval of the minutes from the February 2022 meeting was tabled until the March meeting.
- b. **Slate of Officers:** A survey will be emailed to Members for nominations of 2022 Board Officers. Final vote will be made at the March meeting.
- c. **Board of Health Meeting Schedule:** A motion was made to approve the 2022 Board of Health Meeting Schedule by Ms. Turco, seconded by Dr. Carena and unanimously approved. Dr. Woodley stressed the importance of attending the monthly Board meetings.
- d. **Board of Health Packet:** Currently there is not a Board packet to be given to new members. A new member packet will begin to be established. It will include items such as Schedule of Meetings, Members and Terms, UC Charter as it applies to the Board of Health and other applicable documents.
- e. **Board Candidates:** New candidates will be sent the packet and invited to a Board meeting before deciding on applying to be a Board member. Dr Woodley will forward the CV of his candidate for Board review.

2. Introductions

- a. The Board Members introduced themselves and Dr. Woodley welcomed Phil Erner to the Board meeting. Mr. Erner is and Ulster County Legislator for District 6 (City of Kingston). He also is a member of several Legislative subcommittees including the Health, Human Services and Housing subcommittee.

3. Commissioner's Update: Dr Smith reported on the following:

- **COVID Overview:**
 - Reviewed the most recent COVID numbers (see attached).

- Dr. Smith pointed out that the numbers of positive cases are dropping. However, these numbers don't take into account those individuals who have tested positive via home test kit and have not reported it to DOH.
 - a. Mr. Erner inquired how the public can obtain COVID case information. Dr Smith said the UC COVID dashboard regularly contains this information. <https://covid19.ulstercountyny.gov/dashboard>
 - b. Mr Erner asked about access for individuals without a computer. Dr. Smith said unfortunately a computer is needed to access.
 - c. Mr. Erner inquired about how the number of tests were calculate. Dr Smith explained it was from a combination of DOH tests given, Pharmacy numbers, other sites doing testing, medical offices, etc.
 - d. Mr Erner asked about the number of transferred out cases. There appears to be a data conflict. Dr Smith would investigate this with the data person who is responsible for collecting this information.
 - e. Mr Erner noted that some community members have expressed concern about the side effects from the vaccine. Dr. Smith explained that without knowing what those side effects are, she is unable to speak to the validity of their concern.
 - f. Vaccinations continue. PODs are still being hosted by the County. The numbers of individuals attending the PODs have greatly reduced and DOH has shortened the number of PODs and the length of time they are held. Home vaccinations are done upon request.

- **Medical Examiner (ME):**

- a. The ME Report was distributed (see attached). Mr Erner observed that there are 3 times more male than female deaths. Dr. Smith added that is mainly white middle-aged males and are often involved in more of the violent deaths (MVA, Guns, etc).
- b. The Department needs more staffing help, especially now with the retirement of Dr. Heller, Medical Examiner. Currently, Dr Stutt is fulfilling the Medical Examiner role. However, it has left his Deputy ME position vacant. The Department is wanting to create a new

Medicolegal Investigator position equivalent to Haley Carr's. To date Dr. Smith has attended with the Deputy County Executive, Johanna Contreras three Legislative Committees to answer questions and explain the need for the position. She has attended Ways and Means, Health, Human Services and Planning and the Laws and Rules Committee. It continues to be a work in progress and Dr Smith will keep the Board apprised of the outcome.

c. Dr. Woodley confirmed that ME training will be built into the residence curriculum offered beginning July.

g. Department Personnel Update:

a. **Environment Division:** With the Housing Market being high there has been an influx of plans to review and approve within the Environmental Division. The need to obtain more engineering help is crucial. There is a candidate being considered to hire as an Assistant Public Health Engineer to help with the review process.

b. **Patient Services:** The division is struggling with their own staffing issues. Just recently there has been one employee resignation, one employee going out on maternity leave and another out on medical leave. The need for staff continues to be an issue.

c. Offering comparable salaries with the private sector is always a challenge the Department is faced with.

6. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn was not made but the meeting ended at 7:56 pm.

7. **Next Meeting:** Scheduled for Monday, March 14, 2022 at 6:30 PM, via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted by:


Walter Woodley, MD - Chair

Today			
Official Counts For		2/14/2022	
Data As Of		2/13/2022	
Total Tests	65809	+415	Since Yesterday
Confirmed Cases	36292	+16	Since Yesterday
Transferred	348	+1	Since Yesterday
Recovered	3563	+56	Since Yesterday
Fatalities	367	+1	Since Yesterday
Active	262	-40	Since Yesterday

7 day rolling average today is 6.2%

Sunday			
Official Counts For		2/13/2022	
Data As Of		2/12/2022	
Total Tests	658494	+394	Since Prior Day
Confirmed Cases	36275	+22	Since Prior Day
Transferred	348	2	Since Prior Day
Recovered	35607	+63	Since Prior Day
Fatalities	366	0	No Change
Active	302	43	Since Prior Day

Saturday			
Official Counts For		2/12/2022	
Data As Of		2/11/2022	
Total Tests	658100	+1175	Since Prior Day
Confirmed Cases	36255	+53	Since Prior Day
Transferred	348	0	No Change
Recovered	35544	+71	Since Prior Day
Fatalities	366	0	No Change
Active	345	-18	Since Prior Day

Res Town	Town	Active	Recovered	Deceased	Total Confirmed
City of Kingston	City of Kingston	52	5298	59	5409
Wawarsing	Town of Wawarsing	30	2714	19	2763
Hurley	Town of Hurley	5	902	10	917
Lloyd	Town of Lloyd	17	2867	72	2956
Ulster	Town of Ulster	13	2447	65	2525
Marlborough	Town of Marlborough	3	1981	8	1992
Saugerties	Town of Saugerties	29	3326	31	3386
Shawangunk	Town of Shawangunk	13	2656	11	2680
New Paltz	Town of New Paltz	24	2507	19	2550
Esopus	Town of Esopus	9	1371	7	1387
Plattekill	Town of Plattekill	4	2010	14	2028
Rochester	Town of Rochester	9	1097	8	1114
Rosendale	Town of Rosendale	1	714	4	719
Marbletown	Town of Marbletown	3	695	1	699
Gardiner	Town of Gardiner	2	803	6	811
Unknown	Unknown	27	2510	16	2553
Woodstock	Town of Woodstock	4	610	2	616
Olive	Town of Olive	8	515	7	530
Shandaken	Town of Shandaken	8	253	1	262
Denning	Town of Denning	0	45	0	45
Hardenburg	Town of Hardenburg	0	11	0	11
Out of County	Out of County	1	237	5	243
Town of Kingston	Town of Kingston	0	94	2	96
Total		262	35663	367	36292

Patent Facility	Total Confirmed	Total Active	Active - Employees	Active - Non Employees	Recovered	Deceased
Samaritan Daytop Village	35	11	0	11	24	0
SUNY New Paltz	559	6	0	6	553	0
Taconic DDSO Wiltwyck IRA	4	4	0	4	0	0
RONDOUT VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL	67	3	0	3	64	0
GEORGE WASHINGTON SCHOOL	30	2	1	1	28	0
Golden Hill Nursing and Rehabilitation Center	288	2	0	2	250	36
Health Alliance Hospital Broadway Campus	25	2	2	0	23	0
Ulster Correctional Facility	91	2	2	0	89	0
CAHILL SCHOOL	14	1	0	1	13	0
Charles River Laboratory	3	1	1	0	2	0
Eastern Correctional Facility	182	1	0	1	180	1
ELLENVILLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	64	1	0	1	63	0
Ellenville Regional Hospital	3	1	1	0	2	0
J WATSON BAILEY MIDDLE SCHOOL	112	1	0	1	111	0
Kingston DPW	20	1	1	0	19	0
Northeast Center for Rehabilitation and Brain Injury	161	1	0	1	156	4
NYS DOT	12	1	1	0	11	0
ONTEORA HIGH SCHOOL	49	1	0	1	48	0
OSTRANDER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	33	1	0	1	32	0
PHOENICIA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	17	1	0	1	15	1
SAUGERTIES SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL	69	1	0	1	68	0
Ten Broeck Center for Rehabilitation & Nursing	402	1	0	1	360	41
ULSTER BOCES	37	1	1	0	36	0
Ulster County Jail	113	1	0	1	111	1
Woodland Pond at New Paltz	80	1	0	1	76	3