

# **ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING**

## **October 21, 2025**

The St. Lawrence County Board of Health (hereafter known as SLCBOH) met on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, in the Large Conference Room, Human Services Center, Canton, New York 13617.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dr. Kathleen Terrence, Rita Curran, Dr. Gregory Healey, Nancy Potter

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Dr. Andrew Williams, Mark Deavers, Dr. Jessica Scillieri Smith

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Erin Streiff, Public Health Director

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Terrence, Vice President, called the meeting to order at 5:50 pm.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Rita Curran, and seconded by Dr. Healey, the minutes from the September 16, 2025 meeting were approved.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment.

### **OTHER ITEMS AND QUESTIONS**

Lara Martin was attending a training in Utica; Erin Streiff presented on her behalf. Erin reported that most inquiries continue to fall under the “other” category, encompassing a variety of public concerns. No formal nuisance complaints were filed this month. Several inquiries were referred to other appropriate jurisdictions or addressed directly by department staff.

Erin presented the standing order proposal for the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, 12 years and older formulation. The department has 30 doses in stock, pre-ordered before the start of the season. Additional formulations (six months and older) can be ordered as needed, and are typically received within several days.

Board members discussed discrepancies between New York State Department of Health standing orders and federal (ACIP/FDA) guidance. The state’s standing order includes both individuals with underlying medical conditions and those who self-attest as moderately or severely immunocompromised. Erin noted that the latter language is unique to New York State and that the executive order extending authority to assess immunocompromised status applies only to pharmacists—not to nurses.

County Attorney Steve Button advised that requiring a physician’s order for eligible individuals would reduce liability, though members expressed concern that such a requirement would create barriers to vaccine access.

After discussion, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the New York State standing order for Moderna COVID-19 vaccine administration as written. Staff should obtain documentation when applicable, and self-attestation will be accepted for those identifying as immunocompromised.

Coroner Program discussion was tabled for a future meeting. Dr. Williams was to coordinate with Dr. LaPoint for input on regional medical examiner considerations.

Erin proposed conducting a measles tabletop exercise at the December Board of Health meeting to review outbreak response coordination. Suggested participants included Emergency Services, Sheriff's Office, local legislators, and rangers. Dr. Terrence also recommended inviting Dr. Soule (infectious disease specialist) and local school administrators. Erin will coordinate invitations and exercise facilitation with Jonathan Mitchell (NYS DHSES).

Rita noted that Michael Carter, PharmD, will attend the November 2025 meeting. Dr. Carter specializes in antibiotic resistance and is interested in contributing to the Board's work. Members briefly discussed measles immunity concerns following reports of positive wastewater surveillance in nearby counties and expressed concern over local vaccination rates. A broader discussion followed regarding access to healthcare and preventive services, particularly dental health, as key determinants of well-being.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Regular session concluded and executive session was held at 6:21.

### **ADJOURNMENT/NEXT MEETING**

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 pm. Next meeting will take place on November 18, 2025 at 6:00 pm.

### **ACTION ITEMS FOR FOLLOW UP**

N/A