

<b>Date:</b> March 18, 2026	<b>Time:</b> 4:00 pm	<b>Location:</b> Meeting held via Microsoft Teams and in-person in the Conference Room in the Seneca County Health and Senior Services Building
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**Present:** Scott King, Kimberly Abate, Mary Jump, Bob Hayssen, Grace Freier, MD, Joseph Lorenzetti, MD, Lynn Porter, Dale Freier, MD

**Via Audio:** Timothy Ryan, MD, Tiffany Folk

**Absent:**

**Scribe:** Tammy Reynolds

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action Items	Owner	Status (open or closed)
<b>Call to Order</b>	Meeting called to order at 4:10 pm by Dr. Timothy Ryan.			
. Consent Agenda A. Approval of Feb.18 Mtg. Minutes B. Staff Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Director of Public Health – 3/13/26</u></li> <li>• <u>Director of Environmental Services</u></li> <li>• <u>February Warrant</u></li> </ul>	<p>A motion was made by Joseph Lorenzetti, MD to accept the consent agenda with Bob Hayssen seconding it. A motion was made by Joseph Lorenzetti, MD, to accept the February meeting minutes and the monthly reports with Dale Freier, MD, seconding the motion. All members present voted to accept the consent agenda, the meeting minutes and monthly reports. Scott highlighted a few items from the monthly reports for the Board. First, he noted that CHSC and HNP codes appear frequently in the February Warrant. The CHSC code is because the department is working to spend down the remainder of the grant funds for the Creating Healthy Schools and Communities program. The HNP code is because the department is using Year 4 grant funds to purchase supplies for the Healthy Neighborhoods Program before the grant year ends March 31<sup>st</sup>. This is being done because of the threat to the grant in the Governor’s 2026-27 state budget. Scott stated that the department has completed their annual fit testing requirements. Scott also stated that the annual updates to the Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan (PHEPRP) have</p>	A. & B. Approve Minutes and Accept Reports	Board	Closed

	been completed and will be uploaded to NYSDOH later in the year for their review.			
<b>The Bixby Home</b>	Scott informed the Board that the Bixby Home facility in Interlaken was ordered to be closed by NYSDOH due to numerous violations. It was also reported that all residents were relocated to other facilities by the NYSDOH. The Bixby Home is not expected to reopen.	Information	Scott	Closed
<b>Departmental Issues</b> A. Staffing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLP, PT for Early Intervention</li> <li>• EH Sanitarian</li> <li>• PH Educator</li> </ul> B. Board of Supervisors Resolutions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fill PH Sanitarian</li> <li>• Fill PH Educator</li> <li>• Fill Speech Language Pathologist and hire above start rate</li> <li>• Fill Physical Therapist and hire above start rate</li> </ul>	Scott reported that we currently have 4 positions to be filled, including an EH Sanitarian and a PH Educator. We continue to have openings for a Speech-Language Pathologist and a Physical Therapist. Scott notified the BOH members that he has 4 resolutions that will be going before the Board of Supervisors in April. He will be requesting permission to fill the PH Educator and EH Sanitarian positions that were recently vacated. He is also going to request permission to hire above the start rate for the Physical Therapist and Speech-Language Pathologist to help promote these positions.	Information	Scott	Closed
<b>Seasonal Respiratory Virus Update</b>	Liz reported that the incidence and prevalence of respiratory viruses continue to decrease. The RSV virus season seems to be lingering but is declining. Seneca County has not had any unusual clusters or outbreaks of illness this season. She did report that there was one elderly resident with underlying conditions that recently passed from COVID. Liz gave a brief overview of the CDC's flu vaccine effectiveness report for 2025-2026. According to the report, fewer than half of US adults and children had reported receiving the flu vaccine. Dr. Grace Freier inquired about the reported measles outbreak in South Carolina and if there have been any confirmed cases in NYS. Liz stated that the only confirmed cases in NYS have been in Rockland County. Scott and Liz indicated that the department remains vigilant for potential measles cases.	Information	Liz	Closed

<p><b>HPAI (Bird Flu)</b></p>	<p>Scott discussed the recent report of dead geese that washed up on the shore of Seneca Lake in Ontario County. It was confirmed that the geese tested positive for bird flu (avian influenza). Scott and Mary Jump also informed the Board about dead chickens that were recently confirmed on a farm in the Town of Ovid. The chickens were not tested for HPAI and a PH Sanitarian advised the farm owner how she should properly dispose of the carcasses.</p>	<p>Information</p>	<p>Scott</p>	<p>Closed</p>
<p><b>Agenda items submitted by Board Members</b></p>	<p>Lynn Porter asked if there was a resolution to a previous discussion regarding school immunization audits. Scott stated that there has not been a resolution yet, but the issue is being considered by a work group made up of local health department representatives, NYSACHO, and the NYSDOH. Dr. Lorenzetti asked Dr. Freier if she was aware of any data on the correlation between the significant use of gaming at an early age and increased problems of addiction behavior/impulses. Scott informed the Board that the department will be holding an in-service day in the coming months with the focus being on the importance of brain health. Dr. Grace Freier expressed her belief that school nurses would be interested in information about concussions. Joseph Lorenzetti, MD made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Lynn Porter seconding the motion. All members present voted in favor of adjourning.</p>	<p>Information</p>	<p>Board</p>	<p>Closed</p>



Seneca County Public Health  
Board of Health  
Meeting Minutes



**Meeting Adjourned at 4:50 PM**

**Next Meeting will be held April 15, 2026  
4:00 PM**

**Seneca County Health Department Conference Room**

Written by,  
Tammy Reynolds, Staff Resource Assistant  
Reviewed by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Scott King".

Scott King, MPH  
Public Health Director

Public Health/BoardofHealth/2026/Minutes

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*"To create healthy communities and safe environments for all."*

