

FEBRUARY 6, 2007

HEALTH COMMITTEE
REPORT NO. 2

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

1. RESOLVED, the following items are hereby received and filed:
 - a. INTRO 9-7 (2006)
IANNELLO & REYNOLDS: Resolution Against Legalization of Drugs (4-0)
 - b. COMM. 15E-46 (2006)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE: Health - Fee Schedule Revision - Effective 1/1/07 (4-0)
 - c. INTRO 2-9 (2007)
WHYTE & KENNEDY: Health Implications and Regulations of Trans Fats (4-0)
2. COMM. 3E-17 (2007)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the New York State Health Department has indicated that the Erie County Department of Health has qualified for a grant to enhance beach sampling, for the period 10/1/06 to 9/30/07 in the amount of \$9,693, and

WHEREAS, each beach will be tested by the Erie County Department of Health once a week throughout the bathing season, and

WHEREAS, samples will routinely be collected, chilled and transported to the Erie County Public Health Laboratory for testing within 6 hours of sample collection for *E.coli* bacteria using proposed EPA methodologies, and

WHEREAS, a beach will be closed when New York State and EPA standards are exceeded, and will remain closed until subsequent tests indicate a water quality that meets the accepted standards, and

WHEREAS, a sign will be posted for closed beaches with verbiage that is acceptable to the permit issuing official, and

WHEREAS, results of testing and reporting of results will be directed to the New York State Department of Health.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into a contract with the New York State Department of Health to accept a grant to enhance beach sampling which is budgeted as follows:

BEACH WATER QUALITY MONITORING PROGRAM		
10/1/06 – 9/30/07		
NEW		
ACCT	REVENUE	BUDGET
409000	STATE AID	<u>\$ 9,693</u>
	TOTAL	<u>\$ 9,693</u>
EXPENSES		
501000	OVERTIME	\$ 5,400
505000	OFFICE SUPPLIES	893
912730	ID HEALTH LAB SERVICES	3,300
510100	OUT OF AREA TRAVEL	100
	TOTAL	<u>\$ 9,693</u>
PUBLIC HEALTH LAB DIVISION		
	Increase Account 505800 Medical Supplies	\$3,300
	Increase Account 912730 ID Health Lab Services	\$3,300

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the County Executive, the Department of Health, the Office of the Comptroller, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, and the Department of Law.
(4-0)

3. COMM. 3E-31 (2007)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, Pandemic influenza occurs when a novel influenza virus appears that causes readily transmissible human illness against which most of the population lacks immunity. By definition, a pandemic flu event would create a disaster at the international, national, state, and local level. Therefore, no amount of preplanning and other preparatory actions will eliminate all mortality, morbidity, and other societal losses. However, reasonable allocation of resources may greatly help minimize risk to the public's health, safety and well being, and

WHEREAS, the following are generally accepted planning assumptions:

- Influenza pandemics are expected but arrive with very little warning.
- Outbreaks can be expected to occur simultaneously throughout much of the U.S., preventing sharing of human and material resources that usually occur in the response to other disasters. With the exception of vaccines and medications, which the CDC and New York State Department of Health will control, and will likely be in very limited quantities, localities should be prepared to rely on their own resources to respond. The effect of pandemic influenza on individual communities will be relatively prolonged (weeks to months) in comparison to disasters of shorter duration.
- Because of widespread susceptibility to a pandemic influenza strain, the number of persons affected will be high. In a pandemic of a moderate influenza strain, it is estimated that as many as 270,000 (30%) Erie County residents would become ill during a 4 – 8 week period. This could result in 627 deaths. If the outbreak is of a severe strain such as the 1918 pandemic, these numbers would be significantly higher with as many as 6,709 deaths. These figures do not reflect the huge numbers of worried well who will seek medical care.
- Health care workers and other first responders will be at higher risk of exposure and illness than the general population, further straining the health care system.
- Effective preventive and therapeutic measures, including vaccine and antiviral agents, are likely to be delayed and in short supply.
- Widespread illness, the worried well and the necessity of caring for the ill in the community could result in sudden and potentially significant shortages of personnel in other sectors that provide critical public safety services, as well as services to meet all other human needs (e.g., food, shelter, utilities).
- Hospitals will quickly be overwhelmed. The double burden of a massive increase in patient demand and decrease in available staff will push the health care system to the breaking point. Evaluation of many worried well will likely further compound this problem. Medical rationing and altered standards of care will need to be controlled on the federal, state and county levels.

WHEREAS, although resources to enhance our (collective) ability to respond to a pandemic flu or similar event are not limitless, additional resources will greatly enhance our capabilities in the event of pandemic flu, and will also bolster our core public health functions throughout the year, and

WHEREAS, the following resources are needed:

A. P. H. Lab, Epi and Environmental Health Division

1. **Laboratory Supplies:** to purchase consumables including:
 - Laboratory reagents
 - Primers, probes, master mix (molecular tools)
 - Specimen collection devices
 - Packing and shipping materials
 - Detection kits
 - **Cost: \$97,291**
2. **Personal Protective Equipment:** to protect staff/employees from exposure to infectious, hazardous, toxic materials (i.e. long-sleeved gowns, eye protection, disinfecting solutions)
 - **Cost: \$3,000**
3. **Biohazard Supplies:** for safe and proper disposal of contaminated materials (i.e. biohazard equipment, sharps containers)
 - **Cost: \$20,000**
4. **Communications/Computer Equipment:** to maintain connectivity to public health organizations, clients, regulatory agencies, etc. for reporting, notification, information gathering, etc (5 air cards w/ monthly internet accounts, 3 laptop computers, etc).
 - **Cost: \$5,000**

B. Medical Examiner

1. **Personal Protective Equipment:** to protect staff/employees from exposure to infectious, hazardous, toxic materials (i.e. long-sleeved gowns, eye protection, disinfecting solutions)
 - **Cost: \$20,000**
2. **Body Bags:** 1,000 needed to process additional surge capacity.
 - **Cost: \$25,600**

3. Autopsy Saws & Hoods: 3 autopsy saws with HEPA bone dust collectors and stands and 2 Luminar fume hoods are needed to upgrade office to protect workers.

- **Cost: \$27,278**

4. Verichip Identification System: In order to handle the additional deceased in an efficient manner it will be necessary to implant chips in the remains so that a positive identification system will be used. This will allow tracking of the remains without opening the body bags and will be needed so that families can relocate their loved ones to permanent internment sites.

- Scanners 3 @ \$650
- Camera packages 3 @ \$1,000
- Chips 2275 @ \$10
- **Cost: \$27,700**

C. EMS Division:

1. PPE stockpile: for individuals in quarantine and general public (800,000 masks).

- **Cost: \$72,576**

2. Training Material: to produce DVD and related training materials for volunteer fire companies and EMS squad train the-trainer-course in personal protective equipment.

- **Cost: \$1,555**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that authorization is granted to make the following budgetary adjustments in the 2006 Budget, fund 110, in order to implement this request:

EXPENSE

Social Services Fund Center 120

Decrease Account 525000 MMIS-Medicaid Local Share \$300,000

Health Department

Public Health Laboratories Division Fund Center 12730

Increase Account 505200 – Clothing \$ 3,000

Increase Account 505800 – Medical & Health Supplies \$ 97,291

Increase Account 516020 – Contractual \$ 20,000

Increase Account 561410 – Lab & Technical Equipment \$ 5,000

Medical Examiner Division Fund Center 12740

Increase Account 505200 – Clothing \$ 20,000
 Increase Account 505800 – Medical & Health Supplies \$ 25,600
 Increase Account 561410 – Lab & Technical Equipment \$ 54,978

Emergency Medical Services Division Fund Center 12720

Increase Account 505800 – Medical & Health Supplies \$ 72,576

Increase Account 510200 – Training & Educational \$ 1,555

Net Change 0

and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization be provided to reappropriate said 2006 funds within the Health Department into 2007 as required to facilitate this project,

and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the County Executive, the Department of Health, Office of the Comptroller, the Division of Budget, Management and Finance, and the Department of Law.

(4-0)

**CYNTHIA E. LOCKLEAR
 CHAIRMAN**