



**Delaware County Health Department
Board of Health Meeting
March 19, 2026**

ATTENDEES

Lora Siegmann Werner
Rosemarie Halt, Chair
Lily Higgins, MD, Vice Chair
Lonnese Bodison
Annemarie Hirsch
P.J. Brennan, MD

Meeting Minutes

- I. There being a duly convened quorum, Chair Rosemarie Halt called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.
- II. Chair announcements
 - a. An Executive Meeting was held last week.
- III. Public Comment on Agenda Items: None
- IV. Approval of minutes – motion made by Chair Rosemarie Halt, Annemarie Hirsch approved, and Vice Chair Lily Higgins seconded.
- V. Director Updates
 - a. Director Werner shared DCHD's 2025 Annual Report (available at <https://delcopa.gov/sites/default/files/2026-03/DCHD-Annual-Report-2025.pdf>).
 - i. The report highlights Delaware County Health Department (DCHD)'s activities over the last year, including a map of the locations where DCHD has provided outreach events throughout Delaware County, implementation progress under Delaware County's Community Health Improvement Plan, and initiatives supporting building healthy families, epidemiology and disease surveillance, Delco Revive, Environmental Health, Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI) Testing and Treatment, Infrastructure and Partnerships, the Crozer response, Public Health Kiosks, and all of DCHD's final programming under the Health Equity Resource Improvement Initiative, a \$1.75 million congressionally directed award from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).
 - ii. Dr Brennan asked for more information on how many rabid animals were identified in the county. The report references that DCHD supported residents with advice regarding 60 high risk bat exposures in 2025. Director Werner shared that this information is available via the [state's dashboard](#), and there were 6 confirmed positive rabies cases in animals in Delaware County in 2025 (2 bat, 2 cat, 1 fox, and 1 racoon).
 - iii. Dr Brennan asked for some more information about the cold storage project. Director Werner explained that this was a project under the HRSA grant that supported providing Delaware County nonprofit organizations with cold storage (refrigerators, freezers) to help alleviate food insecurity in the county.
 - b. Crozer Update

- i. Final destruction of medical records from the Crozer Health System is scheduled for 3/2/2027. An exception to this is that Christiana Care has negotiated that if a former Crozer patient transfers their care for imaging services to the Christiana Care system, they will be able to access former Crozer imaging studies seven years.
 - ii. The Delaware County Health Department website has been updated with the latest information on instructions on how to obtain their medical records.
- c. Recent and Upcoming Events
 - i. DCHD will participate in the statewide Biological 200 exercise on Tuesday, 3/24/2026. DCHD will exercise opening and operating its Health Emergency Operations Center and a Point of Dispensing (POD) location under a measles outbreak scenario.
 - ii. DCHD and Children First are hosting “Spring into Action on Lead” at the East Lansdowne Borough Hall on 5/7/2026 to share information on childhood lead poisoning prevention and promote blood lead screenings and the vital role of local municipal lead ordinances.
 - iii. DCHD is partnering with Jefferson Health on a “SCORE for Wellness” event on 5/3/2026 at the Sportsplex in Chester. This is targeted for youth groups involved with soccer or children who have asthma.

VI. New Business

- i. Epidemiology and Personal Health Update – Dr Victor Alos Rullan, Epidemiologist, Meagan Sheikh, Administrator, Personal Health, and Michael Bundor, Disease Intervention Specialist Supervisor shared a presentation on the epidemiology of STIs in Delaware County and DCHD’s STI programming.
 - 1. The DCHD STI/HIV Department consists of 4 Disease Intervention Specialists (DIS), 1 STI/HIV Supervisor, and 1 STI Nurse.
 - 2. DCHD is responsible for all of the positive STI test results in Delaware County for HIV, Syphilis, Gonorrhea, Chlamydia, and Hepatitis C.
 - 3. Delaware County has higher rates for some STIs compared to Pennsylvania. Dr. Higgins asked whether the higher numbers of positive cases could be due to increased testing. Dr. Rullan answered that this could be one reason, but it is difficult to confirm.
 - 4. In 2025, DCHD expanded STI testing to two colleges and also expanded STI clinic hours at the Yeadon Wellness Center. The number of clinic visits and STI tests increased from 2024 to 2025.
 - 5. DCHD collaborates with the George W Hill Correctional Facility to process the facility’s STI tests to reduce the county’s costs.
 - 6. Ms. Bodison asked if DCHD is capturing data from pregnant women who are being tested. Yes, usually their testing is done through OBGYN, then those patients are referred to DCHD. These patients are all recorded in the state surveillance system as well, and DCHD epidemiology analyzes these data as well. Dr Higgins suggested investigating screening for the babies of pregnant women who test positive for hepatitis C.

VII. Public Comment:

- a. One public commenter requested a dialog with DCHD to discuss an AI platform focused on medication adherence that he said has been successful in working with healthcare providers like FQHCs to bring in funding that will pay for the platform.

- b. Another public commenter asked to confirm that there are policies for Board of Health meetings. Chair Rosemarie confirmed the policies that are in place for the Board.

Next meeting is June 18, 2026, at the County Council Conference Room, 201 W. Front St. Media PA. There will be public notice of the location.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lora Siegmann Werner, DCHD Director