

Monroe County Board of Health (MCDPH) Meeting Minutes – December 1, 2025

111 Westfall Road, Room 964, 3:30-5pm

Minutes

BOH in Attendance		DPH Attendance
Theresa Green	Rashid Muhammad	Marielena Vélez de Brown
Emma Forbes-Jones	Sarah Fletcher	Meaghan McDermott
Mike Weston	Erin Graupman	Tarilynn Forney
Celia McIntosh	Miguel Melendez, Jr.	Mel Schwartz
Linda Clark	Albert Blankley	MCDPH: Starr O’Neil
		Guests: Patty McMahon, Dina Johnson

The meeting was called to order by Theresa Green at 3:30pm.

Introductions and General Announcements

Theresa welcomed everyone to the meeting and did a round-robin of introductions.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes from the November meeting was made by Linda Clark and seconded by Theresa Green. All voted to approve the November minutes.

Commissioner’s Report – Dr. Marielena Vélez de Brown

- Dr. Vélez de Brown reported the OME’s Office has been in the news for supposedly harvesting eyeballs without family consent. The Monroe County Office of Public Integrity to do an investigation. When the individual said he wouldn’t reveal his sources or the name of the case involved it was discovered that he has a record and the Local Funeral Directors Association said they do not have any business with him. The name he presented does not appear on State Registries of people certified to transport or interact with deceased remains and there was never a record of releasing a body to him from the OME’s Office.
- Dr. Vélez de Brown speculated that this year’s Flu Season will be particularly bad given the new strain H5N3 that was not included in this year’s shot before the vaccine was created. It is a more virulent strain named subclade K. She recommended getting the Flu shot and is concerned that the county will see increased hospitalizations and possible deaths rise for the elderly, immunocompromised or medically fragile people.
- The U.S. has had its second death due to the Avian Flu in Washington State this year to date. The individual was an elder with an underlying health condition who owned a backyard flock. There has been no person-to-person transmission to date.
- Dr. Vélez de Brown said that the Covid vaccine is available in the Immunization Clinic and she has signed all of the individual patient specific orders needed.

Starr O’Neil – Manager of Environmental Health – ATUPA Hearing Officer’s Recommendations to the BOH. Vote to follow hearing cases.

1. Glide Express Inc. January 4th 2025. Recommendations by hearing officer David Fitch. Sent failure to reply letter with no response. First Violation. \$1,500.00 base standard fine, \$250.00 surcharge, and 2 points on registration. Recommendation Accepted. Motion to approve by Albert Blankley, Seconded by Linda Clark.
2. Town Convenient Inc. October 11th, 2024 Violation. Delivered failure to reply letter sent November 15th 2024. First Violation. \$1,500.00 plus Surcharge \$250.00. Recommendation Accepted. Motion to Approve made by Erin Graupman and Seconded by Linda Clark.
3. My One Stop Inc. Violation February 2024, accepted stipulation May 2024. This is a Second Violation occurring on October 28 2024- sent notice November 22, 2024. Sent Failure to Reply letter February 2025. Delivered Failure to Notice March 2025. No response. Fine: \$1,200.00 plus first fee. Total of 4 points. Could lose license. Acceptance of recommendations. Motion to approve Celia McIntosh seconded by Emma Forbes-Jones.
4. East Foodmart, Inc. Second Violation. Stipulated to their first violation, currently have 2 points. December 6, 2024 violation. Notice sent December 30, 2024 delivered on January 2, 2025. Failure to comply resulted March 3, 2025. \$2,500.00 Fine. Recommendation accepted. Motion to approve by Miguel Melendez, Jr. and seconded by Mike Weston.
5. Discount Market Violation date November 30, 2024. Notice delivered December 16, 2024. Street address was wrong which starts process over. New notice of violation delivered January 13, 2025. March 3, 2025 failure to comply letter sent. \$1,500.00 plus flavored vape charge \$100.00. \$2,500.00 second violation charge. Recommendation to accept. Motion approved by Linda Clark and seconded by Emma Forbes-Jones.
6. Mad Flavors Convenience. October 18, 2025 violation. Received report back from USPS certified mail. First violation. Rescheduled. Recommendation accepted. Motion made by Linda Clark and seconded by Erin Graupman.

President’s Report – Theresa Green

WeLinkCare, by FLIPA (Finger Lakes Social Care Network)

- **Patty McMahon, MPH CEO, Forward Leading IPA (FLIPA)**

Ms. McMahon provided an overview to the Board on the role and function of Forward Leading IPA (FLIPA) and its WeLinkCare initiative. She explained that FLIPA operates an integrated delivery network across 14 counties, including Monroe. The network brings together community health centers, behavioral health and community-based social care partners, health plans and local government to improve health outcomes for Medicaid members by addressing health-related social needs in a coordinated way, with a focus on

advancing health equity, reducing disparities and ensuring people are connected to the right supports at the right time.

Ms. McMahon described Social Care Networks as the core structure that enables this work, supporting screening, navigation and delivery of services such as housing supports, nutrition assistance, transportation and care manager. She reviewed progress under the Medicaid 1115 Waiver, including establishing SCN's as Medicaid providers, building shared infrastructure and creating billing and payment workflows that support sustainable service delivery. She also outlined future goals including expanding the network, increasing use of statewide data systems and expand access to evidence-based social care services.

She also addressed eligibility, access and financing, noting that services are targeted to Medicaid members with complex needs, including SUD or serious mental illness, pregnant or postpartum individuals, people recently released from incarceration, children with select chronic conditions and frequent users of emergency services. She explained that access begins with screening by a provider or community health worker and support from a Social Care navigator. Call 888-808-1845 for assistance.

FLIPA has so far distributed more than \$6 million in capacity-building funds and receives per-member-per-month payments from managed care organizations, with FLIPA managing claims adjudication and payments to reduce administrative burdens and financial risks for partner organizations.

Motion made to adjourn until January 5, 2025

