I. Call to Order

Mr. J. David Benenati, President, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. J. David Benenati, Mr. Timothy Goergen, Ms. Melanie Eppich, and Dr. Janet O’Hara. Mrs. Christina Livers was not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner, Daniel Mix, Personal Health Services Director, Michael Tusick, Registered Sanitarian and Sandra Gerzeny, Fiscal Coordinator.

Others present: There were no others present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Benenati asked everyone to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. Approval of Minutes

The approval of the minutes for July 19, 2010 was tabled.

Dr. O'Hara moved to approve the minutes for the September 20, 2010 regular Board of Health meeting. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, abstain; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

IV. Current Expenses/ Financial Report

Mr. Goergen moved to approve the Current Expenses August 11, 2010 to September 14, 2010. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that the sewage rule committee has 50 members. The meetings are running four hours long. ODH has indicated that the want the members to travel to Columbus 1 to 2 times per month for the meetings and that the meetings would begin at 9:00 am. Mr. Weisdack stated he would attend as many meetings in person as he could. Otherwise, he will attend via conference call. The next meeting is October 28, 2010.

Mr. Weisdack provided a report of sewage permits issued so far this year. There have been 229 permits issued this year to date. Many of these permits are a result of the For Sale of Property evaluations.

Mr. Weisdack stated he did not see any significant problems with our 2010 budget forecast. He does not anticipate any more layoffs.
The yearly inspections of the off-lot systems are behind due to staff workload. Mr. Weisdack stated he is hoping to have them completed by the end of 2010.

VI Administrative Hearings

a. Jennifer Palovich, Paul Troyer, William Fleming, Brian Fyfe, Jean Fakhoury, Mark Dinardo, Marvin Miller & Amanda Yoder, Joanne Eging, Jeremy Leonardi, Roert & Michelle Wyant, Jason Komara, and Leland & Dorothy Mullett

None of the residents were present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the properties owned by Jennifer Palovich, 12101 Bass Lake Rd., Munson Twp.; Paul Troyer, 16693 Bundysburg Rd., Parkman Twp.; William Fleming, 17720 Chardon Windsor Rd., Huntsburg Twp.; Brian Fyfe, 12936 Cherry Ln., Chester Twp.; Jean Fakhoury, 12061 County Line Rd., Chester Twp.; Mark Dinardo, 13419 Hickory St., Chester Twp.; Marvin Miller & Amanda Yoder, 16405 Hosmer Rd., Parkman Twp.; Joanne Eging, 10880 Howard Dr., Chardon Twp.; Jeremy Leonardi, 13213 Marilyn Dr., Chester Twp.; Robert & Michelle Wyant, 16800 Moseley Rd., Thompson Twp.; Jason Komara, 9815 Music St., Newbury Twp.; and Leland & Dorothy Mullett, 15405 Tavern Rd., Burton Twp. These cases are in regards to section 3701-29-22(A) of the Geauga County Health District Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations that states: “An evaluation of a residential sewage system must be completed prior to the transfer of ownership of any parcel with said system. The evaluation shall be conducted by a member of the Health District and if necessary corrective action(s) required shall be accomplished within the time period(s) directed.” Discussion followed.

Mr. Goergen moved that a code violation exists on the property owned by Jennifer Palovich, 12101 Bass Lake Rd., Munson Twp.; Paul Troyer, 16693 Bundysburg Rd., Parkman Twp.; William Fleming, 17720 Chardon Windsor Rd., Huntsburg Twp.; Brian Fyfe, 12936 Cherry Ln., Chester Twp.; Jean Fakhoury, 12061 County Line Rd., Chester Twp.; Mark Dinardo, 13419 Hickory St., Chester Twp.; Marvin Miller & Amanda Yoder, 16405 Hosmer Rd., Parkman Twp.; Joanne Eging, 10880 Howard Dr., Chardon Twp.; Jeremy Leonardi, 13213 Marilyn Dr., Chester Twp.; Robert & Michelle Wyant, 16800 Moseley Rd., Thompson Twp.; Jason Komara, 9815 Music St., Newbury Twp.; and Leland & Dorothy Mullett, 15405 Tavern Rd., Burton Twp. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved that Jennifer Palovich, 12101 Bass Lake Rd., Munson Twp.; Paul Troyer, 16693 Bundysburg Rd., Parkman Twp.; William Fleming, 17720 Chardon Windsor Rd., Huntsburg Twp.; Brian Fyfe, 12936 Cherry Ln., Chester Twp.; Jean Fakhoury, 12061 County Line Rd., Chester Twp.; Mark Dinardo, 13419 Hickory St., Chester Twp.; Marvin Miller & Amanda Yoder, 16405 Hosmer Rd., Parkman Twp.; Joanne Eging, 10880 Howard Dr., Chardon Twp.; Jeremy Leonardi, 13213 Marilyn Dr., Chester Twp.; Robert & Michelle Wyant, 16800 Moseley Rd., Thompson Twp.; Jason Komara, 9815 Music St., Newbury Twp.; and Leland & Dorothy Mullett, 15405 Tavern Rd., Burton Twp. be required to make application, pay for, schedule, and complete a For Sale of Property evaluation and/or obtain the necessary permits and install a new sewage disposal system within 30 days of receipt of Board order. Failure to follow these orders will result in referral to the prosecutor’s office for legal action. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

VII. Personal Health Services Update

Mr. Mix reported that the health district will be very active in community health assessments in 2010-2011. In addition to the project approved at the last Board meeting, we have been asked to sit on two health assessment projects.
The Center for Health Affairs in Cleveland conducts a regional health and needs assessment every few years in conjunction with local agencies, researchers at Cleveland State University and the Center for Community Solutions. Mr. Mix reported he will be attending a meeting soon.

Mr. Mix will attend a planning meeting at ODH for a statewide community health assessment. The goals are to identify a common statewide assessment tool, create a state health improvement plan, develop a quality improvement plan, and update Ohio’s strategic plan. There are two committees forming that include local health district representation and Mr. Mix volunteered for the advisory committee. This is intended to provide feedback on the development of a statewide community health assessment.

The health district website has undergone a major facelift. This will give us the ability to use the website for interaction with the community through feedback and surveys. Mr. Mix invited the Board to review the website and provide feedback.

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The PHEP staff participated in two drills within the past month. These included the Perry Nuclear Power Plant drill and a Northeast Ohio Region SNS drill with the Hospice of the Western Reserve. This allowed a private corporation to integrate into a regional response.

The Board was asked to approve a Memorandum of Agreement for Receipt and Dispensing of SNS Materials. This agreement allows us to share SNS resources during an event. This agreement is a blanket that we could enter into with a pharmacy or private physician to dispense SNS assets. This would improve our ability to reach the entire county population within the 48-hour timeline planned for a large event.

a. Nursing

The seasonal flu clinics have not been well attended. Flu vaccine is offered at many different locations this year and pharmacies are processing health insurance claims which makes it difficult for us to compete. We will still provide the vaccine to the public and will be providing clinics at most nursing homes.

The Geauga County Health District has been invited to participate in a health fair at Faith Fellowship Bible Church, hosted by Acts of Kindness. The health fair focuses on resources for lower income families or those struggling in this economy. We will send a representative to provide information and we will also be giving flu shots to 50 pre-registered people.

We have advertised for the Nursing Director position a second time due to a lack of qualified applicants. In the interim, Mr. Mix continues to perform the administrative functions of that position including scheduling clinic staff and grant-related reporting and applications.

The IAP application for 2011 was completed this week. The Board was asked to adopt and approve the IAP budget GY2011 for $44,550.00 which represents a $6,250.00 increase over 2010. The extra funds will be used to staff clinics to educate parents about child and adolescent vaccinations. We are also going to increase our efforts to get immunization information and clinic schedules into the public. The population of focus is the Amish population. They are not adverse to vaccination, however, they tend to begin later.

To help the remaining nursing staff we have relied heavily on contract public health nurses. The Board was asked to authorize the expenditure on contract nursing.
We participated in Operation Medicine Cabinet with the Geauga County Sheriff’s office recently. This event allowed residents to drop off unused and expired pharmaceuticals. This event addresses two problems within the community—teen prescription drug use and detectable levels of pharmaceuticals in drinking water. The collection was part of a national event by the Sheriff’s Association and collected more than a million pounds of drugs.

c. WIC

The WIC caseload continues to increase. The September caseload was 984. This is an increase from last month.

The WIC FY2010 grant year closed out on September 30, 2010. We have excess funds in the amount of $8,953.00. The main reason is that one staff member was reduced from a family health insurance plan to a single plan. The Board was asked to approve the moving of these excess funds and authorize repayment to Ohio WIC.

d. Health Education

There was no report for Health Education.

VIII. Old Business

a. Health Care

Mrs. Gerzeny explained that the Geauga County Commissioners will be making a decision on health care before the next Board of Health meeting. There is still no final information on just what will be covered, what plans will be available or what the cost will be. The last information that was received indicated that the basic plan (no employee contribution) would be eliminated and combined with another plan (requires employee contribution). It appears the increase will be around 10%. The deductibles and out-of-pocket expenses may go up. Waivers for people who do not take our insurance will remain the same.

The Health District worked a 15% increase into the 2011 budget. Mrs. Gerzeny explained the Geauga County Commissioners had asked all employees to attend a mandatory meeting and also to visit their physician for an annual checkup including a blood screening. The Commissioners have indicated that employees who do not meet these two requirements will have an increase to their employee contribution for health care insurance beginning 2011.

Mr. Goergen move 10.10-a to continue employee contribution rates for health care in 2011 the same as 2010. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 10.10-b to continue the Health Care Waiver in the same amount as the Geauga County Commissioners. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 10.10-c to increase employee contribution rates at the same percentage rate as the Geauga County Commissioners for employees who do not meet the annual check-up requirement. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

b. Peet Operation
Mr. Weisdack provided the Board with a map of the peet operation being proposed in Newbury Township. He explained the process of the operation. Mr. Weisdack stated he has some serious concerns about possible groundwater contamination. This proposal was approved by OEPA without notifying the Geauga County Health District. Mr. Weisdack stated he was made aware of this operation when the Newbury Township Zoning Inspector contacted him. Mr. Weisdack will be attending a Newbury Board of Zoning Appeals meeting to express his concerns about this proposal.

IX. Executive Session

Mrs. Livers moved to adjourn for Executive Session at 8:50 pm to discuss a pending legal case. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes. The meeting reconvened at 8:55 pm. There was no action taken on pending litigation.

X. New Business

Ms. Eppich moved 10.10-d to approve the Memorandum of Agreement for Receipt and Dispensing of SNS Materials for use with different agencies to aid in dispensing for antiviral and countermeasures for pandemic flu and other events. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved 10.10-e to approve the WIC funds transfer in the amount of $8,953.41 from Salary to Other Expense to send back unused funds to ODH. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved 10.10-f to approve the payment to the Ohio Department of Health in the amount of $8,953.41 of unused funds. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 10.10-g to adopt and approve the IAP Budget FY2011 in an amount not to exceed $44,550.00. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 10.10-h to approve the BOH funds transfer in the amount of $6,500.00 from Equipment to Other Expense to cover contract service nurses. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 10.10-i to approve the Private Water Funds transfer in the amount of $5,300.00 from Water Testing, Salaries and Travel Expense to Other Expense. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

XI. Other Business

a. Staff Shortages

There will be a secretary off from PHS and a secretary off from EH for surgeries. One of the sanitarians may be off for surgery also. Duties are being organized to assure coverage. One of the staff will be short on sick time. Mr. Weisdack inquired of the Board that if the staff wants to donate
sick time to that person would they approve? The Board indicated they would allow donation of sick
time.

b. State Subsidies

The State took $10,000.00 of the health district’s subsidies away. Recently at the Health
Commissioner’s Conference the Director of Health indicated that the local health districts would be
getting back the entire subsidy before the end of the year.

XII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held November 15, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., 470 Center
St., Bldg. 8, Chardon.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Goergen moved to adjourn
the meeting at 9:10 p.m. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous
vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Weisdack, R.S., M.A., M.P.H.
Secretary of the Board