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, Mrs. Christina Livers, and Dr. Janet O’Hara. Ms. Melanie Eppich was not present.

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

Others present: There was no one else present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the minutes for the April 18, 2011 regular Board of Health meeting. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

IV. Current Expenses/Financial Report

Mr. Goergen moved to approve the Current Expenses April 13, 2011 to May 11, 2011. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

a. Sewage Rules Update

Mr. Weisdack stated that the state is continuing with their discussions are making very few changes. They remain very inflexible. Senator Grendell’s aide has been attending the meetings and taking notes of what is discussed.

Part of the code states that the economic impact should be considered when trying to remedy a public health nuisance. Under the new rules, the sewage system would only be tested for fecal coliform levels. Previously, we tested for BOD’s and SS’s. During a recent conference call regarding economic impact, the State said that if the system in question has clear water discharging, no testing would be needed. The State said that they would draft something up to explain this and would post it for everyone to view. To date, nothing has been received.

b. General Information

Mr. Weisdack reported that the Spring Rabies Baiting has taken place for this year. The only area where the baits were distributed for Geauga County this year was Russell Township.
In June, Geauga County Health District will have a State Audit done. We have not had any problems with any of the audits in the past. We will have to pay to have the audit done.

Mr. Weisdack reported on the Health Commissioners conference. There were more discussions about standards, accreditation and quality improvements. More and more staff time is being used already for these items. There are several local health districts that are in financial trouble. They may be forced to consolidate with another health district. Mr. Weisdack stated he doesn’t feel there will be any problems with Geauga County Health District. We have already taken many steps toward accreditation which may have fees associated with it in the future.

Mr. Weisdack attended a meeting of the Public Health Association in which Mr. Mix was awarded a Student of Merit award. Everyone congratulated Mr. Mix on his achievement.

There have been 44 sewage installation permits issued so far to date.

VI. Administrative Hearings


Mrs. Livers moved that Christopher Kovach, 14522 Aldersyde Dr., Burton Twp., Randall & Donna Vancura, 13725 Aquilla Rd., Burton Twp., Mark Degrant, 107 Ashleigh Dr., S. Russell Village, Donna

VII. Personal Health Services Update

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The public health staff will conduct its Strategic National Stockpile evaluation next week. The Ohio Department of Health has set a target score of 79% for all local health districts.

The Board was asked to approve the PHEP budget in an amount not to exceed $106,759.00. This is a 3% decrease from FY2011 funding.

The Board was asked to approve the CRI Budget in an amount not to exceed $17,901.00. This is a 34% increase from FY2011 funding.

The Board was also asked to pre-approve the return of excess grant funding not used within 45 days of grant termination. This is a requirement of the 2012 PHEP grant application.

b. Nursing

The Board was asked to approve the CFHS budget in an amount not to exceed $66,000.00. This is a 12% increase from FY2011 funding.

Mr. Mix reported that the nursing staff has now gone live with the HDIS software for children immunization reporting.

c. WIC

The April caseload was 887. It has been noted that the Middlefield WIC clinic has decreased from 371 to 312 in the past six months. This is due to a concern within the Amish community over the source of the funding which is the Federal Government.

d. Community Health Assessments

Mr. Mix reported that several presentations were made to the townships and villages in an effort to raise the last needed dollars for the community health assessment. So far, we have received $4,500.00 from the townships and villages. As of this date, sufficient funds have been raised to conduct all three surveys, including children 0 to 11 years, youth 12 to 18 years and adult. The Board of Mental Health and Recovery Services pledged $17,000.00 and Job and Family Services committed to pledge $3,000.00. In addition, Family First Council has pledged $1,500.00. As soon as these Boards provide final approval, we will sign the contract.

We will take advantage of any community resources we may have available to complete the assessment. There will be some expense involved, by Mr. Mix does not think those expenses will be extensive.
e. Workforce Development

Mr. Mix stated that he has received the results of the Workforce Training Needs Assessment from the Ohio State University Center for Public Health Practice. OSU has recommended that we present the report to the staff and discuss improvements. In terms of skills, two areas identified by the staff are indicated for the greatest need of improvement includes financial planning and management and community dimensions of practice. While these are the recommended areas for improvement, Mr. Mix feels that communication skills and cultural competence would be better areas to address.

Mr. Mix indicated that more discussion will be held about what training resources are available.

f. Continuous Improvement Project

Mr. Mix reported that the quality improvement charter team has identified its project based on the local health district standards. Our AIM statement is: Policies that are written in a standardized format that identifies the purpose, ownership and access requirements that can be found in a central location and are updated regularly. Objectives: By June 10, 2011, identify all known health district policies; By June 17, 2011, identify all missing PBAH-recommended policies described in the PHAB local health district standards for OVAT; By July 1, 2011, create a corporate wide policy that standardizes the format and identifies the purpose, ownership, storage, access and timely revision of all Health District policies; By August 15, 2011, 50% of Health District policies will meet the standards established in the corporate wide policy and; By August 15, 2011, create one missing PHAB-recommended policies described in the PHAB local health district standards for OVAT.

VIII. Old Business

a. Injection Well Chemical Water Sampling

Mr. Weisdack reported that we are still waiting for the machine to be returned being repaired. Once it is returned, we will be able to move forward with sampling.

IX. Executive Session

Mr. Goergen moved to adjourn for Executive Session at 8:55 pm to discuss pending legal cases. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O’Hara, yes. The meeting reconvened at 9:10 pm. The Board took no action as a result of the discussion during Executive Session.

X. New Business

Mrs. Livers moved 5.11-a to approve the PHEP Budget GY2012 in an amount not to exceed $106,759.00. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O’Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 5.11-b to approve the CRI Budget GY2012 in an amount not to exceed $17,901.00. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O’Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 5.11-c to approve the CFHS Budget GY2012 in an amount not to exceed $66,000.00. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O’Hara, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 5.11-d to approve the return of unused PHEP funds to ODH within 45 days of grant termination in accordance with the 2012 PEH RFP requirements. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O’Hara, yes.
Mrs. Livers moved 5.11-e to approve the first reading of the proposed fee decrease for copies from $.10 per page to $.05 per page. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 5.11-f to approve the appointment of Chris Pintchuk to Family First Council. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. O'Hara, yes.

XI. Other Business

There was no other business.

XII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Monday, June 20, 2011 at 7:00 p.m., 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Mrs. Livers moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

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