I. Call to Order

Mr. Timothy Goergen, President Pro-Tempore, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. Timothy Goergen, Mrs. Christina Livers, and Dr. O'Hara, Mr. David Gragg were present. Mr. J. David Benenati was not present.

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

Others present: There were no others present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the minutes for the May 23, 2013 regular Board of Health meeting as presented. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O'Hara, abstain; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

IV. Current Expenses/Financial Report

Mr. Gragg moved to approve the Current Expenses and Financial Reports, May 9, 2013 to June 12, 2013. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

V. Administrative Hearings


None of the above mentioned were present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.


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.

Dr. O’Hara moved that Joe & Catherine Miller, 17767 Burton Windsor Rd., Huntsburg Twp., James & Mary Ann Troyer, 17828 Burton Windsor Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Edward & Danette Gembarski, 11081 Carriage Hill Dr., Auburn Twp., Ivan Miller, 16345 Doty Rd., Parkman Twp., Kelly Jones & Jessica Fernandez, 13512 Forest Rd., Burton Twp., Steiner & Virginia Huang, 17840 Geauga Lake Rd., Bainbridge Twp., William Kurtz, 14347 Hubbard Rd., Burton Twp., Melissa & Jason Nemunaitis, 10710 Music St., Newbury Twp., Sean Heineman, 8881 Ravenna Rd., Chardon Twp., Green & Green Investments, 13864 Ravenna Rd., Newbury Twp., Steven Parks, 9621 Robinson Rd., Chardon Twp., Christopher Gullian, 9685 Robinson Rd., Chardon Twp., Leonardo & Carrie Morgano, 7079 Stacy Ln., Chester Twp., David & Nicole Wallace, 9495 Stafford Rd., Bainbridge Twp., and Joseph Mirenda, 14929 Trappers Tr., Russell 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 this order will result in referral to the Prosecutor’s office for legal action. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O’Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

VI. Environmental Health Program Update

a. Sewage Update

Mr. Weisdack reviewed the number and type of permits issued to date.

Mr. Weisdack stated that the Ohio Department of Health has scheduled another committee meeting to discuss pending issues with the proposed sewage rules. The meeting is scheduled for later in June. Mr. Weisdack is working with a member of the committee. He also has been in contact with all the legislators to express his concerns with these rules.

b. General Information

The budget bill, HB59, must be signed by the governor on July 1, 2013. This is a two year budget. This budget contains wording, which requires mandatory accreditation of health departments by 2020. Legislators are working to get this wording removed from the bill before it is approved. Mr. Weisdack stated he would continue working with them to get this accomplished.

We have received three responses for the Registered Sanitarian/Sanitarian-in-Training classified ad that was placed. Mr. Weisdack will be re-advertising for the position due to the lack of response.

VII. Personal Health Services Update

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

On May 2, 2013, the Geauga County FORT participated with ODH and regional partners in a Foodborne Outbreak Exercise. The next meeting is schedule for July 19, 2013 to work on the Foodborne outbreak response policy.

Staff members participated in a training exercise and planning workshop at the tri-county meeting to discuss PHEP grant activities with Lake and Ashtabula Counties. On May 17, 2013, the staff hosted the regional preparedness and EPI meetings at West Woods Park.
The staff are also completing mandatory OPHCS training to ensure participants know the policies and procedures. Local health departments will be subject to loss of funds if they do not participate in exercises and testing.

The Board was asked to approve the PHEP 2014 budget in an amount not to exceed $94,306.00. This amount is subject to approval since ODH is preparing for an 8% cut in funding.

The annual MMRS Conference was held on June 14, 2013 at Auburn Career Center. Topics included Functional Population Preparedness, Animal Disaster Preparedness, Medical Tactical Preparedness and discussion about the shooting that occurred in Chardon.

The ODH PHEP consultant is scheduled to conduct our site survey August 29, 2013.

A Mass Fatality Training will take place at TriPoint Hospital on July 10, 2013.

b. Nursing Services

The Regional Infection Control Committee met June 12, 2013 at the Summit County Health District. Discussion was centered on many different diseases.

Staff members will participate in a Hepatitis training session in Cleveland on July 25, 2013.

During the month of May, the nursing staff provided two Amish Well Child Clinics, 6 children and adolescent immunization clinics, 4 Friday-Morning Adult clinics, and an employee TB clinic at Metzenbaum Center. That included physician visits for 33 children, 346 vaccinations given to 105 children, 42 adult immunizations, 2 TB tests and 58 blood pressure screenings. The nurses also provided 34 vision screenings that resulted in providing glasses for 19 children. There were 7 newborn and 9 BCMH home visits as well. The staff hosted a public health orientation day for 32 KSU Geauga nursing students. Fifteen communicable disease investigations were conducted in May.

The Board was asked to acknowledge the retirement of Donna Vaccariello, who has worked in PHS since December 1990. Her service is greatly appreciated by the department and her co-workers.

c. WIC

The WIC caseload for May was 801, which is a 2.4% decrease from April.

The FY2014 budget and plan are completed at the same funding as FY2013. It will be brought to the Board for approval in July.

VIII. Old Business

a. Levy

Mr. Weisdack reviewed the procedure of how to put a levy on the ballot for the voters to consider. There are many different steps for the health district to follow. It has been a very frustrating process. It will be on the commissioner's agenda after July 1, 2013.

b. Salary Increases

Mr. Weisdack explained that he came up with a gradient of salary increases of $.50, $.75 and $1.00. He reviewed the evaluations based on the criteria the Board discussed and made his decisions. There are 7 members in the $.50 range, 11 in the $.75 and 6 in the $1.00 range. He stated that some staff member’s salaries needed adjustment. He asked for the Board’s approval. Mrs. Livers moved 6.13-a to approve the salary increases for the health district staff as presented, effective payroll #14. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O’Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

IX. Executive Session
Mrs. Livers moved to adjourn for Executive Session at 7:30 pm to discuss pending litigation, personnel and Health Commissioner's evaluation. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes. The meeting reconvened at 7:56 pm.

Mr. Goergen stated that because of Executive Session, the following action would be taken:

Mrs. Livers moved that the Board of Health approve the extension of the contract for the current health commissioner retroactive to Feb 1, 2013 and extending to Jan 31, 2018. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved that the Board of Health approve the adjustment of the salary for the health commissioner by 5% annually effective February 1, 2013, payroll #5. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

Mr. Weisdack expressed his appreciation.

X. New Business

Mrs. Livers moved 6.13-b to acknowledge, with gratitude, the retirement of Donna Vaccariello effective August 1, 2013. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes. Mrs. Livers asked that a Resolution of Appreciation be drafted.

Mr. Gragg moved 6.13-c to approve the advertising and hiring of a secretary within the current salary range, commensurate with experience. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 6.13-d to acknowledge the closing of the Geauga County offices, Friday, July 5, 2013. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

XI. Other Business

Mr. Weisdack received a letter notifying that the financial State Audit will begin Thursday, June 20, 2013. There is a cost involved in this audit.

XII. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, Monday, July 15, 2013 at 7:00 pm in the meeting room at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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

4