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, Dr. O'Hara and 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: Kathleen Constant, John Kissingler, Joe Constant, Marcia Sutcliffe, Jack Sutcliffe, Roman Trogchanskyi, Michael Adams, John Miller, Christine Partain, Patricia Gleason, Kate Ignaut, Sylvia Debick, John Debick, and Jeff Baker.

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 August 12, 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, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

IV. Current Expenses/Financial Report

Mr. Gragg moved to approve the Current Expenses and Financial Reports, August 8, 2013 to September 11, 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

a. John & Sylvia Debick, Jason & Katherine Ignaut

Sylvia Debick approached the Board with an update on the sewer project for Maple Hill. Sixty percent of the residents on Maple Hill indicated they were in favor of sanitary sewers. Lake Louise also did a survey and 75% of their residents indicated they were also in favor. This information was taken to S. Russell Village Council. The Council indicated that they felt that sanitary sewers were the best option. A citizen committee has been formed under direction of the Council to educate the residents of S. Russell Village on the cost effectiveness of sanitary sewers. The Geauga County Department of Water Resources has estimated the cost at $27,000 per household. Mr. Weisdack expressed concern that the cost quoted may not be an accurate amount due to amortization.

There were also other residents present who are against the sanitary sewers. They indicated that Council recommended sewers for Lake Louise but not for Maple Hill. They also disputed the number of residents who were in favor of sewers. They also expressed concern that these homeowners have been in their community for many years and still are not in compliance. Many of them had to upgrade their septic systems and these people have not had to do so.

Mr. Weisdack stated this issue needs to be decided upon. This issue really only pertains to the two parties in question. If the Board decides to postpone action on these cases, he will be contacting the Mayor of S. Russell and the Department of Water Resources to get the information first-hand. The only issue is the For Sale of Property evaluations, not the sanitary sewers.
Mrs. Livers moved that the issue of the alleged code violation at the properties owned by John & Sylvia Debick, 60 Maple Hill Dr., S. Russell Village and Jason & Katherine Ignaut, 64 Maple Hill Dr., S. Russell Village be postponed until the October 21, 2013 Board of Health meeting. 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.

b. Oleg Sheynfeld

Roman Trogchanskiy was present to represent Mr. Sheynfeld and was sworn in by Mr. Goergen. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Oleg Sheynfeld for the property located at 7322 Mayview Ln., Chester Twp. This case is 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.

Mrs. Livers moved to postpone action on this case regarding the For Sale of Property requirement until March 1, 2014. In addition, the septic tanks must be pumped within 30 days. 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 once the tanks are pumped, the pumping receipts must be submitted to the Geauga County Health District within 30 days. 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.

c. John & Barbara Miller

John Miller was present and affirmed by Mr. Goergen. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by John & Barbara Miller for the property located at 17009 Hosmer Rd., Parkman Twp. This case is 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.

Mrs. Livers moved to authorize Environmental Health division to begin the For Sale of Property evaluation at the property owned by John & Barbara Miller, 17009 Hosmer Rd., Parkman Twp. with the provision that the fee of $400.00 be paid by the owner at $10.00 per month. 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.

d. Michael Adams

Michael Adams was present and sworn in by Mr. Goergen. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Michael Adams for the property located at 17045 Hosmer Rd., Parkman Twp. This case is 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. Adams indicated that he has tried to locate the components without success. He is on a limited income and has a disability. His realtor told him that he would have to have the inspection, but failed to tell him that there was a fee for it.

After discussion, Mr. Weisdack stated he would go to Mr. Adams’ property to help him locate the components.

Mrs. Livers moved to postpone action on this case for 60 days pending information gathering on the part of the health commissioner. 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 once the tanks are pumped, the pumping receipts must be submitted to the Geauga County Health District within 30 days. 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.


Section 3701-29-22(A) of the Geauga County Health District Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations 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.


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. 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.

VI. Environmental Health Program Update
   
a. Sewage Update

   Mr. Weisdack stated that he was expecting the review of the sewage rules soon. ODH has stated they have answered all the comments they are going to address. Mr. Weisdack stated he would continue to work to get the rules stopped.

   Mr. Weisdack reviewed the number of sewage disposal system permits that have been issued to date. He recently learned that Lake County has only issued 13 sewage installation permits for 2013.

b. General Information

   Mr. Weisdack stated that there are five rabies cases within the Mahoning County area. There was another rabies baiting done this fall. The baits containing rabies vaccine were designed to attract raccoons.

   The Geauga County Commissioners have indicated there will be an increase for health insurance for county employees of approximately 7% this year.

VII. Personal Health Services Update
   
a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

   The staff completed the annual audit by ODH on August 27, 2013. Several opportunities for improvement were identified and reported. The Geauga County Health District has been commended for its efficiency and timeliness in reporting and responding.

b. Disease Surveillance

   Mr. Mix stated that at a recent regional risk communication meeting, several health districts reported Pertussis outbreaks within day care centers. So far, there are no cases reported in Geauga County.

   The staff attended Hepatitis training in Cleveland recently. They were provided valuable resources for responding and dealing with Hepatitis cases.

c. Nursing Services

   During the month of August, the nursing staff provided two Amish Well Child Clinics, 6 children and adolescent immunization clinics, and four Friday-Morning Adult clinics. That included physician visits for 29 children, 684 vaccinations given to 226 children, 20 adult immunizations, 17 TB tests and 59 blood pressure screenings. The nurses also provided 48 vision screenings that resulted in providing glasses for 32 children. There were 7 newborn and 9 BCMH home visits as well. Thirty-one communicable disease investigations were conducted in August.

   Flu vaccine season begins this month. The Geauga County Health District will hold five clinics at the office and two at the Senior Center. Children’s flu clinics will be held in conjunction with the regular children’s clinics. There are also a dozen closed clinics scheduled. These are clinics held specifically for county employees, nursing homes, private companies and many other agencies.

d. WIC

   The WIC caseload was 848, which is a 2.8% increase since July. This is the highest caseload this year.

   The Board was asked to approve a one-year contract with the WIC peer helper for FY 2014.
Ohio WIC evaluated our WIC program and found no problems. They commended our high introduction to breastfeeding. It is the highest in the state.

e. Administrative

Mr. Mix reported that the draft report for the biennial audit was received. There were no items to be brought to the Board and management’s attention. Mr. Weisdack stated that Mr. Mix did a good job keeping the finances in order.

ODH has completed an audit of our grants. There was only one finding within the WIC grant and that was corrected.

The Board was asked to approve two revisions to the personnel policy manual. The first revision is required due to the new healthcare law and reduces the waiting period for a new employee to be eligible for insurance from 90 days to 60 days. The second revision is a policy adopted by the county commissioners, which has to do with staff members who have a spouse also working within the county system. The revision will require spouses to either have separate single coverage or in the case of a family, only be covered under one family plan. The other spouse would not be eligible for a waiver.

VIII. Old Business

a. Levy

Mr. Weisdack provided information to the Board about the levy. This included a breakdown of the potential cost of vaccines that we have provided to date. This is the projected cost due to ODH no longer providing vaccines to the local health districts for free. Levy committee meetings are being held after hours every two weeks to keep on track.

A mailing will go out to the absentee voters after October 1, 2013. The Board of Elections will provide a list of addresses we can use.

Mr. Weisdack thanked Mr. Gragg and Mrs. Livers for their help in going to the different townships to ask for support.

b. Geauga County Health District Records Retention Committee Meeting

A meeting was held between Mr. Weisdack, Mrs. Livers and Susan Wieland to discuss the Geauga County Health District Records Retention schedule. At the meeting, the group voted to keep the same retention schedule that is already in place. The schedule meets the criteria of the Historical Society.

Mr. Gragg moved to accept the committee’s recommendation to retain the Geauga County Health District Records Retention schedule. 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.

IX. Executive Session

The Board adjourned for Executive Session at 8:17 pm to discuss personnel and legal issues. Meeting reconvened at 9:28 pm. There was no action taken as a result of the Executive Session.

X. New Business

Mrs. Livers moved 9.13-a to adopt the revision to Section D:11, Classification and Compensation-Hospitalization/Health Coverage of the Geauga County Health District Personnel Policy Manual which changes the waiting period for a new employee’s health care coverage from ninety days to sixty days. This is retroactive to September 1, 2013. 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. Gragg moved 9.13-b to add the following stipulations to Section D:11.c.1 (insurance waivers) of the Geauga County Health District Personnel Policy Manual: “Employees or appointed officials enrolled as a dependent under a County group plan are not eligible for the waiver. When both husband
and wife are eligible for coverage under the County group plans, both shall either carry single coverage or if there are more than two dependents, both shall be covered by one family plan. The waiver option will not apply.” 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. Gragg moved 9.13-c to approve the contract with Irene Olp as Peer Helper for WIC for FY2014. 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.

Mrs. Livers moved 9.13-d to set the starting salary for the fiscal coordinator at $17.00 per hour to start and an additional $.50 after successful completion of 120-day probationary period. 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 attended the health commissioner’s conference. The conference was mostly about accreditation.

XII. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, Monday, October 21, 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 adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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