I. Call to Order

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

Board members present: Mr. Timothy Goergen, President, Mrs. Christina Livers, Pro-Tempore, and Mr. David Gragg were present. Dr. Janet O'Hara and Mr. J. David Benenati were not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; Dan Mix, Personal Health Services Director, and Mark Janezic, Registered Sanitarian.

Others present: Tracy and Connie Luoma.

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 18, 2014 Board of Health meeting. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

IV. Current Expenses/Financial Report

Mr. Gragg moved to approve the Current Expenses and Financial Reports, August 14, 2014 to September 11, 2014. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

V. Administrative Hearings

a. Tracy & Connie Luoma

Tracy and Connie Luoma were present and sworn in by Mr. Goergen. Mr. Weisdack was sworn in by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Weisdack stated that this case was in regards to a For Sale of Property evaluation. He referred to the notes the field staff had written for the case. He stated that this case began in June of 2014 in which an installer was to submit a drawing of the system.

Mr. Luoma stated this was a bank owned home and was vacant at the time they purchased it. There are no septic records for this property on file. Mr. Luoma had a registered installer out to locate the components of the system. The installer was supposed to submit a drawing to the Geauga County Health District but it was never submitted.

Mr. Weisdack asked the Board to table this Administrative Hearing until next month. He will go to the property and assist Mr. Luoma with locating the components of his system.

Mrs. Livers moved to table the Administrative Hearing for Tracy & Connie Luoma until the next regular Board of Health meeting. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.
b. John & Stacy Yarshen, Jeremy Weinrich, Gifts from our Garden LLC, 13645 Bass Lake Rd., Newbury Twp., Efrain & Marsha Marin, Lynda Rybka, Jeffrey Strainer, 18280 Claridon Troy Rd., Troy Twp., Christopher Swanson, Kevin & Erin Fink, Joseph & Cristina Yoder, William & Mary Ellen Byler, KAK Real Estate, Melvin Byler, 10077 Kinsman LLC, Grant Collins, Joseph & Judith Bolan, Mr. & Mrs. Grabinski, Jessica Lowe, Chad & Melanie Gottliebowski, Michael Valletto, Bruce Johannes, Steven Gingerich, Ashley Gottliebowski, and Christopher Smith.

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


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.


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; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

VI. Environmental Health Program Update

a. Sewage Rules Update

The Ohio Department of Health took testimony at a public hearing on September 3, 2014. Judge Tim Grendell gave testimony at that hearing. The rules will go before JCARR on September 22, 2014. Mr. Weisdack, Herb Shubick, Erwin Leffel, Thompson Township Trustee and HDAC Secretary, and Dick Noland, Professional Engineer will be providing testimony at that meeting.

b. General Information

Mr. Weisdack will be at the Health Commissioners conference from September 22-24, 2014 in Columbus.

Lake County Health District had a fire in their offices recently. We have offered our services to them. They brought their vaccines to our offices to store. We are currently handling their animal bites and rabies submissions. They are saying it will be 12-18 months to get their offices back in working order.

The Board had a brief discussion on how the Geauga County Health District would handle a similar disaster. Mr. Weisdack recounted the fire that happened at our offices a few years ago and how it was handled.

1. ODH/ODA Food Survey

We received the results from the Ohio Department of Health Food Service Survey and the Ohio Department of Health Retail Food Establishment survey. We received good results from both evaluators. Mr. Weisdack praised Mark Janezic and Anthony Zoccali for their hard work and knowledge of the programs.

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

c. Food Program Presentation by Mark Janezic

Mr. Janezic explained the way the Food Service Program is run and what codes are used. He explained rather than just using the enforcement aspect, he prefers to use education to assist the operators in making the right judgments. The food inspectors also provide education to the public.

The Geauga County Health District recently was audited by both the Ohio Department of Health and the Ohio Department of Agriculture. ODH covers mostly restaurants. ODA covers mostly grocery stores. Both agencies shadowed the inspectors while they were doing inspections.

The audit also includes going through the food service budget and how the cost analysis is done. Mr. Janezic provided each Board member a copy of the audit findings.

The Board thanked Mr. Janezic for his presentation.

VII. Personal Health Services Update

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The MRC recruiting took place at the Geauga County Fair. We have signed up five prospective recruits.

The staff continues to plan and meet for the next regional exercise to be held in July 2015.

Mr. Mix reported that we have received two vaccination stations to be used for PODS. He stated that they are very nice stainless refrigerated carts.

b. Disease Surveillance

Mr. Mix stated that disease reporting has tapered off. We had MRSA cases reported but upon further
investigation discovered the cases were not lab confirmed. The staff took the opportunity to train school staff and tighten Geauga County Health District internal communications.

c. **Nursing Services**

During the month of August, the nursing staff provided two Amish Well Child Clinics, 6 children and adolescent immunization clinics, four Friday Morning Adult clinics and 4 Senior Center clinics. Included were physician visits for twenty-nine seniors at the Department on Aging, 32 children at the well child clinics, 722 vaccinations given to 236 children, forty-two adult immunizations, 17 TB tests and 82 blood pressure screenings. The nurses also provided 37 vision screenings that resulted in providing glasses for 24 children. There were seven newborn and ten BCMH home visits. Thirty-four communicable disease investigations were conducted in August. Mr. Goergen asked that Mr. Mix track how many vaccinations and services were given to Lake County resident as well as the man hours used to administer the vaccinations.

The nursing staff participated in the County Commissioner’s booth at the Geauga county Fair, providing information on services and the Medical Reserve Corps.

The Board was asked to authorize the advertising and hiring of a nursing director to replace current director Chris Pintchuk who will be retiring. Due to the cost of advertising in the News Herald being almost 4 times the amount it cost for the same ad in 2010, we are using we-based services. Those services include the AOHC newsletter, Kent State University, Ohio State University and NEOMED network sharing, the Geauga County website, and our website. Mrs. Livers and Mr. Goergen suggested Ursuline, Notre Dame and Lakeland Community College.

d. **WIC**

The WIC caseload for August was 735. This is a 1.7% increase since July.

August was Breastfeeding Awareness Month. WIC participated in a BAM walk, distributed gift baskets and other resources to area OB/GYN and pediatricians offices, Amish Birthing Center and UH Geauga Medical Center. Our peer helper participated with the LeLeche League at the Live, Love, Latch event in Willoughby. The “Breastfeeding Made Simple- Seven Natural Laws for Nursing Mothers” was donated to the Chardon and Middlefield libraries in honor of BAM.

e. **Administration**

The Board was asked for approval to pay an invoice from Public Entities Pool of Ohio for our 2014-2015 liability insurance not to exceed $22,437.00. They were also asked to pay an invoice from PERSO for legal expenses incurred from a court case in an amount not to exceed $3,842.04.

Mr. Mix reviewed revenue-to-date for the Board of Health fund with the Board. We have received 88% of our health levy which is less than we had budgeted. Overall, the Board of Health budget revenue is at 72% of what was anticipated which is slightly ahead of what we had projected.

He reviewed some of the other program levels with the Board as well.

f. **Accreditation**

Mr. Mix stated that on September 4, 2014, the first Partnership for a Healthy GEAUGA meeting took place to organize and complete Geauga County’s first Community Health Improvement Plan (CHIP). The next meetings will take place on September 25 and October 9. At that time the group will conduct an assessment to begin identifying important health needs.

The local public health system assessment report has been completed and posted online for the community. Jay Becker will present the report to the community on September 25, 2014.

VIII. **Old Business**

a. **Building**

This issue is still being discussed by the commissioners. Mr. Weisdack was asked by the county
administrator what the health district’s space needs would be. The Board discussed possibly having a workshop to discuss what would be needed to provide better service to the community and a good working environment for the staff.

The Board asked about the recording of the meetings as public record. Mr. Mix reviewed with the Board, the records retention and how the recordings are handled.

IX. New Business

Mrs. Livers moved 9.14-a to approve the payment of the 2014-2015 liability insurance at the same level as the previous year, not to exceed $22,437.00. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

Mr. Gragg moved 9.14-b to approve the payment to PERSO for the Injunctive Relief coverage deductible from the LaFrance case, not to exceed $3,842.04. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 9.14-c to approve the advertising and hiring of a Nursing Director within the current salary range. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

X. Other Business

There was no other business.

XI. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, October 20, 2014, 2014 at 7:00 pm in the meeting room at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

XII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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