

Geauga County General Health District  
Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
August 18, 2008, 7:00 p.m.  
Geauga County Health District Office  
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

I. Call to Order

Mr. J. David Benenati, President, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:07 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. J. David Benenati, Mr. Richard Lang, Dr. Donald Bowers, and Mr. Timothy Goergen. Ms. Melanie Eppich was not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; Dr. J. Bradley Moritz, Medical Director; Peggy Scherer, Personal Health Services Director; Michael Tusick, R.S., and Alta Kress, Secretary Supervisor.

Others present: There were three other people present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

**Mr. Lang moved that the minutes from the July 21, 2008 regular meeting be approved. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

IV. Financial Report / Current Expenses

**Mr. Lang moved to approve the Current Expenses July 14, 2008 to August 11, 2008. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

V. Environmental Health Program Update

A. Sewage Regulations Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that the State rules will require mandatory inspections of certain systems and possibly mandatory inspections of all existing system. This regulation would be very costly for all the residents of Ohio.

B. Solid & Infectious Waste and C & DD Programs Surveys

Mr. Weisdack reported that the Health District was in substantial compliance and has been placed on the approved as a result of a recent survey from the state.

VI. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Scherer reported that a "Meet and Greet" is being planned for September 11, 2008 for the people interested in volunteering for the Medical Reserve Corps. Information about public health in general as well as public health preparedness. She stated that they need not only medical professional volunteers, but others as well.

The rabies post-exposure vaccine has been in short supply due to a temporary interruption in production. Since the shortage, certain restrictions have been put on the administration of the vaccine.

A. WIC

The WIC caseload is now at 888. The Middlefield clinic site has seen the most increase in clients.

B. Health Education

Mrs. Scherer reported that the contract has been received from ODH for the Smoke Free Ohio. This year there are many more deliverables and timelines that must be met. We will only receive \$70.00 for each completed complaint with a cap of \$2,100.00 per year. The Board discussed whether this contract is worth entering into or not.

VII. Variance

A. Doug Hamilton

Beth DeBord, Ron Laurent and Dennis Kratochvil were present and sworn in by Mr. Benenati. Mr. Tusick was sworn in and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Beth DeBord in behalf of Charles Osbourn for the existing property located at 12099 County Line Rd., Chester Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(C) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which pertains to more than one home on a lot (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

**Mr. Lang moved to approve the variance as requested. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

VIII. Administrative Hearings

A. Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Trubega

The Trubega's were not present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Trubega located at 12089 Parker Dr., Chester Twp. This case is in regards to the following sections of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations:

3701-29-02(D) states: "No household sewage disposal system or part thereof shall create a nuisance."

3701-29-02(F) states: "No person shall discharge, or permit to be discharged, treated or untreated sewage... or offensive wastes onto the surface of the ground, into any street, road, alley, open excavation, or underground drain."

3701-29-02(G) (3 a & b) states: "Sewage effluent quality as measured at the point of discharge in the system shall comply with current effluent standards. (a) Biochemical oxygen demand shall not exceed twenty milligrams per liter; (b) Suspended solids shall not exceed forty milligrams per liter."

The property had a For Sale of Property Evaluation conducted in 2005 and the sewage system failed based on testing standards.

**Mr. Lang moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Mr. & Mrs. Eugene Trubega located at 12089 Parker Dr., Chester Twp. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved that the owner be required to obtain a sewage permit and install a new sewage disposal system within 30days of receipt of Board order. Failure to do so will result in referral to the prosecutor's office for legal action. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

B. Richard Schultz, Mr. & Mrs. Steven Lang, Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lampert

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

Mr. Tusick stated that this is a code violation to the properties owned by Richard Schultz, 19124 Chillicothe Rd., Bainbridge Twp.; Mr. & Mrs. Steven Lang, 11385 Glenmora Dr., Chardon Twp.; and Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lampert, 16965 Leggett Rd., Montville 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." This department conducted an evaluation of the sewage disposal systems and required that corrective action be taken. The owners have not called to notify this office of the corrections and to schedule a re-inspection. Discussion followed.

**Mr. Lang moved that a code violation exists at the properties owned by: Richard Schultz, 19124 Chillicothe Rd., Bainbridge Twp.; Mr. & Mrs. Steven Lang, 11385 Glenmora Dr., Chardon Twp.; and Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Lampert, 16965 Leggett Rd., Montville Twp. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved that Richard Schultz, 19124 Chillicothe Rd., Bainbridge Twp.; Mr. & Mrs. Steven Lang, 11385 Glenmora Dr., Chardon Twp.; and Mr. & Mrs. Anthony**

**Lampert, 16965 Leggett Rd., Montville Twp. be required to complete the corrective actions, pay any re-inspection fees required and reschedule another inspection 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. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

C. Mr. & Mrs. Noah Miller and Mr. & Mrs. Neil Jones

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

Mr. Tusick stated that this is a code violation to the properties owned by Mr. & Mrs. Noah Miller, 15250 Georgia Rd., Middlefield Twp. and Mr. & Mrs. Neil Jones, 10864 Thwing Rd., Chardon 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."

The owners of these properties decided to have a new system installed in lieu of having a For Sale of Property Evaluation done. They have begun the lot evaluation process, submitted some paperwork, but never followed through on getting a permit & installing the system. Discussion followed.

**Mr. Lang moved that a code violation exists at the properties owned by Mr. & Mrs. Noah Miller, 15250 Georgia Rd., Middlefield Twp. and Mr. & Mrs. Neil Jones, 10864 Thwing Rd., Chardon Twp. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

**Mr. Lang moved that Mr. & Mrs. Noah Miller, 15250 Georgia Rd., Middlefield Twp. and Mr. & Mrs. Neil Jones, 10864 Thwing Rd., Chardon Twp. be required to make application, pay for, schedule, and schedule a For Sale of Property Evaluation and/or 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. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

D. James Kashery

James Kashery was not present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is a code violation to the property owned by James Kashery located at 12422 Madison Rd., Huntsburg 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. Lang moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by James Kashery located at 12422 Madison Rd., Huntsburg Twp. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved that the owner be required to make application, pay for, schedule, and schedule a For Sale of Property Evaluation and/or 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. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

IX. Old Business

A. Financial Update

Mr. Weisdack reviewed the current financial reports with the Board. Expenditures have been less than were anticipated. The finances seem to have stabilized for this month. He stated it appears that we may be able to give back the \$100,000.00 to the Public Health Emergency Fund that was transferred to the sewage fund to start the year with.

Mr. Weisdack stated he does not anticipate any more layoffs.

B. Levy Committee Update

Mr. Benenati stated that signs have been ordered. It seemed that the fact sheet and contacting the people filing absentee ballots is what helped pass the levy the last time so that is what will be utilized this time.

Mr. Weisdack stated that he is putting together a script for everyone to use when they give their presentations to the different groups around the county. This will provide continuity in getting out the message about the levy.

X. Executive Session

**Dr. Bowers moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:45 p.m. to discuss employment of personnel and legal updates. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion approved with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes. Meeting reconvened at 9:20 p.m.**

XI. New Business

**Dr. Bowers moved 8.08-1 to approve the Maternity Licensure Application for UHHS Geauga Regional Hospital. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved 8.08-2 to approve the advertising and hiring of a Disease Surveillance Specialist at a rate between \$17.00 and \$19.00 per hour. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.**

Mr. Lang moved 8.08-3 to approve the payment of the MARCS Annual Maintenance Contract in the amount of \$1,440.00. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved 8.08-4 to approve the annual payment of the PEP Liability Insurance for \$2,000,000.00 of coverage in the amount of \$14,782.85. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 8.08-5 approve the budge revisions as follows: BOH- Transfer \$1,996.24 from Workers Comp and \$51,186.00 from Health Insurance to Other Expense in the amount of \$10,224.34 and Salary & Fringes in the amount of \$42,958.00; Sewage-Transfer \$13,533.00 from Salaries to Health Insurance in the amount of \$4,643.00 and Other Expense in the amount of \$8,890.00; and Infectious Waste- Transfer \$231.22 from Workers Comp to Salary & Fringes in the amount of \$20.00 and \$211.22 to Other Expense. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Mr. Lang moved 8.08-6 to approve the contract with ODH for Smoke Free Ohio services October 1, 2008 to September 30, 2009. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion failed with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, no; Mr. Lang, no; Dr. Bowers, no; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

XII. Other Business

There was no other business

XIII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Monday, September 15, 2008 at 7:00 p.m., 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon.

XIV. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Mr. Lang moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m. Dr. Bowers 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

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