

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2006, 7:00 p.m.
Geauga County Health District Office
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

I. Call to Order

Mr. Richard Lang, President, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:02 p.m., and stated the meeting was being held to conduct the regular business of the Board.

Board members present: Mr. Richard Lang, Mr. J. David Benenati, Dr. Donald Bowers, Mrs. Nan Burr, and Ms. Melanie Eppich.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; Peggy Scherer, PHS Director; Michael Tusick, R.S.; and Alta Kress, Secretary Supervisor.

Others present: Twelve others were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Eppich moved to acknowledge the Notes for the Record from the Sewage Workshop held on July 13, 2006. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mr. Benenati moved that the minutes from the July 17, 2006 meeting be approved. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

IV. Financial Report/Current Expenses

The Board members reviewed the July financial report for all funds. **Mrs. Burr moved to approve the Current Expenses July 12, 2006 to August 14, 2006. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

V. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that the number of permits being issued has declined. Most of the septic permits that were issued were alterations.

A. Sewage Rules Update/Discussion

Mr. Weisdack reported that on September 28, 2006 a special meeting would be held by the Public Health Council to amend the new sewage rules. In mid-October of this year, they will go to JCARR for review and approval.

This creates a problem since the rules are to be implemented as of January 1, 2007 and training for the staff and the installers still needs to be done.

B. Solid/Infectious Waste and Construction & Demolition Debris Survey

We have received the results from a recent survey and the Health District has been found in substantial compliance.

C. Rabies Oral Vaccination

Mr. Weisdack reported that the fall baiting would begin September 5, 2006. The Ohio Department of Health will be distributing the oral vaccine from planes as well as from the ground.

D. West Nile Virus Update

The first human case of West Nile Virus has been reported in Fulton County. Geauga County has had one positive case of a blue jay.

VI. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Scherer, Mr. Weisdack and Kathy Durchik recently attended a pandemic emergency preparedness tabletop exercise. There were over 50 participants and the exercise was run well.

Due to a recent power outage, we were able to practice our own preparedness. The power outage affected several nursing homes in the area. Chardon Fire Department served as the command post. All of the public health nurses were called and came in within 1 hour of being contacted. They provided nursing support for the nursing home residents that were evacuated due to the heat. The following day, the nurses provided support at the Red Cross shelter that was set up. The Health District has an MOU with the Red Cross to provide support during an emergency.

The power outage made us aware that we may need to purchase another generator. This generator would provide power so that a skeleton crew could remain at the Health District offices. The current generator only provides power to the refrigerators for the vaccine in the event of a power outage.

A site survey was conducted by the State recently for the Public Health Infrastructure grant. They reviewed records, the building and equipment. Some recommendations were provided, but overall it was very good.

A. WIC

August is National Breastfeeding Month. The staff will be distributing information on the benefits of breastfeeding.

The Farmer's Market Nutrition program was very successful this year. The coupons have been distributed. The coupons were for WIC families to use to purchase fresh fruits and vegetables from local markets.

B. Health Education

Mrs. Scherer and Peggy Herman met recently with people from University Hospital Safe Kids program to discuss the possibility of restarting the car seat distribution program. The Safe Kids program will furnish the car seats and would help with the installation of the seats. They also would train some of the Health District personnel in how to correctly install the car seats. This would allow GCHD to provide free car seat checks to residents.

Preparations for the fair booth are being finalized. The theme for this year's fair booth is Pandemic Flu and being prepared for emergencies. The HapSite unit will be present as well.

VII. Variances

A. Randy Gierman

Randy and Shelly Gierman were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Randy Gierman for the vacant property located at 10967 Walnut Ridge Rd., Chester Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(C) of the Private Water Well Regulations which requires a 1000' isolation distance to a landfill. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

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

B. Pat Lennon

Pat Lennon and Jim Fincham were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Pat Lennon for the vacant property located at 14105 Sweet Briar Ln., Russell Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which pertains to off-lot discharge. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

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

C. Donald and Christine Sheehy

Kevin Russell and Lewis Tomsic, Jr. were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Donald and Christine Sheehy for the vacant property located at 7825 Country Ln., Bainbridge Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which

pertains to off-lot discharge. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

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

D. Thomas Steigerwald/Scott Carlson

Thomas Steigerwald was present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Thomas Steigerwald in behalf of Scott Carlson for the existing property located at 7679 Maplegrove Dr., Chester Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which pertains to off-lot discharge. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

Mr. Benenati moved to approve the variance with the change of the discharge point to the Maplegrove Drive road ditch. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

E. Alan Masterangelo/David Cooper

Alan Masterangelo and David Cooper were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Alan Masterangelo in behalf of David Cooper for the existing property located at 12202 Norton Dr, Chester Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which pertains to off-lot discharge. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

Mr. Cooper stated that his reason for wanting to discharge to the swale at the back of the property was to save the trees. He said the reason he purchased the property was because of all the trees that were there. After more discussion Mr. Masterangelo stated he would go back to the property and see if there was a way to discharge to the road ditch without disturbing a lot of trees. He will advise Mr. Tusick of his findings.

Dr. Bowers moved to table the variance. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

F. Father & Son Septic/Leonard Stover

Shawn Powers and Leonard Stover were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Father & Son Septic in behalf of Leonard Stover for the existing property located at 7190 Country Ln., Bainbridge Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal

System Regulations which pertains to off-lot discharge. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

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

VIII. Administrative Hearings

A. David and Yvonne White

Mr. and Mrs. White were not present. Mr. Weisdack was sworn in by Mr. Lang and stated his experience.

Mr. Weisdack stated that this is a code violation to the property owned by David and Yvonne White located at 13434 Cedar Acres Dr., Chester Twp. The case involves the following sections of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations:

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

3701-29-17(A): "The Health Commissioner may at any reasonable time during the course of construction or any time thereafter inspect any household sewage disposal system or part thereof, sample the effluent, or take any other steps which he/she deems necessary to insure proper compliance..."

This is in regards to a nuisance complaint.

Dr. Bowers moved that a code violation exists on the property owned by David and Yvonne White located at 13434 Cedar Acres Dr., Chester Twp. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mr. Benenati moved that the owner be required to submit all necessary paperwork to obtain a permit within 30 days of receipt of Board order and install a new sewage disposal system within 60 days of receipt of Board order. Mrs. Burr seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, and Ms. Eppich, yes.

IX. Old Business

There was no old business.

X. Executive Session

Mr. Benenati moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:16 p.m. to discuss the Health Commissioner's evaluation and pending litigation. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes. Meeting reconvened at 11:06 p.m. Mr. Lang stated no action would come as a result of Executive Session.

XI. New Business

Mr. Weisdack reported that by the end of this year, our mail machine would be obsolete. Mrs. Gerzeny will be researching the purchase of a new one and information will be provided at a later date.

On January 1, 2007, the State will be converting to electric filing of death certificates. Funeral directors will have to file their certificates electronically. For the first year, paper certificates will be allowed.

Mrs. Burr moved 8.06-1 to approve the payment to Public Entities Pool of Ohio for liability insurance for \$2 million in the amount of \$15,494.00. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mr. Benenati moved 8.06-2 to acknowledge the hiring of Ray Herbst, RS effective August 7, 2006 at a rate of \$19.71 per hour with a \$.25 per hour increase upon successful completion of 120 day probation period. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 8.06-3 to approve the addendum to Section F of the Geauga County Health District Personnel Policy, pending prosecutor's approval. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 8.06-4 to approve the purchase and service contract (pending prosecutor's approval) with ACE Imaging for a fax machine in an amount not to exceed \$1,200.00. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mr. Benenati moved 8.06-5 to adopt and approve the maternity licensure application for UHHS Geauga Regional Hospital. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 8.06-6 to approve the PHI GY2006 budget revision as presented. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 8.06-7 to approve the contract with Natalie Roote to provide translation services as needed, pending prosecutor's approval. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 8.06-8 to approve the purchase of meningitis vaccine in the amount of \$3,000.00. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved 8.06-9 to approve the purchase of supplies for mass clinic in an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried

with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 8.06-10 to approve the purchase from Channing Bete for community handouts in an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

XII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Monday, September 18, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., in the meeting room at 470 Center Street, Building 8, in Chardon, Ohio.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Dr. Bowers moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:11 p.m. Mrs. Burr seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Weisdack, RS, MA, MPH
Secretary of the Board

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