

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
December 15, 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 7:03 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. J. David Benenati, Mr. Richard Lang, Ms. Melanie Eppich, and Mr. Timothy Goergen. Dr. Donald Bowers arrived during the Environmental Health update.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; Linda Knell, Nursing Supervisor; Michael Tusick, R.S., and Alta Kress, Secretary Supervisor.

Others present: None.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Eppich moved to approve the minutes from the November 17, 2008 regular meeting. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, abstain; Mr. Lang, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

IV. Financial Report / Current Expenses

Mr. Goergen moved to approve the Current Expenses November 12, 2008 to December 10, 2008. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack stated that the EH staff is getting caught up with mandatory inspections. Inspections got behind due to being short staffed.

A. Sewage Rules Update

There has been no update from last month. The law is proposed to go into effect in July 2009. The rules would have been developed within 12 months of the law being passed.

VI. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Knell reported that 1586 doses of flu vaccine have been given so far this year. They will still be given at the Friday morning clinics at the Health District office and children's immunization clinics. At the present time, there has been no flu activity reported in Ohio.

Children's immunization clinics are getting more complicated. This is due to the new vaccines on the market. It takes longer to interview the clients and prepare vaccines which results in a longer wait for the people.

The immunization clinic that has been held in Russell will be moved to Newbury for 2009. Newbury was identified as a pocket of need in the IAP grant. Mrs. Knell stated that they hope to have a better attendance in Newbury.

A. WIC

The WIC caseload has declined some.

Tammy Hawn has been working with the Help Me Grow program and the lactation department at Geauga Hospital.

Mindy White is holding individual car seat classes for clients.

B. Health Education

The WIC staff completed training called Ohio Partners for Smoke-Free Families-WIC initiative recently.

VII. Administrative Hearings

A. Eugene & Alice Malliski

Mr. & Mrs. Malliski were not present. Mr. Weisdack was sworn in by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience.

Mr. Weisdack stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Eugene & Alice Malliski located at 12490 Kinsman Rd., Burton 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; Fecal coliform- Water samples exceeding 5,000 fecal coliform counts per 100 milliliters in 2 or more samples shall be considered creating a public health nuisance."

This case is in regards to a nuisance complaint. The current system consists of 1-1000 gallon septic tank, gravel filter bed with discharge to the road ditch. Sewage effluent samples were taken and exceeded the maximum allowable standards. Mr. Weisdack read a detailed description of the events regarding this property for the record. Discussion followed.

Dr. Bowers moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Eugene & Alice Malliski located at 12490 Kinsman Rd., Burton Twp. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, 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 30 days of receipt of Board order. Failure to do so 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; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

B. Jeffrey Betteley & Nicole Rokosky, Norbert Zatorski, Kevin Folger & Allison Blumberg, Terrence Schneider, Robert & Sylvia Hershberger, Dale & Theresa Hull, Steve & Gary Swope, Robert Stevenson, and Christopher Hayden.

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

Mr. Weisdack stated that this is a code violation to the properties owned by Jeffrey Betteley & Nicole Rokosky, 6544 Madison Rd., Thompson Twp.; Norbert Zatorski, 18732 Geauga Lake Rd., Bainbridge Twp.; Kevin Folger & Allison Blumberg, 9866 Bainbridge Rd., Auburn Twp.; Terrence Schneider, 14445 Watt Rd., Russell Twp.; Robert & Sylvia Hershberger, 17031 Tavern Rd., Parkman Twp.; Dale & Theresa Hull, 14714 Zenith Dr., Newbury Twp.; Steve & Gary Swope, 8648 Mulberry Rd., Chester Twp.; Robert Stevenson, 12951 Cherry Ln., Chester Twp.; and Christopher Hayden, 7322 Sidley Rd., Thompson 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." Discussion followed.

Dr. Bowers moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Jeffrey Betteley & Nicole Rokosky, 6544 Madison Rd., Thompson Twp.; Norbert Zatorski, 18732 Geauga Lake Rd., Bainbridge Twp.; Kevin Folger & Allison Blumberg, 9866 Bainbridge Rd., Auburn Twp.; Terrence Schneider, 14445 Watt Rd., Russell Twp.; Robert & Sylvia Hershberger, 17031 Tavern Rd., Parkman Twp.; Dale & Theresa Hull, 14714 Zenith Dr., Newbury Twp.; Steve & Gary Swope, 8648 Mulberry Rd., Chester Twp.; Robert Stevenson, 12951 Cherry Ln., Chester Twp.; and Christopher Hayden, 7322 Sidley Rd., Thompson Twp. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Mr. Lang moved that Jeffrey Betteley & Nicole Rokosky, 6544 Madison Rd., Thompson Twp.; Norbert Zatorski, 18732 Geauga Lake Rd., Bainbridge Twp.; Kevin Folger & Allison Blumberg, 9866 Bainbridge Rd., Auburn Twp.; Terrence Schneider, 14445 Watt Rd., Russell Twp.; Robert & Sylvia Hershberger, 17031 Tavern Rd., Parkman Twp.; Dale & Theresa Hull, 14714 Zenith Dr., Newbury Twp.; Steve & Gary Swope, 8648 Mulberry Rd., Chester Twp.; Robert Stevenson, 12951 Cherry Ln., Chester Twp.; and Christopher Hayden, 7322 Sidley Rd., Thompson 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. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

VIII. Old Business

A. Financial Update

Mr. Weisdack stated we have made it through the year without any more layoffs being necessary.

Mr. Weisdack provided the Board with information from the Director of ODH. There is possibility that there will be a 25% cut in funding from the State beginning in January 2010. The Director of ODH read these cuts at a meeting recently. These cuts affect an array of programs the State oversees.

Normally, to make the cuts, three readings would be required. If the governor decides the cuts need to be made now, he can state that it is an emergency and only one reading would be required. The reading made by the Director at the recent meeting would be sufficient to put the cuts into action.

IX. Executive Session

Mr. Lang moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal updates. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion approved with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes. Meeting reconvened at 9:15 p.m.

X. New Business

Dr. Bowers moved 12.08-1 to acknowledge the retirement of Peggy Scherer, PHS Director effective January 9, 2009. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved 12.08-2 to approve the appointment of Linda Knell as Interim PHS Director. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved 12.08-3 to acknowledge the hiring of Jay Becker as Disease Surveillance Specialist effective January 5, 2009 at the rate of \$21.10 with a \$.50 increase upon successful completion of 120-day probationary period. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Dr. Bowers 12.08-4 to table the approval the purchase of Zostavax Vaccine until the next meeting so more information can be given by Mrs. Knell regarding the benefit of this vaccine being given by the Health District. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Mr. Lang moved 12.08-5 to approve the contracts with Donna Carter, RN & Shirley Hamilton, RN to provide nursing services at a rate of \$18.50 per hour. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Mr. Lang moved 12.08-6 to approve the 2009 Health District Amended Budget as presented. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved 12.08-7 to approve the appointment of Linda Knell, RN as the Health District representative for Family First Council. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes.

XI. Other Business

There was no other business.

XII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, January 20, 2009 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 9:20 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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