

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
January 20, 2009, 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 7:00 p.m.

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

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

Dr. Bowers moved to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2008 regular meeting. 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.

IV. Financial Report / Current Expenses

Mr. Lang moved to approve the Current Expenses December 11, 2008 to January 12, 2009. 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.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack provided the Board with a report of nuisance complaints. The report showed the status of each case and also showed which cases were sent to the prosecutor's office.

A. Sewage Rules Update/Small Flow STS Study

Mr. Tusick explained when the State rescinded the rules in 2007, they created a study commission. The study commission was charged with studying issues concerning household sewage treatment systems and required to make recommendations and consider the economic impact.

Mr. Tusick explained some of the recommendations that have been made. Many of the recommendations are the same as when the rules were previously in effect.

B. Retail Food Establishment Survey Results

Mr. Weisdack stated that he had the results from our recent survey with the Ohio Department

of Agriculture for the Retail Food Establishment program. There were one or two minor issues that will need to be addressed, but the overall survey stated that the program is being run in a satisfactory manner and the GCHD is on the approved list.

VI. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Knell reported that flu activity in Ohio has been reported as sporadic. There have been 1667 doses of vaccine administered so far this year.

Jay Becker, Disease Surveillance Specialist began working on January 5, 2009. He has 6 years of related experience and has many contacts regarding public health preparedness.

The CDC contacted the GCHD recently to request to speak to a Geauga County resident who was involved with the recent salmonella outbreak. Mrs. Knell indicated that permission was given to them. To date, there are 64 cases in Ohio that are related to the outbreak. Only one case has been reported so far for Geauga County.

A. WIC

The WIC caseload is currently at 870 clients.

B. Health Education

There was no report for health education.

VII. Administrative Hearings

A. Timothy & Kelly Uterhark

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

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Timothy & Kelly Uterhark located at 13900 Stanley Dr., 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(E) states: "No person shall discharge, or permit to discharge, treated or untreated sewage, the overflow drainage or contents of a sewage tanks, or other putrescible, impure, or offensive wastes into an abandoned water supply, well, spring, or cistern or into a natural or artificial well, sink hole, crevice, or other opening extending into limestone, sandstone, shale, or other rock formation, or normal ground water table."

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."

This case is in regards to a nuisance complaint. There is no permit information on file for this property, but it is evident that it discharges into a common tile line that serves most of the homes on the street. Discussion followed.

Mr. Lang moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Timothy & Kelly Uterhark located at 13900 Stanley Dr., 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. 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.

B. DBR Properties; Joan Carpenter; Lottie Tucky,; Abundant Life Church of God; 7331 Aurora Rd., LLC; Parkman Auto; and Robert Mcllroy

None of the above mentioned were present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Benenati. Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the properties owned by DBR Properties, 7049 Mulberry Rd., Chester Twp.; Joan Carpenter, 14991 Madison Rd., Middlefield Twp.; Lottie Tucky, 17968 Claridon Troy Rd., Troy Twp.; Abundant Life Church of God, 14662 Old State Rd., Middlefield Twp.; 7331 Aurora Rd., Bainbridge Twp.; Parkman Auto, 15690 Main Market Rd., Parkman Twp.; Robert Mcllroy, 12564 Mayfield Rd., Claridon Twp.

These cases are in regards to the following sections of Article V, of the Geauga County Health District Semi-Public Sewage Disposal System Regulations which states:

Section 52.05.02: "APPLICATION – Any person, firm, association, or corporation who, subsequent to the first day of September of that year, has intent of operating a semi-public sewage disposal system must obtain an inspection certificate from the Geauga County Health Department."

Section 52.05.04: "CERTIFICATE ISSUANCE – Certificate renewal forms will be mailed the last week of July. Owners of the property are responsible for returning the completed form and proper payment to the Geauga County Health Department by the filing deadline of September 1 of that year. All applications post marked later than the September 1 date shall be regarded as late and be subject to a 25% late fee. The fee schedule shall be adopted by the Geauga County Board of Health."

The owners of these properties have failed to make payment for the operational/inspection certificate for their Semi-Public Sewage Disposal System for the 2008-2009 certificate year. Discussion followed.

Dr. Bowers moved that a code violation exists at the properties owned by DBR Properties, 7049 Mulberry Rd., Chester Twp.; Joan Carpenter, 14991 Madison Rd., Middlefield Twp.; Lottie Tucky, 17968 Claridon Troy Rd., Troy Twp.; Abundant Life Church of God, 14662 Old State Rd., Middlefield Twp.; 7331 Aurora Rd., Bainbridge Twp.; Parkman Auto, 15690 Main Market Rd., Parkman Twp.; Robert Mcllroy, 12564 Mayfield Rd., Claridon 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 DBR Properties, 7049 Mulberry Rd., Chester Twp.; Joan Carpenter, 14991 Madison Rd., Middlefield Twp.; Lottie Tucky, 17968 Claridon Troy Rd., Troy Twp.; Abundant Life Church of God, 14662 Old State Rd., Middlefield Twp.; 7331 Aurora Rd., Bainbridge Twp.; Parkman Auto, 15690 Main Market Rd., Parkman Twp.; Robert Mcllroy, 12564 Mayfield Rd., Claridon Twp. be required to make application and pay for the annual permit to operate a semi-public sewage treatment 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.

C. Robert & Laura York; Jason Heilman; and Daniel Perelman

Jason Heilman was present and sworn in by Mr. Benenati. None of the others were present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Benenati.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is a code violation to the properties owned by Robert & Laura York, 17012 Shedd Rd., Middlefield Twp.; Jason Heilman, 10825 Stafford Rd., Auburn Twp.; and Daniel Perelman, 7840 Wilson Mills Rd., Chester 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.

Mr. Heilman stated that his realtor wasn't clear to him that the property needed an evaluation and also that the house was vacant when he bought it. He also explained that he felt the inspection was too costly. The Board explained that the cost is what it takes to do the inspection and any related activity in regards to the processing.

Mr. Lang moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Robert & Laura York, 17012 Shedd Rd., Middlefield Twp.; Jason Heilman, 10825 Stafford Rd., Auburn Twp.; and Daniel Perelman, 7840 Wilson Mills Rd., Chester 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.

Mr. Lang moved that Robert & Laura York, 17012 Shedd Rd., Middlefield Twp.; Jason Heilman, 10825 Stafford Rd., Auburn Twp.; and Daniel Perelman, 7840 Wilson Mills Rd., Chester 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. 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.

VIII. Old Business

A. Financial Update

Mr. Weisdack reviewed the final 2008 financial reports with the Board. He indicated that he would be working on the 2010 budget very soon.

B. Zostavax Vaccine

The Zostavax vaccine is for the prevention of shingles in adults 60 and over. Mrs. Knell indicated that Personal Health Services has had many calls inquiring as to whether GCHD has the vaccine. Doctors do not carry the vaccine. It is very costly with one dose costing \$161.50. Mrs. Knell indicated that some other health departments do carry the vaccine, but it goes very quickly once they receive shipment. Currently the vaccine is on backorder from the supplier.

The Board discussed whether this is a vaccine that the health district should give. After discussion, **Dr. Bowers moved 1.09-1 to table the motion to purchase Zostavax vaccine until more information can be obtained. 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.**

IX. Executive Session

Dr. Bowers moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss 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; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mr. Goergen, yes. Meeting reconvened at 9:38 p.m.

X. New Business

Mr. Weisdack distributed organizational charts to the Board. The changes to the organizational chart were made because of the reduction in personnel.

Ms. Eppich moved 1.09-2 to approve the Geauga County Health District Reorganization Chart dated January 20, 2009 as presented. The revised organizational chart reflects the following appointments: Sandra Gerzeny, Fiscal Officer; Alta Kress, Administrative Assistant; and Linda Knell, Nursing Director; and Nancy Tvergyak, Registrar; Christine Walick, Deputy Registrar upon approval of the Ohio Department of Health Vital Statistics. 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 1.09-3 to approve the salary increase for Dan Mix at the rate of \$1.50 per hour and Linda Knell at the rate of \$.50 per hour, both effective payroll #3. 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 1.09-4 to approve the advertising and hiring of a Personnel Health Services Director. 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.

Mr. Lang moved 1.09-5 to approve the purchase of flu vaccine for the 2009-2010 season in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. 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.

Ms. Eppich moved 1.09-6 to approve the request to hold a special Health District Advisory Council meeting for the purpose of appointing a new HDAC President to complete the term of Frank Gliha. 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.

XI. Other Business

A. BOH Survey

A student from Bowling Green has requested the Board complete a survey which will help her with obtaining a PhD. The survey is strictly voluntary.

B. HDAC Schedule

Mr. Weisdack reviewed the schedule with the Board.

C. Budget Development Schedule

Mr. Weisdack inquired as to whether the Board would like to hold a budget workshop for the 2010 budget. He reviewed the timeline of presentations and approval processes for the budget.

The Board indicated that a budget workshop should be scheduled.

XII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, February 17, 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 9:0 p.m. Ms. Eppich 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

a