

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Special Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2007, 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 emergency 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, Dr. Donald Bowers, Mrs. Nan Burr and Ms. Melanie Eppich.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; and Alta Kress, Secretary Supervisor.

Others present: There were no others present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Old Business

A. Sewage Regulations Revision (2nd Reading)

Mr. Weisdack reviewed a guidance document that was sent to all the local health districts by the Ohio Department of Health with the Board. Mr. Weisdack expressed his concern that ODH will scrutinize Geauga County's regulations especially in regards to the seasonal high water table. ODH is considering the seasonal high water as part of the normal water table. That has not been done in the past. He stated that he had reviewed the document with Assistant Prosecutor Ms. Bridey Matheney. He indicated to Ms. Matheney that the Board is going in the direction of using leaching trenches. Ms. Matheney indicated that the Board is not required to abide by the guidelines set forth by ODH. She also stated that she would support the Board's decision to use leaching trenches.

The Board asked Mr. Weisdack to ask for a letter from Ms. Matheney indicating her support. Mr. Benenati also asked if perhaps letters of support from other counties should be requested. Mr. Weisdack said that he recently received a copy of another health district's sewage regulations. They are very similar to Geauga County's.

Mr. Weisdack met with Senator Grendell recently and discussed the ODH guidance document. Senator Grendell stated that the legislative intent of the addendum of HB119 is not what ODH is proposing regarding the seasonal high water table and soil permeability.

Senator Grendell would like Mr. Weisdack to sit on one of the committees regarding the sewage regulations. Mr. Weisdack asked the Board to consider allowing him to if he is asked.

Mr. Weisdack reviewed the proposed changes to the sewage regulations.

Dr. Bowers moved 7.10.07-2 to approve the 2nd reading of the proposed changes to the Geauga County Health District Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations as presented. 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.

IV. Other Business

There was no other business.

V. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Monday, July 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon.

VI. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Mrs. Burr moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 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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