

Geauga County General Health District  
Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
July 18, 2005, 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 7:01 p.m., and stated the meeting was being held to conduct the regular business of the Board.

Board members present: Mr. Richard Lang, Dr. Donald Bowers and Ms. Melanie Eppich.

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

Others present: 13 others were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

**Dr. Bowers moved that the minutes from the June 20, 2005 meeting be approved. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

IV. Financial Report/Current Expenses

The Board members reviewed the June financial report for all funds. **Ms. Eppich moved to approve the Current Expenses June 10, 2005 to July 11, 2005. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

V. Variances

A. Richard Duncan

Richard Duncan was not present. Ron Laurent of Ohio Aeration was 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 Richard Duncan for the vacant property located at 11352 Old State Rd., Claridon 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)

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

B. Father & Son Septic/Paul Libby

Shawn Powers of Father & Son Septic and Laurel Libby were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Lang.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Father & Son Septic in behalf of Paul Libby for the existing property located at 13713 Northwood Rd., 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)

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

C. Dan Sizemore/Paula Grant

Liese Toohig, representative for Mr. Sizemore and Ms. Grant was present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Lang.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Dan Sizemore in behalf of Paula Grant for the existing property located at 14886 Overlook Dr., Newbury 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)

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

D. Fincham Soil Service/Frank Dinardo

Jim Fincham and Frank Dinardo were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Lang.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Fincham Soil Service in behalf of Frank Dinardo for the vacant property located at 11265 Spruce 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)

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

E. Auburn Bainbridge Exc./Dave Martin

Lewis Tomsic Jr. was present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Lang.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Auburn Bainbridge Exc. in behalf of Dave Martin for the existing property located at 13463 Claridon Troy Rd., Burton 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)

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

F. Kim Carpenter, Jr./Lawrence Podojil

Lawrence Podojil was present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Lang.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Kim Carpenter, Jr. in behalf of Lawrence Podojil for the vacant property located at 15676 Windmill Point Rd., Huntsburg 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)

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

VI. Timothy Snyder

Mr. Snyder stated he was there to follow up on his March speech to the Board.

He also stated that in the minutes from a previous meeting, Mr. Weisdack stated that the judge presiding over the asphalt plant issue had asked him (Mr. Weisdack) to sit on a committee for the asphalt plant. Mr. Snyder stated that he spoke with Judge Burt, and that he (the judge) denied he had asked Mr. Weisdack to sit on any committee.

Mr. Snyder stated some more of his concerns. Mr. Lang told Mr. Snyder to put his concerns in writing and the Board would address them at that time.

There was a short break at 8:12 p.m. The Board reconvened at 8:17 p.m.

VII. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that the inspections numbers are right on track for the year.

He stated that he was getting fragmented information about the new sewage regulations. At this point, it sounds as if leach trenches will not be allowed and the homeowner will have a choice between mound or drip irrigation systems.

A. Chemical Water Testing Machine

Mr. Weisdack reported that he has been attending meetings with the Department of Emergency Services and several other county agencies to discuss how the Homeland Security Grant funds would be spent. During the first 2 rounds of funding, Mr. Weisdack supported getting equipment for the 1<sup>st</sup> responders (the first people to a site in the event of an emergency).

A portion of the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of funding will be used towards the purchase of a Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer machine. This machine will give us the ability to scan for chemicals in the water and give results within minutes and will be used in a terrorist event if all components are purchased.

The unit costs \$140,000.00. It will cost approximately \$8,000.00-10,000.00 per year for maintenance. Funds in the amount of \$73,000.00 will come from the Homeland Security Grant. At a recent Geauga County Township Association meeting, Mary Briggs, Claridon Township Trustee, asked her fellow trustees for support in the case that the rest of the funding could not be raised. The trustees voted overwhelmingly in favor.

There will be a demonstration of the machine in the near future.

The Board discussed the funding options of the machine. Mr. Weisdack requested that \$53,000.00 from Board of Health funds be used toward the purchase of the machine. After discussion, the Board believed this to be a worthwhile expenditure and agreed to use Board of Health funds.

B. Rabies Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that Geauga County now has 9 cases of rabies so far in 2005.

C. Solid Waste

Mr. Weisdack stated that the carryover in the Solid Waste fund has slowly been depleted. Currently, the Geauga Trumbull Solid Waste Management District (GTSWMD) provides \$25,000.00 per year for the program. We are using more than that amount to cover the program per year. Mr. Weisdack stated that approximately \$36,000.00 was needed to cover the program based on a previous cost analysis. He indicated that he would be doing a cost analysis to get a final number of what is needed. If the cost analysis proves that the Solid Waste Program expenses are more than our funding, we may have to cut some of the inspection areas.

## VIII. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Scherer reported that she had received a Notice of Award for the CFHS program. We will be receiving \$15,000.00 more than last year. These funds will allow an increase in the amount of Amish Well Child Clinics. There is currently a 4 month waiting list for these clinics.

Geauga Regional Hospital recently had their maternity survey. There were no violations found. UHHS is considering expanding the maternity unit. There are currently 9 ob/gyns delivering babies at the hospital.

## A. WIC

Mrs. Scherer reported that the newly hired WIC Supervisor started today.

The updated WIC income guidelines were recently posted on the Health District website.

## B. PHI Grant Update

After a year of delay, the MARCS radio antennae is finally installed. The radios were required as part of the PHI Grant.

## IX. Old Business

A. Adult Immunization Fee Increase (3<sup>rd</sup> and Final Reading)

**Dr. Bowers moved 7.05-1 to approve the 3<sup>rd</sup> and final reading of the proposed fee increase for adult immunizations as follows: Purchase price of vaccine per dose + administration fee = immunization charge. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

Mr. Weisdack reported that he was recently notified that the State will be increasing the fee for certified birth and death certificates by \$1.50 effective October 1, 2005. The State will also be placing certain restrictions and/or mandates on each local registrar's office. One of the mandates is that all records in Vital Statistics must be locked in a vault or other secure location. This restriction will place a large burden on our office. The State's plan is to have all birth and death certificates issued from Columbus and eliminate the local offices that cannot comply with the restrictions and mandates. If this happens it will also mean a loss of approximately \$50,000.00 per year in funds.

## X. Executive Session

**Ms. Eppich moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:07 p.m. to discuss personnel. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes. Meeting reconvened at 9:55 p.m. Mr. Lang stated that no action would be taken based on the discussion in Executive Session.**

## XI. New Business

**Dr. Bowers moved 7.05-2 to adopt Resolution 8-2005, National Incident Management System. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Mrs. Scherer explained that this resolution is required by President Bush. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved 7.05-3 to approve the purchase of adult meningitis vaccine in an amount not to exceed \$5,000.00. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. This will purchase 60 doses of the vaccine. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved 7.05-4 to approve the purchase of SWIPERS equipment from PHI funds in an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved 7.05-5 to approve the contract with University Hospital and Case Western Reserve University to allow interns and residents to attend clients at ortho clinics. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved 7.05-6 to approve the contract with ODH to provide up to eight specialty clinics from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Ms. Eppich moved 7.05-7 to approve the WIC GY2005 budget revision as presented, pending ODH approval. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Ms. Eppich moved 7.05-8 to approve the WIC GY2006 initial budget, pending ODH approval. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved 7.05-9 to certify and appropriate WIC funds in the amount of \$138,725.00 for GY2006. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Ms. Eppich moved 7.05-10 to approve the CFHS GY2006 budget revision as presented. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved 7.05-11 to approve the contract renewal with Michelle Dreis, clerk for WIC, pending prosecutor's approval. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Ms. Eppich moved 7.05-12 to approve the contract with Melissa Bien, RN to provide nursing services on an as-needed basis, pending prosecutor's approval. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved 7.05-13 to appropriate funds in the amount of \$53,000.00 from Board of Health towards the purchase of a gas chromatograph. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**XII. Other Business**

**A. Board Meetings for August and October**

Mrs. Kress stated that the meeting room was not available for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday in both August and October. The options would be to hold the meeting in the lobby area or change the meeting to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday for those months. The Board indicated that changing the meeting to Tuesday for August and October would be acceptable.

Mr. Lang read a letter he received from a Geauga County resident regarding some of the staff. The resident expressed her appreciation to Bob Weisdack, Bill Wendell, Herb Shubick, Kent Lupton, Ryan Brickman, and Mike Tusick. These staff members worked together to help this resident who was experiencing problems with her septic system. Mr. Lang directed that a copy of that letter be placed in the personnel file of those individuals mentioned.

XIII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held August 16, 2005 at 7:00 p.m., in the meeting room at 470 Center Street, Building 8, in Chardon, Ohio.

XIV. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Dr. Bowers moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 p.m. Ms. Eppich 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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