

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
June 15, 2009, 7:00 p.m.
Geauga County Health District Office
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

I. Call to Order

Mr. Timothy Goergen, President, Pro-Tempore, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:01 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. Timothy Goergen, Dr. Donald Bowers, and Ms. Melanie Eppich, Mr. J. David Benenati and Mrs. Christina Livers were not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; Dan Mix, Personal Health Services Director; Michael Tusick, R.S.; and Alta Kress, Administrative Assistant.

Others present: There were four others present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Eppich moved to approve the minutes from the May 18, 2009 regular meeting. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

IV. Financial Report / Current Expenses

Dr. Bowers moved to approve the Current Expenses May 14, 2009 to June 9, 2009. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

The revenue for Private Water continues to be low. We have received approximately ½ the funds we had received by this time last year.

A. Sewage Rules Update/HB1

Mr. Weisdack stated that he recently attended a meeting hosted by the League of Women voters. There were approximately 250 people in attendance. Lake County Health District was also in attendance. The discussion was more political rather than informative. The residents indicated that they wanted more information on sewage systems.

Mr. Weisdack stated that he received a resolution of support for HB1 from Russell Township recently.

VI. Personal Health Services Update

The NE Ohio Homeland Security Region deactivated its H1N1 response as of May 15 although the World Health Organization raised its level to six indicating a pandemic flu.

The Health District has been awarded an additional \$2,158.00 through the Cities Readiness Initiative (CRI). This is due to funds awarded by Congress to provide vaccinations.

The requirements of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) grant continue to increase every year. The deliverables will be distributed among Mr. Becker, Mr. Mix and a third person. Mr. Mix stated that he is requesting the Board approve the creation of a new position of "Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assistant/Public Information Officer" within the Health District. This position will assume deliverables as well as involvement within the CFHS grant. A job description was provided to the Board.

Sue Leja has been working on updating our communicable disease and TB policy and procedures.

A. WIC

The WIC caseload was 939 for May. Mr. Mix and Peggy Herman are currently working on the 2010 grant. In May, Mr. Mix requested an increase of \$17,500.000 for the current budget. This will offset any salary and insurance premium increases, a 27th payroll period in December 2009, and a small amount for equipment.

B. Health Education

Mr. Mix stated that an intern from Kent State will be working at the Health District during the summer. This person will assist him in doing preliminary work towards completing the National Public Health Performance Standards Program later this year.

VII. Variances

A. Paul Ogint/Cory Narusch

Paul Ogint were present and sworn in by Mr. Goergen. Mr. Tusick was sworn in and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Paul Ogint in behalf of Cory Narusch for the existing property located at 12621 Clay St. Huntsburg Twp. The request involves section 3701-28-02(C) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations, which pertains to more than one home on a lot. (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. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

B. Erin Short

Dennis Kratochvil and Erin Short were present and sworn in by Mr. Goergen. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Erin Short for the existing property located at 14228 Ravenna Rd., Newbury Twp. The request involves section 3701-28-10(C) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations, which states “Leaching systems utilizing soil absorption or percolation shall not be installed where the texture, structure, or permeability of the soil is not suitable to provide internal drainage. The Health Commissioner may require the owner at the owner’s expense to provide a written site evaluation by a qualified person before a final decision is made in issuing a permit.” (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case.) Discussion followed.

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

VIII. Administrative Hearings

A. Frederic Henry

Frederic Henry was not present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Frederic Henry located at 13345 Foxmoor Tr., Chester Twp. This case is in regards to the following sections of the Geauga County Health District Sewage Disposal System Regulations, which states:

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.” Discussion followed.

Dr. Bowers moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Frederic Henry, 13345 Foxmoor Tr., Chester Twp. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved that Frederic Henry be ordered to obtain a sewage permit and either repair or replace the 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. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

B. Christopher & Nicole Lose

Christopher & Nicole Lose were not present. Mr. Weisdack was sworn in by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Weisdack stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Christopher & Nicole Lose, 16033 Leggett Rd., Montville Twp. This case is in regards to section 3701-29-22(A) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations, which 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.

Ms. Eppich moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Christopher & Nicole Lose, 16033 Leggett Rd., Montville Twp. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved that the owners be required to schedule and complete a For Sale of Property evaluation and/or obtain the necessary permits 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. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

C. Mark & Anne Cozzens

Mark & Anne Cozzens were not present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Mark & Anne Cozzens located at 7921 Chagrin Rd., Bainbridge Twp. This case is in regards to section 3701-29-02(M) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System regulations, which states: "No household sewage disposal system shall be installed, maintained, or operated on property accessible to a sanitary sewerage system." Discussion followed.

Dr. Bowers moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Mark & Anne Cozzens, 7921 Chagrin Rd., Bainbridge Twp. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved that the owners be required to connect to the sanitary sewer 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. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion.

Dr. Bowers moved to amend the motion to add "the owners are required to immediately cap and pump the system and to properly abandon the septic." Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

D. Robert Conkey

Robert Conkey was not present. Mr. Weisdack was sworn in again by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Weisdack stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Robert Conkey located at 16202 Main Market Rd., Parkman Twp. This case is in regards to section 52.05.01 of Article V of the Geauga County Health District Semi-Public Sewage Disposal System Regulations which states: "No semi-public sewage disposal system shall be installed or operated on a lot which is within an available sanitary sewer system if it is determined by the Health Commissioner that such a facility is cable of receiving the sewage from the facility. The old system must then be abandoned in such a manner as approved by the Ohio EPA." Discussion followed.

Ms. Eppich moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Robert Conkey located at 16202 Main Market Rd., Parkman Twp. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved that the owners be required to connect to the sanitary sewer 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. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

E. Charles & Lisa Schultz, Todd & Margaret Kruse, Anthony & Elizabeth Masitto

These cases were tabled from an earlier meeting. Discussion followed.

Dr. Bowers moved to table the Administrative Hearings for Charles & Lisa Schultz, Todd & Margaret Kruse, and Anthony & Elizabeth Masitto. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

IX. Old Business

There was no old business.

X. Executive Session

There was no Executive Session.

XI. New Business

Dr. Bowers moved 6.09-1 to approve the CRI Budget revision as presented. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved 6.09-2 to approve the CFHS 2010 Budget, July1, 2009 through June 30, 2010, as presented. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved 6.09-3 to approve the contract with Evans Medical Center, July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 for Amish Well Child clinics. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved 6.09-4 to approve and adopt the Equipment Disposal Policy as follows: "Property that is deemed outdated or unfit for use by the Health District will be offered for salvage auction. If the property does not sell at auction after two repeated attempts, with the approval of the Health Commissioner, the value will be estimated and the items will be disposed of either by throwing them away or donating them." Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved 6.09-5 to approve the creation of the position of Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assistant/Public Information Officer. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved 6.09-6 to approve the advertising and hiring of a Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assistant/Public Information Officer at a rate not to exceed \$17.00/hr. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved 6.09-7 to Approve the Geauga County Board of Health Letter of Support for HB 1 which will be sent to Governor Strickland, Senator Bill Harris and Speaker Armond Budish. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved 6.09-8 to approve the transfer of \$73.34 from Worker's Comp, \$194.66 from PERS and \$300.00 from Hospitalization to Salaries in the Solid Waste Fund. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved 6.09-9 to approve the transfer of \$44.07 from Worker's Comp and \$37.21 from Travel to Salaries in the Trailer Park Fund. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

XII. Other Business

There was no other business.

XIII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held July 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. Goergen moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 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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