

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2007, 7:00 p.m.
Geauga County Health District Office
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

I. Call to Order

Mr. Richard Lang, Pro-Tempore called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:05 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. Richard Lang, Dr. Bowers and Ms. Melanie Eppich. Mrs. Burr joined the meeting during the EH update. Mr. Benenati was not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; Peggy Scherer, Personal Health Services Director; Michael Tusick, R.S., Debora Delbo, Secretary.

Others present: Three 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 May 21, 2007 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

Dr. Bowers moved to approve the Current Expenses May 11, 2007 to June 11, 2007. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that very few permits have been issued regarding the sewage, water and plumbing programs. The health district is using the backlog from earlier issued permits. All other programs are on track. The Building Department has mentioned they've seen mostly remodels and additions. Budget discussions will be scheduled in the future to keep the Board members informed.

A. Sewage Update HB119

HB119 has passed both the House of Representatives and Senate. The Governor must sign this bill by July 1, 2007 for it to become a law with a 30-day waiting period before enforcement. HB119 includes additions and amendments made by Senator Grendell. Some of these amendments are as follows:

- 1.) A Sewage Task Force is to be created to decide the types of sewage systems that can be used throughout the state based on economic impact.
- 2.) A Technical Advisory Committee would be formed to oversee the types of technology to be used and the availability throughout the state. The Governor and the Senate Speaker will appoint the members who serve on both of these committees.
- 3.) ODH will take a survey on the types of sewage systems being used throughout the state and how effective they are. A summary of this survey will be submitted to the Task Force Committee who will then recommend statutory standards to the General Assembly.

This is to be done over the span of 2 1/2 years. The new sewage rules are to be presented on January 1, 2010.

Mr. Tusick reported on changes that are based on the 2007 sewage code that were discussed previously. These changes would be made for Geauga County once we revert back to the old codes. Some of these changes would affect the trench footage and size of trenches on systems, requiring 400 feet of trench per bedroom instead of the standard 300 feet in severe soils and making trenches 18" wide x 12" deep instead of the 18" wide x 18" deep. These changes would give more sidewall capacity by increasing the length and keeping it shallower and higher out of the seasonal water table. This would be a more effective way to disperse sewage effluent in severe soils throughout the county. The rescinding of HB119 will create unanswered questions regarding off lot discharging systems. Changes regarding the sewage codes would need to be discussed with the Prosecutor prior to bringing it to the BOH for discussion.

Mr. Weisdack informed the Board that the Department of Water Resources has increased their lab fees for water testing by \$5.00 as of June 1, 2007. This increase makes the lab fee for water testing \$15.00.

VI. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Scherer reported on the 3 core functions of public health and how they relate to public health services. Those core functions are:

- 1.) **ASSESSMENT:** To investigate, diagnose and monitor personal health problems as well as community health problems.
- 2.) **POLICY DEVELOPMENT:** To develop policies and plans that support individual and community health efforts and enforce laws and regulations that protect health and ensure safety.
- 3.) **ASSURANCE:** To link people to needed personal health services through education and information along with identifying and solving health problems throughout the community.

A. WIC

Mrs. Scherer updated the Board stating that WIC will start their July clinics at the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center. Attendance should increase due to the accessibility of the location.

B. Health Education

There was no health education report for this month.

VII. Old Business

Mrs. Burr moved 6.07-1 to approve the 3rd and final reading of the increase in price of private pay vaccines and TB tests by \$10.00 per dose for non-Geauga County residents, effective July 1, 2007. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion approved with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

VIII. Executive Session

Mrs. Burr moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss the Health Commissioner's Evaluation and pending litigation. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion approved with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes. Meeting reconvened at 9:07 p.m.

IX. New Business

Mrs. Burr moved 6.07-2 to approve the PHI GY 2008 budget as presented, pending notice of award. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 6.07-3 to approve the PHI Grant 2007 budget revision as presented. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 6.07-4 to approve the WIC Grant 2007 budget revision as presented. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 6.07-5 to approve the contract of Judy Loudon, RN to provide supplemental nursing support at Health District clinics at a rate of \$18.50 per hour with no more than 12 hours per month. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 6.07-6 to approve the transfer of \$250.00 of CFHS Medicaid funds from supplies to contract line item. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 6.07-7 to approve the out of state travel for Dave Sage, R.S. and Ryan Brickman, R.S. for training June 25 – June 29, 2007 with expenses for room, meals

& fuel not to exceed \$1,000.00. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

X. Other Business

A. Infant Death Permit Fees

Mrs. Burr stated that when a fetal death is handled by her funeral home, the parents are not charged for death certificates or the burial permit. She asked if there were some way that the Health District could waive the charge for burial permits for those cases.

Mr. Weisdack reported that there are usually 5 or 6 fetal deaths per year. The cost of a burial permit is \$3.00 of which \$2.50 is sent to the State. After discussion, Mr. Weisdack and Dr. Bowers stated that those permits would be taken care of for Geauga County fetal deaths only.

XI. 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.

XII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Mrs. Burr 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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