

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
May 17, 2010, 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. Timothy Goergen, Ms. Melanie Eppich, and Mrs. Christina Livers. Dr. Janet O'Hara was not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; and Daniel Mix, Personal Health Services Director.

Others present: There were no others present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Election of Pro-Tempore

Election of Pro-Tempore was tabled at the April meeting. **Mrs. Livers moved to nominate Mr. Goergen as Pro-Tempore. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion.** Mr. Goergen accepted the nomination. **Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, did not vote; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.**

IV. Committee Appointments

Committee appointments were discussed and the Board chose the committees they would like to be on. Personnel- Mr. Goergen, Mrs. Livers, Mr. Benenati. Finance- Ms. Eppich, Mr. Goergen, Mrs. Livers; Strategic Planning- Mr. Goergen, Ms. Eppich, Mr. Benenati; Sewage- Mrs. Livers, Mr. Goergen, Mr. Benenati. These committees meet as needed throughout the year.

V. Approval of Minutes

Ms. Eppich moved to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2010 meeting. (These minutes were tabled from the April 2010 meeting). **Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.**

The approval of the minutes for April 19, 2010 was tabled.

VI. Financial Report / Current Expenses

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the Current Expenses March 10, 2010 to April 13, 2010. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the Current Expenses April 13, 2010 to May 12, 2010. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

VII. Environmental Health Program Update

A. Sewage Update

Mr. Weisdack provided the Board with a report showing that the number of sewage permits issued so far for 2010 is 75. This is helped by the For Sale of Property program. Without that program, there would not be as many permits issued and the sewage program funds would be very low. Other counties have indicated slow permit activity for sewage.

Mr. Weisdack stated that Mr. Mix did a very good job presenting at the recent Health Commissioner's Conference. He received many compliments from people in attendance.

Mr. Weisdack reported that he has been working extensively with Senator Grendell on the sewage rule changes. Two different versions were distributed. After review, Mr. Weisdack found that neither of those versions had any of the changes he and Senator's Grendell's had discussed and agreed upon. Mr. Weisdack spoke with Senator Grendell's office and they indicated that their changes were just being sent to the State that day so they were not incorporated into the versions the State distributed.

The State is proposing to allow curtain drains, but would require them to be installed both above and below each trench line. This will cause the cost of the septic systems to increase. Currently, the curtain drain is installed around the entire trench area. Mr. Weisdack stated he was still trying to get the changes made that he and Senator Grendell have been working on.

The Board asked what would happen if the State put a law together mandating sanitary sewers throughout Ohio? Mr. Weisdack stated he would anticipate that people with large parcels of land would lose their properties because of the cost of the sanitary sewer system.

The Board discussed the stimulus money that was available through Community Development to replace failing septic systems. This office referred several people to Community Development who did not have the funds to replace their systems. The grant would pay for 75% of the system and the homeowner had to come up with 25%. Unfortunately, some of the people could not come up with their portion. There were some however that were able to and received the grant funds and installed new sewage systems. The grant has since ended but there is some discussion that they may offer it again at another time.

There are a total of 5 rabid animals within the State of Ohio so far this year consisting of three bats, one raccoon and one skunk. The raccoon was from Mahoning County.

The 2010 Geauga County Health Budget was approved by the Budget Commission recently. There is still concern about the economy. If that becomes a problem, the Budget Commission stated that another levy may need to be considered. Mr. Weisdack stated that he will be watching the finances very closely and would discuss with the Board any changes he anticipates needing to be made.

Mrs. Livers suggested that perhaps some of the Board members should begin going to the Quarterly Township Association meetings to help keep the relationships good with the townships in case we need support. She asked Mr. Weisdack to email the Board when he receives the notices that the meetings are being held.

The State is pushing the accreditation program for all local health districts. It appears this may have a large cost. They appear to be trying to regionalize health districts and having satellite offices. Cuyahoga County would probably be the regional office for Geauga County. Any decisions that Cuyahoga would make would be based more upon urban living rather than the rural living of Geauga County. The Board discussed how to get other local health districts involved to prevent the regionalization. Mr. Weisdack stated he would be watching this issue.

IIIV. Administrative Hearings

A. Jeffrey Corrigan, Yevgeniy Rachitskiy, William Angstrom, James Gallagher, William & Susan Byler, Robert & Emma Yoder, Raffaele Spidalieri, Daniel & Kathryn Johnson, Scott Hewitt, Shawn Carlson, Joel Freimark, Chester & Martha Miller, Kenneth Panhorst, Crist & Lovina Kauffman, and David & Betty Fisher

None of the residents were present. Mr. Weisdack was sworn in by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience. Mr. Weisdack stated that this is an alleged code violation to the properties owned Jeffrey

Corrigan, 14776 Auburn Rd., Newbury Twp., Yevgeniy Rachitskiy, 11844 Bass Lake Rd., Munson Twp., William Angstrom, 8682 Beacon Hill Dr., Bainbridge Twp., James Gallagher, 9934 Bell Rd., Newbury Twp., William & Susan Byler, 12450 Bundysburg Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Robert & Emma Yoder, 12466 Bundysburg Rd., Huntsburg Twp., John Willis & Karen Rossi, 10676 Butternut Rd., Munson Twp., Raffaele Spidalieri, 13042 Coachman Dr., Munson Twp., Daniel & Kathryn Johnson, 8533 Dewey Rd., Montville Twp., Scott Hewitt, 11110 Fowlers Mill Rd., Munson Twp., Shawn Carlson, 13987 GAR Hwy., Hambden Twp., Joel Freimark, 7745 Hidden Valley Dr., Chester Twp., Chester & Martha Miller, 15972 Madison Rd., Middlefield Twp., Kenneth Panhorst, 11760 Pinewood Tr., Chester Twp., Crist & Lovina Kauffman, 15751 Pioneer Rd., Huntsburg Twp., David & Betty Fisher, 15251 White Rd., Burton 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.

Ms. Eppich moved that a code violation exists on the property owned by Jeffrey Corrigan, 14776 Auburn Rd., Newbury Twp., Yevgeniy Rachitskiy, 11844 Bass Lake Rd., Munson Twp., William Angstrom, 8682 Beacon Hill Dr., Bainbridge Twp., James Gallagher, 9934 Bell Rd., Newbury Twp., William & Susan Byler, 12450 Bundysburg Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Robert & Emma Yoder, 12466 Bundysburg Rd., Huntsburg Twp., John Willis & Karen Rossi, 10676 Butternut Rd., Munson Twp., Raffaele Spidalieri, 13042 Coachman Dr., Munson Twp., Daniel & Kathryn Johnson, 8533 Dewey Rd., Montville Twp., Scott Hewitt, 11110 Fowlers Mill Rd., Munson Twp., Shawn Carlson, 13987 GAR Hwy., Hambden Twp., Joel Freimark, 7745 Hidden Valley Dr., Chester Twp., Chester & Martha Miller, 15972 Madison Rd., Middlefield Twp., Kenneth Panhorst, 11760 Pinewood Tr., Chester Twp., Crist & Lovina Kauffman, 15751 Pioneer Rd., Huntsburg Twp., David & Betty Fisher, 15251 White Rd., Burton Twp. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved that Jeffrey Corrigan, 14776 Auburn Rd., Newbury Twp., Yevgeniy Rachitskiy, 11844 Bass Lake Rd., Munson Twp., William Angstrom, 8682 Beacon Hill Dr., Bainbridge Twp., James Gallagher, 9934 Bell Rd., Newbury Twp., William & Susan Byler, 12450 Bundysburg Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Robert & Emma Yoder, 12466 Bundysburg Rd., Huntsburg Twp., John Willis & Karen Rossi, 10676 Butternut Rd., Munson Twp., Raffaele Spidalieri, 13042 Coachman Dr., Munson Twp., Daniel & Kathryn Johnson, 8533 Dewey Rd., Montville Twp., Scott Hewitt, 11110 Fowlers Mill Rd., Munson Twp., Shawn Carlson, 13987 GAR Hwy., Hambden Twp., Joel Freimark, 7745 Hidden Valley Dr., Chester Twp., Chester & Martha Miller, 15972 Madison Rd., Middlefield Twp., Kenneth Panhorst, 11760 Pinewood Tr., Chester Twp., Crist & Lovina Kauffman, 15751 Pioneer Rd., Huntsburg Twp., David & Betty Fisher, 15251 White Rd., Burton 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 these orders will result in referral to the prosecutor's office for legal action. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

IX. Personal Health Services Update

A. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The Ohio Department of Health is ramping down the H1N1 response. They have taken down the online registry because it is not compatible with the new release of the immunization-reporting database used by ODH (IMPACT SIIS).

The Board was asked to adopt and approve a revised PHEP/PHER budget for September 1, 2009 to August 9, 2010, not to exceed \$377,838. This modifies the budget adopted in March to move capital to equipment for the trailer previously approved by the Board of Health.

Mr. Mix reported that preparations are being made for our summer Strategic National Stockpile evaluation which is conducted by CDC and ODH. In preparation, the City of Cleveland's Emergency Preparedness Planner visited the office to review requirements and identify needs. Jay Becker, a representative from Geauga County DES and Mr. Mix participated.

B. Nursing

The nursing staff has been providing Tdap vaccinations for sixth grade students. This is because of updated guidelines requiring an additional booster prior to entering seventh grade. Participation is only 20 to 30% which is far less than anticipated. We expect the summer vaccination clinics to be very busy. We have already seen this trend beginning last week at the Chardon morning clinic.

Linda Knell, Nursing Director will be retiring on September 30, 2010. She has been with the Health District for 20 years. She will be using her six weeks of accumulated vacation from August 15 through September 30, 2010.

Mr. Mix stated that he and Mr. Weisdack would like to discuss when to hire someone to replace Ms. Knell. The current nursing staff declined interest in the position. Mrs. Livers stated that if the funds are available that it would be more efficient to hire someone and have them trained before Ms. Knell leaves. Mr. Mix stated that Ms. Knell is documenting most of what she does and how she does them. He stated that additional duties would be added to this position.

C. WIC

The WIC March caseload was 965.

Approximately a dozen resumes were received for the WIC health professional position. They were reviewed and Ms. Herman has narrowed them down to one applicant who has extensive WIC experience. Ms. Herman is verifying with the State to assure that this applicant's certification is in force.

D. Health Education

Our Certified Health Educator is Colleen Brady. Ms. Brady has been contracted under the PHER grant and has been working with the Nursing Director to provide health education presentations within the community. Some of the presentations include Kent State University Health Fair, presentations on bed bugs, seminars regarding children's and adult services, and an Incident Command System Overview presentation. A Summer Safety Presentation is being planned at the Middlefield Senior Center in June. Ms. Brady keeps the lobby bulletin board with educational information regarding TB, H1N1, and childhood/adult vaccination.

X. Old Business

A. Muslim Cemetery, Huntsburg Township

There is some activity at the site. This property has been classified as a wetland area by the Army Corp. of Engineers. It appears the property owners are having studies done to see if they can get that classification changed so it is not considered a wetland. Mr. Weisdack had spoken to the property owner and described what would be required in order to use this property as a burial site. At that time, the owner agreed to comply with those requirements. Mr. Weisdack stated he wants to assure that he protects the public's health. He will be continue watching the issue.

XI. Executive Session

Mr. Goergen moved to adjourn for Executive Session at 8:38 pm to discuss pending legal cases and personnel. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes. The meeting reconvened at 8:56 pm. Mrs. Livers stated that there was no action as a result of Executive Session.

XII. New Business

Mrs. Livers moved 5.10-a to adopt and approve a revised PHEP/PHER Budget for the period September 1, 2009 to August 9, 2010 not to exceed \$377,838.00. This modifies the budget adopted in March to move capital to equipment for the trailer previously approved by the BOH. **Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.**

Mr. Goergen moved 5.10-b to acknowledge the retirement of Linda Knell effective September 30, 2010. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Mr. Weisdack stated that it is with deep regret that her retirement is being acknowledged. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 5.10-c to table the advertising and hiring of a Nursing Director. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Mr. Weisdack reported on some draft legislation which would change the way we change we remit the portion of the fees to the State. Currently, a certain portion of the license or permit fee we collect for State mandated programs is remitted to the State on a quarterly basis. This is approximately \$78,000.00. We get \$26,500.00 back for State Subsidies. This draft legislation proposes that in a county with a vital statistics office, \$1.00 per capita for each county would be submitted on a yearly basis. This would end up costing approximately \$100,000.00 per year for Geauga County. The State would end up getting around \$20 million dollars per year.

XIII. Other Business

There was no other business.

XIV. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held June 21, 2010 at 7:00 p.m., 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon.

XV. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Mr. Goergen moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 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

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