

Geauga County General Health District  
Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
November 15, 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 monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:05 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; Peggy Scherer, Personal Health Services Director; Michael Tusick, R.S.; and Alta Kress, Secretary Supervisor.

Others present: There were three others present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

**Ms. Eppich moved that the minutes from the October 15, 2007 regular meeting be approved. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, abstain; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, abstain; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

IV. Financial Report / Current Expenses

**Mr. Lang moved to approve the Current Expenses October 9, 2007 to November 9, 2007. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

V. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that number of permits issued has not seen any increase. The staff continues cross training and they are getting caught up on some of the public health nuisances that have been outstanding.

Mr. Weisdack stated that he is working on the recommendations made by ODH from the latest FSO survey. There were only a few things that needed addressed. He will be bringing a policy to the Board for approval in the future, which will address the issue of closing an establishment.

At a recent Geauga County Township Association meeting, Mr. Weisdack gave a presentation on sewage. He stated that there was a lot of interest and some very good comments.

## VI. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Scherer reported that there have been many calls recently from schools and concerned parents regarding MRSA. PHS has put together a packet of information to send out. At this time, there are no confirmed cases in Geauga County.

The planned flu clinics for this year have been completed. WIC as well as many other individuals helped at the clinics. This gave the Health District a chance to practice Incident Command.

The nurses will continue to administer the flu vaccine at the regular Friday clinics. Over 1800 doses have been given so far this year. To date, there are no reported cases of flu in Ohio.

PHS and WIC recently were designated as an Above and Beyond Agency by the Tri-County Association of the Education of Young Children. This designation was given because of the services they provide for families and children.

### A. WIC

WIC has recently experienced an increase in their caseload to over 800 clients. This along with an 80-90% show rate is good news. It could result in increased funding.

### B. Health Education

Mrs. Scherer reported that a Tobacco Compliance check was held recently for Lake and Geauga County. During these checks, a minor goes into an establishment and attempts to buy tobacco products. Mrs. Scherer stated that no one was able to buy the tobacco products. There was 100% compliance from the establishments visited.

## VII. Variances

### A. Colin Cooper/Heather Hall

Colin Cooper was present and sworn in by Mr. Benenati. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Colin Cooper in behalf of Heather Hall for the property located at 18813 Chillicothe Rd., Bainbridge Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-10 (B) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which requires a 4' distance from bedrock to install leach trenches (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

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

## VIII. Old Business

- A. For Sale of Property Off-lot Inspection Proposed Fee Change (3<sup>rd</sup> and Final Reading)

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-1 to approve the third and final reading of the For Sale of Property Off-lot Inspection proposed fee change from \$250.00 to \$300.00. This fee will become effective January 1, 2008. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

- B. Sewage Installer Testing Proposed Fee (3<sup>rd</sup> and Final Reading)

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-2 to approve the third and final reading of the Sewage Installer Testing Fee of \$40.00. This fee will become effective January 1, 2008. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

- C. DHD Update

The DHD Update was not discussed.

- D. HSTS Proposed Rule Changes (1<sup>st</sup> Reading)

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-3 to approve the first reading of the additions to the Geauga County Health District Sewage Treatment System Regulations as presented. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

- IX. Executive Session

**Mrs. Burr moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss the Health Commissioner's 2006 evaluation and pending litigation. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion approved with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes. Meeting reconvened at 9:25 p.m.**

- X. New Business

**Dr. Bowers moved 11.07-4 to forego the Incentive Merit Program for 2007. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Mr. Lang stated that the decision for not giving the Incentive Merit this year was not to penalize the staff, but is based on the Health Commissioner's recommendation and economic conditions. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-5 to certify and appropriate IAP 2008 grant funds in the amount of \$20,000.00, pending Notice of Award. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-6 to approve the IAP 2008 budget as presented, pending ODH approval. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-7 to approve the contract renewal with ODH to assist families not eligible for BCMH in finding services for children with special health care needs. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Ms. Eppich moved 11.07-8 to approve the transfer of \$2,200.00 from Remit to State to Other Expense in the Food Service fund. Mrs. Burr seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-9 to approve the transfer of \$2,420 from Travel to Other Expense in the Solid Waste fund. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-10 to approve the purchase of two tablet pc's in an amount not to exceed \$1,600.00 each. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Mr. Lang moved 11.07-11 to approve the 4<sup>th</sup> estimated reimbursement from the grants to BOH as follows: WIC, \$35,895.94; CFHS, \$13,270.97; PHI, \$34,539.50; and IAP, \$1,703.27. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Dr. Bowers moved 11.07-12 to adopt the Public Records Policy as presented. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-13 to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the proposed fee for a CD copy of records at \$1.00 each. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-14 to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the proposed fee increase for County Camps from \$95.00 to \$135.00 each. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-15 to approve the 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the proposed fee increase for Manufactured Home Parks from \$97.00 + \$1.00 for each site over 50 to \$200.00 + \$1.50 for each site over 50. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Ms. Eppich moved 11.07-16 to set the waiver for 1008 for Medical and Prescription only at \$720.00 for single and \$1,884.00 for family. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Mrs. Burr moved 11.07-17 to approve New Years Eve 2007 as a paid holiday for the Health District staff. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call**

**vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

**Mr. Lang moved 11.07-18 to approve the 2006 evaluation for Mr. Weisdack and increase his salary by 3% retroactive to February 1, 2007. Mrs. Burr seconded the motion.** The Board commended Mr. Weisdack on how he has handled the financial crisis and also his role with the State sewage rules. **Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

XI. Other Business

A. What is Public Health?

This topic will be discussed at a later date.

B. Mr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick

Mr. and Mrs. Kirkpatrick addressed the Board regarding John Dorka who is a registered sewage installer with the Health District.

The Kirkpatrick's expressed concern at how long Mr. Dorka took to install their new sewage disposal system. The system has since been finished but other work that was to be completed has not been finished. Mr. Weisdack stated that the Health District only has jurisdiction over the sewage system. The system was inspected and approved with 2 minor issues that need to be addressed.

XII. Meetings

A special meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, December 4, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., 470 Center St., Bld. 8, Chardon. This meeting will be for the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of proposed fees.

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Monday, December 17, 2007 at 7:00 p.m., 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Mrs. Burr moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:44 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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