

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2009, 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, Dr. Donald Bowers, Ms. Melanie Eppich and Mrs. Christina Livers.

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 five other people present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Goergen moved to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2009 regular meeting. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

IV. Financial Report / Current Expenses

Mr. Goergen moved to approve the Current Expenses October 13, 2009 to November 11, 2009. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

A. Solid Waste Truck Registration

Mr. Weisdack reported that a recent ruling by the Attorney General eliminates our ability to register solid waste trucks. This will mean an approximate \$5,400.00 decrease in revenue.

B. Manufactured Home Park Program

Last month Mr. Weisdack reported that there was a possibility that the Manufactured Home Park program may be put under the jurisdiction of the Manufactured Home Park Commission. The Manufactured Home Park Commission has stated that they will only be doing inspections of new installations. The local health districts will continue licensing and inspecting the Manufactured Home Parks as has been done in the past.

C. State Fee Increases-Pools, PWS

We recently received information from the State indicating they are increasing their portion

of the licensing fees for Pools and Private Water System Permits. This increase in fees will not need three readings because these programs are mandated by the State.

D. Sewage Meeting with Dr. Alvin Jackson

Mr. Weisdack reported that Dr. Jackson visited the Geauga County Health District offices recently. During his visit, he extended an invitation to Mr. Weisdack to meet to discuss the sewage issues. Mr. Weisdack stated that the meeting has been scheduled for December 7, 2009 at Dr. Jackson's office. Mr. Weisdack invited the Board members to attend with him.

VI. Personal Health Services Update

A. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

On November 7, the Geauga County Medical Reserve Corps held an H1N1 nasal spray clinic where they administered 310 doses. Herb Shubick is now on staff part-time and working to fulfill the goals and objectives as required by the Surgeon General.

Phone call volume regarding the flu vaccine has increased and become more aggressive in nature. These calls require spending more time with the caller and a lot of patience.

The new part-time H1N1 clerk has been busy uploading immunization records and answering the phones. Because of her previous experience within the Health District, she is filling in for Vital Statistics and WIC when needed.

Mr. Mix stated that he would be attending a PHEP/PHER grant-funding workshop sponsored by ODH and the AOHC on December 2. This training is to assist the Health Districts prepare for the first PHER grant reports which are due December 15. The grants administration unit has been very strict on the application despite claims that reporting standards were relaxed.

Regional PHEP planning has come to a complete halt. The idea was to support each other, but it seems that it is every Health District for themselves when it comes to response. A recent phone call which was the first in two months made this apparent.

Mr. Mix stated that he and Mr. Weisdack would be working on the new 5-year LHD Improvement Standards and will be completing the CDC's National Public Health Performance Standards Program. This is a collaborative assessment that involves other agencies, private sector business and residents in what CDC calls the "public health system".

B. Nursing

Over 6,000 H1N1 vaccines have been administered to date. Another 1,200 doses were moved to pediatricians and OB/GYNs because the vaccine had not been shipped to them. It is expected that the vaccine will be shipped to those doctors today.

Clinics have been held at Metzenbaum, Ledgemont, Cardinal, Berkshire, Newbury, Kenston and Chardon's 4 elementary schools. Clinics are scheduled for Chardon Middle & High, Amish Schools, West Geauga and a 3rd clinic will be held at Kenston for home schooled children, private and parochial schools, and pre-school children. Gurney School will be completed by Thanksgiving. We will be returning to the elementary schools to administer the second shots to children under 10 years of age. Another public clinic is being planned for the first Saturday in December.

C. WIC

The WIC caseload was 972 for November which is a new high.

D. Health Education

There was no report for health education given this month.

VII. Variances

A. Debbie Soltis

Debbie Soltis and Cathy Bender were present and sworn in by Mr. Benenati. Mr. Tusick was sworn in and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Debbie Soltis for the existing property located at 8567 Auburn Rd., Chardon Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(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. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

VIII. Administrative Hearings

A. Chris Light

Chris Light was present and sworn in by Mr. Benenati. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Chris Light located at 12316 Hunt Rd., Huntsburg Twp. This case is based on the failure to secure a structure as per section 3707.01 of the Ohio Revised Code which states: "When a building, erection, excavation, premises, business, pursuit, matter, or thing, or the sewerage, drainage, plumbing, or ventilation thereof is, in the opinion of the board, in a condition dangerous to life or health, and when a building or structure is occupied or rented for living or business purposes and sanitary plumbing and sewerage are feasible and necessary, but neglected or refused, the board may declare it a public nuisance and order it to be removed, abated, suspended, altered, or otherwise improved or purified by the owner, agent, or other person having control thereof or responsible for such condition, and may prosecute him for the refusal or neglect to obey such order. The board may, by its officers and employees, remove, abate, suspend, alter, or otherwise improve or purify such nuisance and certify the costs and expense thereof to the county auditor, to be assessed against the property and thereby made a lien upon it and collected as other taxes."

Dr. Bowers moved that a code violation exists on the property owned by Chris Light located at 12316 Hunt Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Mr. Goergen moved that the owner be required to remove the structure and solid waste from the premises and that all material and solid waste must be taken to an approved landfill and the receipts for removal of the solid waste must be submitted to the Health District 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. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion

carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

B. Samuel Mullet and Sarah Gardner

None of the above mentioned were present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the properties owned by Samuel Mullet, 12861 Princeton Rd., Huntsburg Twp. and Sarah Gardner, 15455 Punderson Rd., Newbury Twp. These cases are based on the failure to have a For Sale of Property Evaluation conducted at the time of property transfer as per Section 3701-29-22 of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations.

3701-29-22(A) "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 any corrective actions(s) required shall be accomplished within the time period(s) directed."

Ms. Eppich moved that a code violation exists at the properties owned by Samuel Mullet, 12861 Princeton Rd., Huntsburg Twp and Sarah Gardner, 15455 Punderson Rd., Newbury Twp. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved that Samuel Mullet, 12861 Princeton Rd., Huntsburg Twp and Sarah Gardner, 15455 Punderson Rd., Newbury Twp. 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. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

B. Heflin Family Trust and John Ray Leslein

None of the above mentioned were present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the properties owned by Heflin Family Trust, 17945 Madison Rd., Parkman Twp. and John Ray Leslein, 18012 Madison Rd., Parkman Twp. These cases are in regards to section 3701-29-02(L) of the Geauga County Health District 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."

Dr. Bowers moved that a code violation exists at the properties owned by Heflin Family Trust, 17945 Madison Rd., Parkman Twp. and John Ray Leslein, 18012 Madison Rd., Parkman Twp. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved that Heflin Family Trust, 17945 Madison Rd., Parkman Twp. and John Ray Leslein, 18012 Madison Rd., Parkman Twp. 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. Motion carried

with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

IX. Old Business

A. Food Service/Retail Food Establishment Proposed Fees (3rd and Final Reading)

Mr. Weisdack reported that a public hearing was held for food establishments to voice their opinions on the proposed fees. Between 10 and 12 people attended the hearing. The people who at the hearing were asked to put their concerns in writing and they submitted them to Mr. Weisdack. We also received a letter from Montville Township Trustees opposing the fee increase. Food service fees have not been increased since 2004.

Mr. Gregg Tarr was present. Mr. Tarr has a food establishment in Middlefield. He indicated that the increase in the fees would have been easier to take if it had been phased in over the last 5 years rather than one big increase.

Dr. Bowers moved 11.09-1 to adopt Resolution 1-2009 authorizing the Health Commissioner to increase the Food Service/Retail Food Establishment fees (pending prosecutor's approval.) The fees will become effective December 1, 2009. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

X. Executive Session

Mr. Goergen moved to adjourn for Executive Session at 8:50 pm to discuss pending legal cases, personnel and the Health Commissioner's contract. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes. Meeting reconvened at 10:00 pm.

XI. New Business

Dr. Bowers said that no action was taken as a result of executive session. Mrs. Livers asked that a fully executable contract for Mr. Weisdack be prepared for presentation at the next regular meeting.

Mr. Goergen moved 11.09-2 approve the payment in the amount of \$1,032.00 to the AOHK for the 2010 dues. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 11.09-3 to approve the payment to Dominion Gas in the amount of \$1,025.12. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 11.09-4 to approve to keep 2010 employee contributions the same for health insurance. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Ms. Eppich moved 11.09-5 to approve the out-of-state travel for training for Dave Sage. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 11.09-6 to acknowledge the decision to forego Incentive Merit Payments for 2010 due to budget restrictions. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion

carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 11.09-7 to approve closing the Health District office for the entire day, Christmas Eve 2009. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Ms. Eppich, yes; and Mrs. Livers, yes.

XII. Other Business

There was no other business

XIII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held December 21, 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 10:05 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

a