

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
September 17, 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 7:02 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: No one else was present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Burr moved that the minutes from the August 20, 2007 meeting be approved. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Mr. Lang, yes; Dr. Bowers, abstain; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

IV. Financial Report / Current Expenses

Mrs. Burr moved to approve the Current Expenses August 7, 2007 to September 10, 2007. 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.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that the recent Food Service Survey had good results. ODH suggested that there be additional staff in the Food Service program. They would like to see an average of 9 hours spent at each location and currently we are only spending approximately 6.3 hours at each location. They also want the BOH to pass a resolution regarding the closing of facilities. We already have a resolution, but ODH would like it worded differently. Mr. Weisdack indicated that he would be bringing a new resolution to the Board in the near future.

ODH also questioned the licensing council. The licensing council is a group of individuals appointed by the HDAC that operate a licensed establishment in a State mandated program. One of those people from the council would then be appointed to the BOH. The HDAC was to get the council together, but there was no response from the ad. That position was empty until Ms. Eppich applied for an opening on the Board of Health. Since Ms. Eppich operates an establishment within a State mandated program, she was able to complete that term, and subsequently was re-appointed once the term was up.

Mr. Weisdack reported that there has not been much going on in the sewage program. Building is down in the county. He stated that cross training is being done to keep the staff busy and that he may be moving one staff member into food service either ½ or full-time.

Mr. Weisdack will be presenting budget information at the next Board meeting. He stated that the Board would need to discuss the budget and a contingency plan due to the lack of revenue from the sewage program.

Gary Kaufman will be submitting a proposal for a land application site. We are awaiting information for USEPA and will possibly be bringing it to the Board next month.

Mr. Weisdack and Mr. Tusick recently attended a meeting at the request of local attorneys. They provided information on the sewage regulations and the For Sale of Property program. It was well attended and well received.

VI. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Scherer reported that Judy Loudon would not be a contract nurse for us due to retirement stipulations put forth by PERS. The Board had previously approved Ms. Loudon as a contract nurse.

The Health District recently went through a security assessment. The final report was distributed to the Board.

A. WIC

The Diaper Dash was held again at the Geauga County Fair. There were 34 dashers this year and the winner of each heat received a \$50.00 savings bond from the Geauga Credit Union.

Mrs. Scherer reported that the WIC caseload has increased recently. It is believed that this increase is due to the recent increase in foreclosures and the increase in the cost of milk and cereal.

B. Health Education

Mrs. Scherer stated that she has issued two warning letters regarding smoking complaints, but no one has been fined. She stated that most of the complaints are not real violations, but just people complaining who do not know the full extend of the law.

VII. Administrative Hearings

A. Timothy Smith

Timothy Smith was not present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Benenati and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Timothy Smith located at 15009 Hemlock Point, Russell Twp. This case is in regards to the following sections of the Geauga County Health District Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations:

Section 3701-29-02(G)(3)(a & b) states: "Sewage effluent quality as measured at the point of discharge in the system shall comply with current effluent standards established by the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. In the event there are no applicable standards established by the Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, the following standards shall apply: (a) Biochemical oxygen demand (five-day)- The arithmetic mean of two or more effluent samples taken at intervals of not less than twenty-four hours shall not exceed twenty milligrams per liter; (b) Suspended solids- The arithmetic mean of two or

more effluent samples taken at intervals of not less than twenty-four hours shall not exceed forty milligrams per liter.” Discussion followed.

Dr. Bowers moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Timothy Smith at 15009 Hemlock Point, Russell Township. Mr. Lang seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

Mr. Lang moved that the owner be required to take steps to obtain the installation and operation permits and install a sewage treatment system within 30 days of receipt of the Board Order. Mrs. Burr seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business.

IX. Executive Session

Mr. Lang moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:16 p.m. to discuss the Health Commissioner’s 2006 evaluation and pending litigation. Mrs. Burr 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 9:40 p.m.

X. New Business

Mr. Lang moved 9.07-1 to approve the payment to the State Auditor in the amount of \$3,296.48 for service from July 23, 2007 through August 18, 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.

Dr. Bowers moved 9.07-2 to approve the CRI funds transfer in the amount of \$1,800.00 from equipment to supplies. 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.

Ms. Eppich moved 9.07-3 to approve the 1st reading of the proposed change to the For Sale of Property Off-lot Evaluation fee from \$250.00 to \$300.00. 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 9.07-4 to approve the 1st reading of the proposed Sewage Installer testing fee in the amount of \$40.00. 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 9.07-5 to approve the purchase of a vehicle with Food Service funds in an amount not to exceed \$15,000.00. 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 9.07-6 to appropriate \$15,000.00 in Food Service funds for the purchase of a vehicle. 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.

XI. Other Business

Mr. Weisdack reported on the booth that the Health District had at the 2007 Geauga County Fair. There were not as many inquiries as has been in past years. Attendance at the booth was down. Mr. Weisdack stated that a decision would need to be made by February 2008 as to whether we will have the booth at the fair again.

Previously, the State had indicated that money would be given to the local health districts to secure the Vital Statistics offices. The Governor line item vetoed the extra funding that would have been used for the security. There has been discussion at the State level that some of the smaller Vital Stats offices would be closed and those records transferred to a neighboring county. Discussion on this issue is expected to take place after the first of the year at the State level.

XII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Monday, October 15, 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, **Mr. Lang moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 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

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