

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
September 18, 2006, 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 Pro-Tempore, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:05 p.m., and stated the meeting was being held to conduct the regular business of the Board.

Board members present: Mr. J. David Benenati, Dr. Donald Bowers, and Mrs. Nan Burr. Mr. Richard Lang arrived at the beginning of the EH report. Ms. Melanie Eppich was not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; Peggy Scherer, PHS Director; Michael Tusick, R.S.; and Alta Kress, Secretary Supervisor.

Others present: Ten others were 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 21, 2006 meeting be approved. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

IV. Financial Report/Current Expenses

The Board members reviewed the August financial report for all funds. **Mrs. Burr moved to approve the Current Expenses August 15, 2006 to September 12, 2006. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.**

V. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that he recently had a discussion with Robert Phillips, Geauga County Engineer regarding the Phase II Stormwater Program. Many different tributaries have been identified. Samples will be taken sometime in 2007 from 18 of them which were found to be wet. These wet outfalls may lead to some homes with failing sewage systems. If this is the case, this will require a large scale investigation. An additional sanitarian may need to be added to the current staffing to handle these investigations.

A. Sewage Rules Update/Discussion

Mr. Weisdack reported there have been no additional changes made to the sewage regulations, although there may be some in the future. We received information from the State clarifying the dates in which systems that have approval prior to January 1, 2007 may be

installed. On-lot systems that have approval prior to January 1, 2007 will have until January 1, 2010 to install.

Off-lot systems that have permits issued in 2006 must have the system installed before the permit expires in 2007. If the system is not installed, the permit will not be renewed under the old rules and will have to comply to the new rules and obtain an NPDES permit from the OEPA.

State Representative Matt Dolan has asked ODH to come to a public meeting that will be held September 27, 2006 at 7:00 pm at Chardon Middle School. This meeting will be held to discuss the new sewage regulations.

B. Guide to On-Site Wastewater Treatment Resources Video

We have received a video for local boards of health to view to aid them in learning about sewage disposal systems. The Board will each view the video at their leisure.

C. Sanitary Sewer Policy

Mr. Weisdack reported that there are several areas in the county that may be getting sanitary sewers. Discussion ensued on how to handle homes in these areas regarding nuisance complaints and For Sale of Property inspections. The Board asked Mr. Weisdack and Mr. Tusick to come up with a decision tree, based on a timeline and set of assumptions to make a decision on these homes.

VI. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Scherer reported that during the last power outage, the control box for the large satellite dish was damaged. The satellite company will be sending it away to get it repaired. Until it is repaired, we will not have access to the educational satellite broadcasts.

The vaccine refrigerator and freezer are both experiencing problems. The freezer has had some repairs made to it to get by, but it is not a permanent fix. Mrs. Scherer stated that they will be researching where to purchase another refrigerator and freezer that will fit the needs to keep the vaccine.

A nurse has been hired. She will serve as Public Information Officer/Staff Development/Public Health Nurse. Her name is Donna Carter and she will be working closely with Kathy Durchik.

Mrs. Scherer reported that the PHS staff is planning large flu clinics for the fall. There should be plenty of flu vaccine.

A. WIC

The Farmer's Market Nutrition program is over for the year. It was very successful this year. Although not all counties participate in the program, it is well accepted in Geauga.

B. Health Education

Peggy Herman will be meeting with representatives from the county regarding childhood obesity. They are looking to develop a taskforce and eventually expand the program to family fitness.

Mrs. Scherer, Alicia Bright and Mindy White recently underwent training to become certified to install car seats. They will now be able to perform safety seat checks for clients.

The theme for this year's fair booth was Pandemic Flu and being prepared for emergencies. The booth was well attended. A Newbury Township resident won the door prize which was a safety pack.

VII. Variances

A. Alan Masterangelo/David Cooper

Alan Masterangelo/David Cooper were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Alan Masterangelo in behalf of David Cooper for the existing property located at 12202 Norton Dr, Chester Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which pertains to off-lot discharge. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed. This variance was tabled from the August 2006 Board of Health meeting.

Mr. Cooper stated that he still wanted to discharge to the swale at the back of the property to save the trees. Discussion ensued regarding the fact that the line could be run under Mr. Cooper's driveway to the road ditch with minimal tree removal.

Dr. Bowers moved to approve the variance as requested. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion failed with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, no; Mr. Benenati, no; Dr. Bowers, no; and Mrs. Burr, no.

B. Father & Son Septic/Brian Dudich

Shawn Powers and Brian Dudich were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Father & Son Septic in behalf of Brian Dudich for the existing property located at 10486 Mayfield Rd., Munson Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which pertains to off-lot discharge. (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. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

C. Auburn Bainbridge Exc./Barb Rooney

Lewis Tomsic, Jr. and Tom and Barb Rooney were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Auburn Bainbridge Exc. in behalf of Barb Rooney for the existing property located at 7520 Muirwood Ct., Bainbridge Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which pertains to off-lot discharge. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

Mr. Tomsic indicated that the Rooney's are doing a voluntary upgrade and want to discharge to the ravine at the back of the lot instead of the road ditch to save some trees.

Mr. Benenati moved to approve the variance as requested. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, no; Mr. Benenati, no; Dr. Bowers, no; and Mrs. Burr, no.

D. Thomas Steigerwald/Mark Wagner

Thomas Steigerwald was present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Thomas Steigerwald in behalf of Mark Wagner for the existing property located at 7324 Johnston St., Russell Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which pertains to off-lot discharge. (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. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

E. Sitework Developing/Chester Zavarella

Chester Zavarella was present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Sitework Developing in behalf of Chester Zavarella for the existing property located at 15955 Messenger Rd., Auburn Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(G) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which pertains to off-lot discharge. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case) Discussion followed.

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

VIII. Old Business

A. Revision to Section F of the Geauga County Health District Personnel Policy

Dr. Bowers moved 9.06-1 to adopt the changes made by the Prosecutor's office to Section F of the Geauga County Health District Personnel Policy. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

IX. Executive Session

Mrs. Burr moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 9:42 p.m. to discuss the Health Commissioner's evaluation and pending litigation. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes. Meeting reconvened at 10:25 p.m. Mr. Lang stated no action would come as a result of Executive Session.

X. New Business

Mr. Benenati moved 9.06-2 to approve the purchase of a vehicle in an amount not to exceed \$21,000.00. Mrs. Burr seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved 9.06-3 to approve the donation to the Geauga County Humane Society in the amount of \$2,000.00. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 9.06-4 to approve the 1st reading of the change to section 3701-29-01(H) of the Geauga County Health District Sewage Regulations as presented. After the 3rd reading, the prior version of this regulation will be rescinded. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

Mr. Benenati moved 9.06-5 to approve the purchase of a refrigerator to store vaccine in an amount not to exceed \$3,000.00. Mrs. Burr seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved 9.06-6 to approve the transfer of \$4,000.00 from Supplies to Equipment in the PHI/Pandemic Preparedness funds. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

Dr. Bowers moved 9.06-7 to approve the purchase of a mail machine in an amount not to exceed \$2,334.00. Mrs. Burr seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

Mr. Benenati moved 9.06-8 to approve the transfer of \$12,000.00 from Equipment to Equipment/Maintenance in Board of Health. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

Mrs. Burr moved to acknowledge the hiring of Donna Carter, RN as PHN/Public Information Officer/Staff Training Coordinator at a starting salary of \$18.25/ hr. effective October 2, 2006. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mr. Benenati, yes; Dr. Bowers, yes; and Mrs. Burr, yes.

XI. Meetings

A Personnel Workshop will be held Thursday, October 5, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. in the Health Commissioner's office.

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Monday, October 16, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., in the meeting room at 470 Center Street, Building 8, in Chardon, Ohio.

The regular meeting of the Board for November has been changed to November 13, 2006 at 7:00 p.m., in the Atrium outside the Environmental Health office at 470 Center St., Building 8, in Chardon, Ohio.

XII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Mr. Benenati moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 p.m. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Weisdack, RS, MA, MPH
Secretary of the Board

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