

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
September 19, 2005, 7:00 p.m.
Geauga County Health District Office
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

I. Call to Order

Mr. Richard Lang, President, 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. Richard Lang, Mrs. Nan Burr, and Ms. Melanie Eppich. Mr. J. David Benenati arrived at 7:10 before the first variance. Dr. Donald Bowers arrived at 7:40 p.m. before variance (E).

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; Peggy Scherer, Personal Health Services Director; Michael Tusick, R.S.; Sandra Gerzeny, Registrar/Fiscal Coordinator; and Alta Kress, Secretary Supervisor.

Others present: Sixteen others were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Burr moved that the minutes from the August 16, 2005 meeting be approved. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, 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 10, 2005 to September 13, 2005. Ms. Eppich seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, yes; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.**

V. Variances

A. Auburn Bainbridge/Danielle Hope

Lewis Tomsic Jr. and Danielle Hope 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 Auburn Bainbridge Exc. in behalf of Danielle Hope for the vacant property located at 16096 Center St., Parkman 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)

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

B. I.C.S. Construction/William Martin

Frank Slapnicker of I.C.S. Construction and William Martin were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Lang.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by I.C.S. Construction in behalf of William Martin for the existing property located at 13460 Shady Ln., 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)

Mrs. Burr 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; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

C. Patti Lombardi/Art Grossman

Patti Lombardi and Art Grossman were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Lang.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Patti Lombardi in behalf of Art Grossman for the vacant property located at 11664 Chestnutdale Rd., Munson Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-02(H)(I) of the Geauga County Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations which requires a replacement area for the sewage system. (Written background information was provided to the Board for consideration in this case)

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

D. Guy Darone/Annie Tvergyak

Guy Darone, Nick Darone and Annie Tvergyak-Darone were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again by Mr. Lang.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Guy Darone in behalf of Annie Tvergyak for the existing property located at 11810 Clark Rd., Chardon 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)

Mrs. Burr 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; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

E. Michael Wilmot

Michael Wilmot was present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was also sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Michael Wilmot for the vacant property located at 13360 Hickory St., 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)

Mr. Benenati 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; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

F. Richard Godfrey

Richard and Nadine Godfrey were present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was also sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Richard Godfrey for the existing property located at 7676 Cope Dr., 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)

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; Mrs. Burr, yes; and Ms. Eppich, yes.

G. Shiloh Tool/Janet Sonpal

Shiloh Tool nor Janet Sonpal were present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Shiloh Tool in behalf of Janet Sonpal for the existing property located at 8990 E. Washington St., Bainbridge 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)

Mrs. Burr moved to approve the variance as requested. Ms. Eppich 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.

H. Wayne Erickson

Wayne Erickson was present and sworn in by Mr. Lang. Mr. Tusick was sworn in again.

Mr. Tusick stated that this was a variance request by Wayne Erickson for the existing property located at 14502 Aldersyde Dr., Burton 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)

Mrs. Burr moved to approve the variance with the stipulation that the 50' isolation distance is maintained from the neighbor's well from any part of the sewage system. Mr. Benenati 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.

VI. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that the number of installation permits has been increasing. Some of these permits are for upgrades due to the failure of a For Sale of Property evaluation. Another reason may be that people are upgrading before the new sewage rules go into effect.

Mr. Weisdack told the Board that the staff would be testing the effluent from systems using UV light instead of chlorination. There are a few off-lot discharges using UV lights at this time

A. Rabies Update

Mr. Weisdack reported that Geauga County has 12 cases of rabies. Bait was recently dropped from planes. The staff helped in hand baiting areas that could not be covered by the air.

VII. Personal Health Services Update

Mrs. Scherer reported that the public health nurses recently participated in a regional bioterrorism drill. This drill offered the chance to find strengths and weaknesses. The focus of the drill was communication.

The rate of pertusis is increasing in children. Adults may be spreading the disease. Mrs. Scherer reported that the Health District will be stocking a newly developed vaccine for pertusis. The cost is over \$30 per dose.

CDC has stated that they want the meningitis vaccine given to children of the ages 11, 12, 15, and ingoing college freshmen. The vaccine we receive from ODH will only be given to those without insurance or on Medicaid.

ODH has asked the local health departments for support in the Gulf Relief effort. Discussion ensured as to whether the Health District could spare any people at this current time. We are already short one sanitarian and one nurse.

Flu clinics have been scheduled. The vaccine will be given only to high-risk individuals.

Currently, the public health nurses act as "school nurses" for the Amish schools. To help the teachers, Judy Louden compiled a folder of information to help them.

Mrs. Scherer presented the Board with an amendment to the Health District's TB policy. The plan would include covering blood testing, x-rays, and medication for people with TB.

A. WIC

Mrs. Scherer reported the Diaper Dash was a great success. Bill Repke, former County Commissioner, was the announcer for the event. Babies 'R Us provided gifts and has indicated that they would like to co-sponsor the event next year.

B. Health Education Programs

Peggy Herman, Nutritional Services Supervisor, provided an education presentation on the importance of eating breakfast to Waste Management Company. She did a great job and was well received.

VIII. Old Business

There was no old business.

IX. Executive Session

Mrs. Burr moved to adjourn to Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. to discuss personnel. Dr. Bowers 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. Meeting reconvened at 9:53 p.m. Mr. Lang stated that no action would be taken based on the discussion in Executive Session.

X. New Business

Mr. Weisdack reported that the Health District recently had a financial audit. There were no infractions or violations found against the Health District.

SB115 which pertains to subdivisions, passed and will be come effective September 30, 2005. This bill requires the Health District to sign off on all lots before the Planning Commission.

The IRS has increased the mileage reimbursement amount from \$.405 to \$.485. This rate became effective September 1, 2005 and will continue through December 31, 2005. Mr. Weisdack stated that we would be adjusting to that rate for employees who use their own vehicles for work.

Mrs. Burr moved 9.05-1 to approve the transfer of WIC GY2005 funds from the contract line item to supplies in the amount of \$276.00. Dr. Bowers 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. Benenati moved 9.05-2 to approve the administration of ADACEL vaccine to adults (age 19 to 64), pending signed protocol from the Medical Director. Ms. Eppich 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. Benenati moved 9.05-3 to approve the updated TB control policy as presented, pending approval of Medical Director. 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.

Dr. Bowers moved 9.05-4 to allow Health District staff to participate in Gulf Coast Relief efforts, through ODH assignment. Mr. Benenati seconded the motion. Mrs. Scherer told the Board that the staff would be assigned to public health positions. They would continue to receive pay from the Health District, but the Health District would be reimbursed for their salaries by the Federal Government. Workman's Comp, liability insurance, travel and per-dium would be paid by the Feds. Any volunteers from the Health District would not be allowed to provide gulf relief until after December 2005. They would be allowed to go 1 at a time at 2 week intervals. Mr. Lang, voted no; Mr. Benenati, no; Dr. Bowers, no; Mrs. Burr, no; and Ms. Eppich, no. Motion failed.

Due to the fact that there is a staff shortage, **Mr. Benenati moved to amend motion 9.05-4 to read "to allow Health District staff to participate in Gulf Coast Relief efforts, through ODH assignment, within the next 120 days. Dr. Bowers seconded the motion. Motion failed with a roll call vote. Mr. Lang, no; Mr. Benenati, no; Dr. Bowers, no; Mrs. Burr, no; and Ms. Eppich, no.**

Dr. Bowers moved 9.05-6 to approve the payment of the fuel bill (Burton Lumber) in the amount of \$1,408.36. Ms. Eppich 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.

Mrs. Gerzeny gave the Board a brief overview of the changes to health care coverage for the staff. Basically, health care will cost more money and will provide less service. Aetna is the current provider and bid 40% over what we currently pay. Medical Mutual also bid and was considerably lower, coming in at 24% less than current prices. Medical Mutual will not cover UHHS Hospital in Cleveland, but will cover the local UHHS hospitals. Cleveland Clinic will be covered as well.

Mrs. Gerzeny reminded the Board that a 20% increase for health care was built into the 2006 budget. She told the Board that there hasn't been any word on what the County Commissioners are planning on contributing, if any. She stated that the Board would have to make a decision at the October 2005 Board meeting.

Mrs. Burr moved 9.05-5 to approve the payment to the State Auditor in the amount of \$4,477.72. Mr. Benenati 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.

XI. Other Business

Mr. Weisdack informed the Board that he would be out of the office October 4 through October 7, 2005 for the Fall AOHC Conference in Columbus.

The Geauga County Commissioners have voted to close the county offices at noon on December 23, 2005. Due to our dependency on the switchboard, the Health District will also have to close at noon that day.

XII. Meetings

The regular meeting of the Board will be held Tuesday, October 18, 2005 at 7:00 p.m., in the meeting room at 470 Center Street, Building 8, in Chardon, Ohio.

The regular meeting for November will be held November 14, 2004 instead of November 21, 2005.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Dr. Bowers moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 p.m. Mrs. Burr 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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