

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2015, 7:00 p.m.
Geauga County Health District Office
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

I. Call to Order

Mr. Goergen, President, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. Timothy Goergen, President, Mrs. Christina Livers, Pro-Tempore, Mr. David Gragg and Dr. Denis Rubal were present. Mr. J. David Benenati was not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner; Mike Tusick, Registered Sanitarian, Frank Varga, Sanitarian-in-Training, Eric Robb, Registered Sanitarian, David Sage, Registered Sanitarian, Herb Shubick, Registered Sanitarian and Alta Wendell, Administrative Assistant.

Others present: Twenty-eight other people were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Dr. Janet O'Hara

The Board presented Dr. O'Hara with a plaque and resolution 2015-2 honoring her service to the Board and the residents of Geauga County. Dr. O'Hara expressed her sadness at having to leave her position with the Board before her term was up.

IV. Re-appointment of Dr. Rubal

At the HDAC meeting in March, Dr. Rubal was re-appointed to the Board of Health. The Board welcomed him back.

V. Election of President and Pro-Tempore

Mrs. Livers moved to nominate Mr. Goergen as President. Dr. Rubal seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, abstain; Mrs. Livers, yes; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

Mr. Gragg moved to nominate Mrs. Livers as Pro-Tempore. Mr. Goergen seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, abstain; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

VI. Appointment of Committee Members

Dr. Rubal moved to table the appointment of committee members until such time they are needed. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Christina Livers stated that when the time comes, she would like to remain on the Personnel committee. **Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.**

VII. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the minutes for the March 16, 2015 Board of Health meeting. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Mr. Gragg, yes and Dr. Rubal, yes.

VIII. Current Expenses/Financial Report

Dr. Rubal moved to approve the Current Expenses and Financial Reports, March 13, 2015 to April 9, 2015. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

IX Geauga County Realtors For Sale of Property Discussion

Over 20 realtors from area agencies attended. There were many questions regarding the new sewage rules and how they would affect their clients. Mr. Goergen asked Mr. Weisdack to put together a "symposium" for the realtors to explain the sewage rules.

Several realtors addressed the Board individually to state their concerns. These concerns ranged from not being able to get an inspection because of inclement weather and vacant homes to the amount of time it takes to get the report after an inspection is completed. Included was the amount of failing systems that have been found upon inspection.

It was suggested by the realtors that all sewage treatment systems in Geauga County be inspected, not just at point of sale. They also suggested that the health district put the inspections back in the hands of private inspectors.

They also would like the health district to educate the homeowners on the care of their system.

Mr. Weisdack stated he would take these concerns under advisement and see what he could do to address these situations.

The Board took a short break at 8:15 p.m. and reconvened at 8:25 p.m.

X. Administrative Hearings

a. David and Terry Mitchell

David and Terry Mitchell were not present. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by David & Terry Mitchell, 112 Paw Paw Lake Dr., S. Russell Village. This case is based on the following sections of the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Administrative Code sections 3701-29 - Sewage Treatment System Rules:

- 3701-29-06 (E) "A STS or GWRS shall comply with the following performance requirements and prohibitions:"
 - (E) (3) "No STS or GWRS or part thereof shall create a public health nuisance, as defined in section 3718.011 of the Revised Code, or safety hazard. No STS or GWRS or part thereof shall cause an exceedance of water quality standards for surface water or drinking water."

This case also pertains to Section 3718.011 of the Ohio Revised Code-Conditions under which a sewage treatment system causes a public health nuisance:

- 3718.011 (A) For purposes of this chapter, a sewage treatment system is causing a public health nuisance if any of the following situations occurs and, after notice by a board of health to the applicable property owner, timely repairs are not made to that system to eliminate the situation:
 - (A) (3) An inspection conducted by, or under the supervision of the environmental protection agency or a sanitarian registered under Chapter 4736 of the Revised Code documents that there is ponding of liquid or bleeding of liquid onto the surface of the ground or into surface water and the liquid has a distinct sewage odor, a black or gray coloration, or the presence of organic matter and any of the following:
 - (A) (3)(b) The presence of fecal coliform at a level that is equal to or greater than five thousand colonies per one hundred milliliters of liquid as determined in two or more samples of the liquid when five or fewer samples are collected or in more than twenty percent of the samples when more than five samples of the liquid were collected. This case was tabled from the January and February meeting. Discussion followed.

The Board tabled the case to give the owners time to formulate a plan to install the new system. They were also instructed to pump the septic tanks. Nothing has been done.

Mr. Gragg moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by David & Terry Mitchell, 112 Paw Paw Lake Dr., S. Russell Village. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved that the owners be required to install a new sewage disposal system within 30 days of receipt of Board order. Failure to follow this order will result in referral to the Prosecutor's office for legal action. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

- b. Dawn Howell, Jonathan Knight, Middlefield Milk, LLC, Ted Benedict, Jerry Rose, Redean Sheppard, Norman Miller, Peter Olley, and Bernard Vukovic

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

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the properties owned by Dawn Howell, 10474 Auburn Rd., Chardon Twp., Jonathan Knight, 16384 Burrows Rd., Thompson Twp., Middlefield Milk, LLC, 12665 Claridon Troy Rd., Claridon Twp., Ted Benedict, 7133 Deepwood Dr., Russell Twp., Jerry Rose, 17400 Mayfield Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Jerry Rose, 17424 Mayfield Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Redean Sheppard, 10810 Music St., Newbury Twp., Norman Miller, 16743 Nauvoo Rd., Middlefield Twp., Peter Olley, 8571 Ravenna Rd., Chardon Twp., and Bernard Vukovic, 10036 Wilson Mills Rd., Munson Twp.

Section 3701-29-25(A) of the Geauga County Health District Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations states, "An evaluation of a residential sewage system must be completed at time of transfer of ownership of any parcel with said system. The evaluation shall be conducted by a member of the Health District and if necessary corrective action(s) required shall be accomplished within the time period(s) directed." Discussion followed.

Mr. Gragg moved that a code violation exists on the properties owned by Dawn Howell, 10474 Auburn Rd., Chardon Twp., Jonathan Knight, 16384 Burrows Rd., Thompson Twp., Middlefield Milk, LLC, 12665 Claridon Troy Rd., Claridon Twp., Ted Benedict, 7133 Deepwood Dr., Russell Twp., Jerry Rose, 17400 Mayfield Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Jerry Rose, 17424 Mayfield Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Redean Sheppard, 10810 Music St., Newbury Twp., Norman Miller, 16743 Nauvoo Rd., Middlefield Twp., Peter Olley, 8571 Ravenna Rd., Chardon Twp., and Bernard Vukovic, 10036 Wilson Mills Rd., Munson Twp. Dr. Rubal seconded the motion.

Ted Benedict announced that he was present. He indicated that he was already working on getting soils done and it was his intentions to install a new system this summer.

Mrs. Livers moved to remove Ted Benedict from the Findings motion because he is already in the process of complying. Dr. Rubal seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved that Dawn Howell, 10474 Auburn Rd., Chardon Twp., Jonathan Knight, 16384 Burrows Rd., Thompson Twp., Middlefield Milk, LLC, 12665 Claridon Troy Rd., Claridon Twp., Jerry Rose, 17400 Mayfield Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Jerry Rose, 17424 Mayfield Rd., Huntsburg Twp., Redean Sheppard, 10810 Music St., Newbury Twp., Norman Miller, 16743 Nauvoo Rd., Middlefield Twp., Peter Olley, 8571 Ravenna Rd., Chardon Twp., and Bernard Vukovic, 10036 Wilson Mills Rd., Munson Twp. be required to make application, pay for, schedule, and complete a For Sale of Property evaluation and/or obtain the necessary permits and install a new sewage disposal system within 30 days of receipt of Board order. Failure to follow this order will result in referral to the Prosecutor's office for legal action. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

XI. Environmental Health Program Update

- a. Sewage Rules Update

Mr. Weisdack will be meeting with some of the health commissioners to discuss the timeline for the shareholders. Mr. Weisdack will be looking at SB118 to assist with getting support for this bill.

- b. General Information

There has been a report of a suspected rabid animal in Trumbull County. However, the specimen is only suspect and has not been tested.

- c. O&M Program

Mr. Weisdack reviewed a draft plan for the operation and maintenance portion of the sewage rules. He discussed the different types of systems installed throughout Geauga County and how the timeline of mandatory inspections would be implemented. This timeline and inspection program would be discussed and decided on by the Board and a group of interested stakeholders that are appointed.

Some of the systems are already getting inspections, either by the health district or by service providers. Inspections by service providers would be acceptable in lieu of a health district inspection. Mr. Goergen expressed that the data management of this project would be enormous. He provided a couple ideas. Mr. Weisdack asked him to put it in writing so he can review it.

Mr. Weisdack also discussed educating homeowners about their septic systems. He explained to the Board that he would like to develop short videos that would be posted on our website. The videos would explain the different components and types of systems and how to care for them. Mr. Weisdack's ideal proposal would be to provide owners with a laminated copy of their site plan, which would be posted in the basement of the home. He also would like to have a sanitarian meet with new owners to explain their system and the proper care.

The Board expressed their concern about the amount of time that Mr. Weisdack would have to spend developing this educational video. Mr. Weisdack stated he has been unable to find an outside source to do it. He will continue to try other avenues.

Mr. Gragg left the meeting at 9:30 pm.

XII. Personal Health Services Update

Mr. Weisdack gave the PHS update due to Mr. Mix's absence.

Gauga County recently was ranked third and fourth in the state for healthy counties by the Robert Wood Johnson report. The criteria for ranking the counties were changed which is the reason for the change in the ranking.

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The staff attended several meetings recently including a full-scale exercise meeting at Hospice for the Western Reserve, the Regional EPI Meeting, the Ebola Workgroup and Metropolitan Medical Response System meeting.

This year's full-scale exercise will take place July 21, 2015 in Cleveland at a site to be determined. The staff completed and submitted the required RAND Drills and jurisdictional data sheets to the Ohio Department of Health per grant requirements.

b. Disease Surveillance

There are still a few lingering reports of influenza activity as indicated in reports from schools and physician offices. Staff attended the ODH TB Days workshop in Columbus. Mary Ann Marsh has taken over the in-house TB clinic with Dr. Moritz on behalf of the County Commissioners.

The staff has been working with an epidemiology graduate from Case Western Reserve University to simplify our monthly communicable disease reporting.

The 21-day monitoring of a traveler recently in Sierra Leone is completed.

c. Nursing Services

During the month of March, the nursing staff provided two Amish Well Child Clinics, five children and adolescent immunization clinics, four Friday Morning Adult clinics, and four Senior Center clinics. Included were physician visits for 92 seniors at the Department on Aging, 24 children at the well child clinics, 321 vaccinations given to 101 children, 39 adult immunizations, 7 flu shots, 17 TB tests and 1 blood pressure screening. The nurses also provided 37 vision screenings that resulted in referrals for glasses for 50 children. There were three maternal/ newborn visits and two BCMH home visits. The nurses conducted 23 parochial school visits. Twenty-five communicable disease investigations were conducted.

The Board was asked to approve an agreement with the Geauga County Job and Family Services to provide well child screenings for foster children.

d. WIC

The WIC caseload for March was 726. This is a 1% decrease since February.

Peggy Herman will be attending a Healthy Homes conference on behalf of the health district to gather information on environmental health concerns within the home environment.

e. Administration

There was nothing reported.

f. Accreditation

The Partnership for a Healthy GEAUGA held its second report-back meeting to discuss progress on action steps that were identified. A presentation was given by United Way 211, which clarified several questions.

The Geauga Transit director also held a meeting for the committee to clarify the challenges for a rural transit system and the limitations of the system. A committee will conduct an assessment of transit systems in Geauga.

XIII. Old Business

a. HDAC Meeting

Ken Radke, HDAC President and Erwin Leffel, HDAC Secretary were present and introduced. Mr. Leffel explained how the HDAC is organized. Jim Dvorak, President of the Geauga County Township Association was also present and introduced.

XIV. New Business

Mrs. Livers moved 4.15-a to approve the purchase of five (5) -manhole lifter dollies and accessories not to exceed \$6,000.00. Dr. Rubal seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 4.15-b to approve the increase of the maximum salary range for Sanitarian 3 from \$24.15 to \$26.15 per hour; Public Health Nurse 3 from \$24.15 to \$26.15 per hour and Nutritionist/Dietitian from \$22.00 to \$24.00 per hour. Dr. Rubal seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

Dr. Rubal moved 4.15-c to approve the agreement with Geauga County Job and Family Services to provide well child screenings for foster children at \$40.00 each. Mrs. Livers seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 4.15-d to approve the development of an O&M Committee which will include the Board of Health and 10 other interested stakeholders as per section 3701-29-19 (A) (2) of the Sewage Treatment System Rules as prescribed by the Ohio Department of Health. Dr. Rubal seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

The Board tabled the motion to appoint individuals to the O&M Committee. Mrs. Livers stated that more thought needs to be given to who will be on the committee. The Board needs to consider constituency, geographic area and business professionals. Mrs. Livers asked Mr. Weisdack to provide a list to the Board before the next meeting.

XV. Other Business

There was no other business.

XVI. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, Thursday, May 21, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the meeting room at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

XVII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Mrs. Livers moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:40 pm. Dr. Rubal seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Robert K. Weisdack, R.S., M.A., M.P.H.
Secretary of the Board

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