

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
June 23, 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; Dr. Bradley Moritz, Medical Director; and Dan Mix, Personal Health Services Director

Others present: Thirty-three other people were present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the minutes for the April 13, 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.

IV. Current Expenses/Financial Report

Mr. Gragg moved to approve the Current Expenses and Financial Reports, April 10, 2015 to May 14, 2015 and May 15, 2015 to June 18, 2015. Dr. Rubal seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

V. Administrative Hearings

a. Scott & Tara Webster and Matias Nagy

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

Mr. Weisdack stated that this is an alleged code violation to the properties owned by Scott & Tara Webster, 9145 Old State Rd., Hambden Twp. and Matias Nagy, 12874 Westchester Tr., Chester 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.

Mrs. Livers moved that a code violation exists on the properties owned by Scott & Tara Webster, 9145 Old State Rd., Hambden Twp. and Mathias Nagy, 12874 Westchester Tr., Chester Twp. 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 that Scott & Tara Webster, 9145 Old State Rd., Hambden Twp. and Mathias Nagy, 12874 Westchester Tr., Chester 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 Dr. Rubal, yes.

VI. Environmental Health Program Update

a. Sewage Rules

Mr. Weisdack stated that HB64 has passed the house and is going to the Senate for consideration. This bill is quite involved. It allows the property owner with a functioning septic system to forego connecting to sanitary sewers provided they meet all the requirements.

b. Sewage Survey

We have received a sewage survey from ODH recently. This went out to all the local health districts. The survey asked many questions, one of which was whether we had already developed an O&M Committee of interested shareholders. This is being addressed in Old Business.

c. New Equipment

Mr. Weisdack demonstrated the new septic tank lid lifter that was purchased for all the sanitarians doing sewage inspections. He stated that there are some instances when this equipment will not work. It is anticipated that this will help the staff avoid injuries to their backs.

d. General Information

There are two positive rabies cases in the state. They were located in Trumbull and Mahoning counties.

An after-hours call test was conducted recently by ODH as part of the PHEP grant. Mr. Weisdack was contacted, who in turn, contacted Dr. Moritz. The calls must be returned within 1 hour. The Geauga County Health District passed the call test.

PHAB is considering changing the requirements to be accredited for health districts with less than 50,000 population. This will reduce the requirements for the smaller health districts.

The Ohio Department of Health did not pass their accreditation process.

Mr. Weisdack reported that contrary to what was said by realtors at the last meeting, Trumbull County Health Department does not inspect vacant homes at point of sale. They look at the components, but do not provide a complete report.

Mr. Weisdack addressed the realtors regarding a concept he has been considering which will allow the inspection of vacant homes with on-lot sewage disposal systems. He stated that the evaluation of system is based on hydraulics. This proposal is based on that primary principle.

Mr. Weisdack explained this concept of how the test would be administered and how the inspectors would check for tap-off lines. He also explained the difference between a failing system and a system that is malfunctioning.

The realtors indicated that this concept would not be applicable to all properties. They said that most homes are FHA and VA buyers and cannot finance a home without a septic inspection. They indicated that the timeline is too long. House sales fall through because of the timeline.

Mr. Goergen stated that perhaps a "task force" should be developed to address the realtors concerns. Mrs. Livers recommended a workshop with some representatives from the realtors. Mrs. Livers stated she would take the lead on this issue.

VII. Personal Health Services Update

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The Ebola planning cycle has begun. This involves meeting with regional partners to develop plans. This plan will be completed over the next 18 months.

The Geauga County Health District will be participating in Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) training in July. This training will be used to learn the procedures for putting on and removing PPE when dealing with contagious diseases. These procedures will be included in Geauga's Ebola plan.

Mr. Mix reported that the staff participated in the UH Geauga Medical Center exercise during which the hospital set up a negative pressure wing for patients with a highly contagious disease.

A full-scale exercise will take place in July in which some of the staff will participate.

The staff continue to meet to develop a Geauga County Functional Needs Plan. This is how the agencies interact with each other for different plans

b. Disease Surveillance

The disease count for April was 29. Ten of those cases were Chlamydia, 6 were Influenza-hospitalized, 2 Hepatitis C and 2 Campylobacter. We have had one confirmed case of mumps. There was one death in the county with suspected Creutzfeldt-Jakob (Mad Cow Disease).

The disease count for May was 28. Nine of those cases were Chlamydia, 2 Influenza-hospitalized, 10 Hepatitis, 2 Campylobacter, 2 Varicella, 1 salmonella, and 1 mumps.

c. Nursing Services

During the month of April, the nursing staff provided 2 Amish Well Child Clinics, 6 children and adolescent immunization clinics, 4 Friday Morning Adult clinics, and 4 Senior Center clinics. Included were physician visits for 77 seniors at the Department on Aging, 33 children at the well child clinics, 330 vaccinations given to 91 children, 15 adult immunizations, 2 flu shots, 7 TB tests and 3 blood pressure screenings. The nurses also provided 26 vision screenings that resulted in referrals for glasses for 31 children. There were 5 maternal/ newborn visits and 12 BCMH home visits. The nurses conducted 2 parochial school visits. Twenty-nine communicable disease investigations were conducted. Dr. Moritz held one TB screening clinic.

During the month of May, the nursing staff provided 2 Amish Well Child Clinics, 5 children and adolescent immunization clinics, 4 Friday Morning Adult clinics, and 3 Senior Center clinics. Included were physician visits for 10 seniors at the Department on Aging, 27 children at the well child clinics, 318 vaccinations given to 90 children, 18 adult immunizations, 8 TB tests and 60 blood pressure screenings. The nurses also provided vision screenings that resulted in referrals for glasses for 33 children. There were 5 maternal/ newborn visits and 2 BCMH home visits. The nurses conducted 2 parochial school visits. Twenty-eight communicable disease investigations were conducted.

The nurses held the school nurse consortium which included all school nurses and 44 parochial schools in Geauga County. The consortium provided updates on immunization and other emerging issues to the school nurses.

Darla Andrews, Nursing Director attended the National Amish Health Care Conference to obtain information on Amish culture and health issues.

d. WIC

The WIC caseload for April was 735, a 1% increase from March. The caseload for May was 739, a 0.5% increase from April.

Geauga WIC provided 8 car seats in May for infants or toddlers.

Peggy Herman attended the annual WIC coordinators conference in April. Beginning January 2016, ODH will no longer be transmitting WIC quarterly allocations in advance. The local health districts will need to complete their quarterly requirements and then submit a budget report before funding will be distributed. We expect a 4 to 4-1/2 month wait before the first payment into the grant. Mr. Mix stated that they are already planning how to handle the change in funding so that WIC can continue to operate at the beginning of 2016.

e. Administration

There was nothing reported.

f. Accreditation

The Partnership for a Healthy GEAUGA continues to hold report-back meetings to discuss progress on action steps that were identified. Many are showing progress.

For the strategy to increase access to care, UH Geauga Medical Center, the Middlefield Care Center and the Geauga County Health District collaborated to present an adult diabetes screening and educational session for Amish at the Middlefield Care Center in May. Volunteer EMTs and nurses provided blood screenings to identify any probable cases. A doctor provided an educational session for approximately an hour. More information and counseling were given on an individual basis as well.

Mr. Weisdack and Mr. Mix spoke about getting the mobile dental unit that visits the Amish community to come more frequently and to visit the schools. Dr. Rubal stated that MedWorks might be able to provide more services. He will check into that issue.

Mr. Mix stated that the project that the Geauga County Health District is working on internally to prepare for accreditation is the Performance Management System, PHAB 9.1. The committee has been formed and has already met. Mr. Mix went to training at OSU College of Public Health to learn how to shape the performance management system based off what is already being done.

Mr. Mix said that the purpose of the performance management system is to assure we are looking at data to determine areas where we are losing our money. This would include nuisance complaints and cases that go to court. We are not compensated for those required items. We would then have to make have a plan and do something about it.

VIII. Old Business

a. O&M Committee Appointments

This shareholders committee must be formed as specified in section 3701-29-19(A) (2) of the Ohio Department of Health Sewage Treatment Rules. Mr. Weisdack stated his recommendation for the committee are Frank Gliha, Auditor; Erwin Leffel, HDAC Secretary/Thompson Trustee; Richard Piraino, Realtor; Gregg Farris, Registered Sewage System Installer; and Kathryn Whitright, Geauga County Resident; to make up the operation & maintenance committee. **Mrs. Livers moved 6.15-a to approve the recommendation from the health commissioner of individuals to appoint to the O&M Committee. 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. New Business

Mr. Gragg moved 6.15-b to approve the revision of section D (4) Classification and Compensation-Overtime Compensation of the Geauga County Health District Personnel Policy from: "The time in active pay status when an employee is not actually working, such as sick leave, vacation, or personal leave, will not be considered time worked for the purpose of calculating overtime."

To: "The time in active pay status when an employee is not actually working, including sick leave, vacation, or personal leave, will not be considered time worked for the purpose of calculating overtime. Accrued compensation time is considered time worked for the purpose of calculating overtime."

Mrs. Livers moved 6.15-c to approve the request of the Geauga County Auditor to create a Food Service Equipment Line Item. 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.

Mr. Gragg moved 6.15-d to adopt Resolution 2015-3 - Food Service Appropriation revision as presented. Dr. Rubal 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 6.15-e to approve the purchase of two cars from the Food Service fund not to exceed \$40,000.00. 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.

Mr. Gragg moved 6.15-f to approve the purchase of two SUV's from the Sewage fund not to exceed \$40,000.00. Dr. Rubal 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 6.15-g to approve the salary increases for the Geauga County Health District staff as presented, effective payroll #14. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Mr. Weisdack explained that 21 employees would get \$.75 per hour increase, 4 staff members will get a \$.50 per hour increase and 3 will get no increase due to being new hires. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

Mrs. Livers moved 6.15-h to approve the Cost Allocation Plan for Grants as required by ODH for grant

compliance. 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.

Mrs. Livers moved 6.15-i to approve the contract with Christie Gigliotti from June 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015, to complete the community health improvement projects, not to exceed \$10,000.00. 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.

Mr. Gragg moved 6.15-j to acknowledge the hiring of Amanda Hill, S.I.T. at a rate of \$13.50 per hour with a \$.50 increase upon successful completion of 120-day probation period, effective June 2, 2015. Dr. Rubal seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Mrs. Livers, yes; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.

X. Other Business

a. Elephant Tuberculosis

Barb Steibling addressed the Board with her concern about Tuberculosis in elephants in traveling circuses. She had previously submitted information to Mr. Weisdack and Dr. Moritz.

Mr. Weisdack stated that the office Chief State Veterinarian from the Ohio Department of Agriculture was contacted regarding this issue. He said that any elephant coming into Ohio must have documentation that it is negative for tuberculosis. He also indicated that most circuses have a veterinarian on staff to care for all the animals.

Mr. Weisdack stated that based on what the state veterinarian has said, he feels the risk level is very low.

Ms. Steibling was also concerned about the workers being TB carriers. Dr. Moritz explained there are governmental agencies in place for the workers. Mr. Goergen stated that OSHA might be the government agency for that documentation. Mr. Goergen suggested that Ms. Steibling contact the Chief Veterinarian to see if he could provide information on who regulates the workers.

The Board thanked Ms. Steibling for coming and expressing her concerns about this topic.

XI. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, Monday, July 20, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the meeting room at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

XII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board the meeting was **adjourned at 9:33 pm**.

Respectfully submitted,

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

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