

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
March 16, 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; and Dan Mix, Personal Health Services Director.

Others present: Charise LaMarca and one other person was present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Gragg moved to approve the minutes for the February 17, 2015 Board of Health meeting. 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.

IV. Current Expenses/Financial Report

Mrs. Livers moved to approve the Current Expenses and Financial Reports, February 13, 2015 to March 12, 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

V. Administrative Hearings

a. Charise LaMarca

Charise LaMarca was present and sworn in by Mr. Goergen. Mr. Weisdack was also sworn in by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Weisdack stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Charise LaMarca located at 8340 Eaton Dr., Bainbridge Twp. This case is based on 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) (1) "Shall be maintained in proper working condition"
- (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. Discussion followed.

This case is based on a nuisance complaint that was received in 2012. Mr. Weisdack reviewed the effluent test results with the Board. The system is failing significantly.

Ms. LaMarca stated that she is experiencing financial problems and has been unable to install a new sewage system. Mr. Weisdack gave a suggestion of a temporary fix that Ms. LaMarca could do that would treat the effluent. This would give her some time to get her financial issues worked out. Mr. Weisdack stated that due to the failing system, something must be done soon.

Mrs. Livers moved that Charise LaMarca owner of the property located at 8340 Eaton Dr., Bainbridge Twp. is required to install a surface sand filter within 60 days of receipt of Board order. In addition, Ms. LaMarca is required to install a new sewage treatment system by September 1, 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.

VI. Environmental Health Program Update

Mr. Weisdack reviewed the number and types of septic permits issued so far this year. There were more permits issued during November and December than in the past. This was in anticipation of the new rules becoming effective.

a. Sewage Rules Update

The Ohio Department of Health recently sent out notifications of available grant funding for replacement of failing septic systems. However, they are primarily targeting the counties in the northwest portion of Ohio. This is in response to the recent algae blooms in Lake Erie in that area. Those counties will receive priority to receive the funding. If there are any leftover funds, other counties can apply for it.

Mr. Weisdack gave a brief overview of SB118, which is a bill introduced by Senator John Ecklund. This pertains to the sewage rules. Mr. Weisdack met with Representative Sarah LaTourette on March 12, 2015 to discuss the bill. Dr. Rubal attended. Mr. Weisdack expressed his concerns regarding the bill.

b. General Information

The HDAC meeting will be held March 24, 2015 in the meeting room and begins at 7:30 pm. Mr. Weisdack will present the final 2016 Geauga County Health District budget at that time. The Board members were invited to attend.

Mr. Weisdack has received resumes for the RS/SIT position. After a brief review, it appears that many of the applicants do not have the qualifications required. The Board discussed possible ways to have a physical test to assure that the qualified applicants can perform the required job duties.

Dr. Rubal inquired about the projected sewer project in Chardon Township that recently was found to be a nuisance area. Mr. Weisdack explained the process beginning with the sampling through the homeowners being required to tie into the new sanitary sewer system as per OEPA orders. The Geauga County Health District has no authority regarding this issue.

VII. Personal Health Services Update

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The emergency preparedness staff is welcoming the new Ebola grant, as an opportunity to be better prepared in a response to Ebola. The staff will be working with the region and the state on planning and to complete the necessary grant deliverables. A full-scale exercise will be held in July 2015.

The Board was asked to approve a contract with Cuyahoga County Board of Health to conduct Ebola response planning and training. They were also asked to approve the Ebola Preparedness Budget not to exceed \$35,108.00.

The Board was asked to approve the 2016 PHEP grant budget not to exceed \$91,129.00. This is a 12.5% decrease from 2015. We are hopeful for a grant increase, which usually comes at the end of the year. This funding is used to build capacity and infrastructure to prepare plans and train staff to respond to a variety of public health emergencies.

Since 2007, the total funding cuts to the PHEP grant have amounted to a 30% reduction and the funding to the hospital preparedness program (HPP) was reduced by 47%. At the same time, threats to our national security and public health from natural and manmade causes have risen dramatically. Most recently, the Ebola virus disease and measles outbreaks have put localities on high alert.

For the 2016 appropriations, advocates in the House of Representatives are asking for nearly \$1billion in funding for PHEP and HPP activities.

The Board was asked to approve a contract with Cleveland City Public Health to conduct CRI planning and activities in Geauga County. They were also asked to approve the 2016 CRI budget not to exceed \$13,812.00.

b. Disease Surveillance

Influenza related hospitalizations have significantly dropped in Ohio and Geauga County. Sexually transmitted diseases are again the most prevalent communicable diseases in Geauga County. Currently, the staff is monitoring a person for Ebola twice a day for the next 21 days.

The staff will be attending World TB Day in Columbus on March 24. They will receive the latest TB information and updates.

The staff is also working to expand the disease reporting capabilities of the Geauga County Health District to include monthly reporting of cases by township and city jurisdiction.

c. Nursing Services

During the month of January, the nursing staff provided two Amish Well Child Clinics, five children and adolescent immunization clinics, four Friday Morning Adult clinics, and one Senior Center clinic. Included were physician visits for 10 seniors at the Department on Aging, 26 children at the well child clinics, 265 vaccinations given to 81 children, 11 adult immunizations, 7 flu shots, 8 TB tests and 17 blood pressure screenings. The nurses also provided 26 vision screenings that resulted in referrals for glasses for 33 children. There were no maternal/ newborn visits and three BCMH home visits. The nurses conducted seven parochial school visits. Twenty communicable disease investigations were conducted.

The Board was asked to approve the 2016 CFHS budget not to exceed \$66,000.00. This is the same funding level as 2015. The CFHS grant funds are used to conduct Amish well child clinics for children 2-years and younger who meet income guidelines and are uninsured. This grant has allowed the health district and a licensed physician to provide well child services to a population that is 95% uninsured. This has resulted in increased on-time vaccination rates of nearly 84% compared to less than 37% for those not in the program.

The Board was asked to approve contracts with University Hospitals Medical Practice and Barb Eyring and Yvonne Mulacek to provide physician and public health nursing services at the well child clinics.

The Board was also asked to approve a service maintenance agreement with McPhillips Plumbing, Heating, and Cooling to provide inspection and preventative maintenance on our vaccine refrigerator and cooler at a cost of \$576.00 annually.

d. WIC

The WIC caseload for January was 734. This is a 4% increase since December.

e. Administration

The Board was asked to acknowledge the hiring of Tammy Mullin as EH Secretary.

The Board was also asked to approve the final 2016 Geauga County Health District budget.

f. Accreditation

Mr. Mix stated that the Partnership for a Healthy GEAUGA held its first report-back meeting to discuss progress on action steps identified by the committee. Many showed progress. One of the action steps was to raise the level of awareness in the community about the mental health and alcohol, tobacco and other drug services that are already in place. It was decided that United Way 211 was the best existing infrastructure to coordinate this information.

The Board discussed the 211 system. They suggested that the system be tested to see if it was user-friendly and actually works the way it should.

VIII. Executive Session

There was no reason to adjourn for Executive Session.

IX. Old Business

Mrs. Livers moved 3.15-a to adopt Resolution 2015-1, Annual Appropriation Resolution and the final approval of the 2016 Geauga County Health District Budget. 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.

X. New Business

Mrs. Livers moved 3.15-b to approve the contract with the Cleveland Department of Health allowing CRI activities for FY2016. 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 3.15-c to approve the CRI FY2016 budget not to exceed \$13,812.00. 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 3.15-d to approve the contract with UH Medical Practice for physician services at CFHS well child clinics not to exceed \$12,000.00. 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.

Mr. Gragg moved 3.15-e to approve the CFHS FY2016 budget not to exceed \$66,000.00. 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.

Mr. Gragg moved 3.15-f to approve the PHEP FY2016 budget not to exceed \$92,129.00. 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.

Mr. Gragg moved 3.15-g to approve the agreement with McPhillips Plumbing for the vaccine refrigerator and freezer maintenance at a cost of \$576.00 per year. 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.

Mr. Gragg moved 3.15-h to approve the contract with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health for Ebola Preparedness from April 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016 (pending prosecutor approval). 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.

Mr. Gragg moved 3.15-i to approve the Ebola Preparedness budget not to exceed \$35,108.00. 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.

Mr. Gragg moved 3.15-j to acknowledge the hiring of Tammy Mullin, EH Secretary effective March 16, 2015 at a rate of \$10.25 per hour with a \$.50 per hour increase upon successful completion of 120-day probation period. 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 3.15-k to approve the contract with Barbara Eyring to provide public health nursing services for CFHS from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. 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 3.15-l to approve the contract with Yvonne Mulacek to provide public health nursing services for CFHS from July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016. 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.

XI. Other Business

Mr. Weisdack stated that he received a very nice thank you card from Dr. O'Hara. He passed the card for the Board to read.

XII. Meetings

Annual HDAC Meeting, March 24, 2015 at 7:30 pm in the meeting room at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

Regular Board of Health Meeting, April 13, 2015 at 7:00 pm in the meeting room at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

XIII. Adjournment

As there was no further business to come before the Board, **Mrs. Livers moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:50 pm. 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.**

Respectfully submitted,

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

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