

Geauga County General Health District
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2013, 7:00 p.m.
Geauga County Health District Office
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

I. Call to Order

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

Board members present: Mr. Timothy Goergen, Dr. Janet O'Hara and Mr. David Gragg were present. Mrs. Christina Livers and Mr. J. David Benenati were not present.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner, Dan Mix, Personal Health Services Director, Michael Tusick, Registered Sanitarian and Amy Ribar-Yu, Fiscal Coordinator.

Others present: Sylvia Debick and Jim and Debbie Nemecek were also present.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III Approval of Minutes

The approval of the minutes for December 17, 2012 and January 24, 2013 were tabled. There were not enough members present to approve.

IV. Current Expenses/Financial Report

Mr. Gragg moved to approve the Current Expenses January 17, 2013 to February 13, 2013. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

V. Environmental Health Program Update

a. Sewage Update

Comments for the proposed sewage rules were due February 8, 2013 however, because of the volume of material to be reviewed, it was extended to March 1, 2013. Mr. Weisdack and the staff are preparing their comments for submission.

Mr. Weisdack and Mr. Tusick met with Senator Eklund recently to discuss the proposed sewage rules. He presented his concerns to Senator Eklund. At the meeting, Senator Eklund indicated he would support Mr. Weisdack and his colleagues.

b. General Information

Mr. Weisdack inquired whether the Board would like him to continue paying the dues for the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners. The Board felt that being a member is a valuable tool to keep in touch with what is happening.

Mr. Weisdack received correspondence from the Director of Health indicating that if the sequestration becomes effective there would be deep cuts to the grants.

While meeting with Senator Eklund, Mr. Weisdack expressed his concerns about the PHAB Accreditation. Becoming accredited will be very costly for the Geauga County Health District between the employee time and the funds that we will be required to submit. The benefit of being an accredited health district is to be eligible to receive grant funds.

Beginning in July 2013, ODH will release a request for proposal to regionalize several targeted grants. Another proposal will require continuing education for Board of Health members and would require food service sanitarians to be certified. Mr. Weisdack expressed his concerns to Senator Eklund about these issues as well. All these proposals reside within the budget bill. Senator Eklund said he does not agree with accreditation or regionalization.

Mr. Weisdack will be meeting with Senator Cafaro on February 25, 2013 to discuss all these issues along with several other health commissioners.

c. Budget Schedule

The Board held a budget workshop on February 11, 2013. Mr. Weisdack will be asking the Board to approve the preliminary budget to present at the preliminary HDAC meeting on February 21, 2013. Once the budget is preliminarily approved by the HDAC, Mr. Weisdack will bring any changes back to the Board on March 18, 2013 for final approval to present at the Annual HDAC meeting on March 27, 2013.

VI. Administrative Hearings

a. John & Sylvia Debick and Jason & Katherine Ignaut

Sylvia Debick and Jason & Katherine Ignaut were present and sworn in by Mr. Goergen. Mr. Tusick was sworn in by Mr. Goergen and stated his experience.

Mr. Tusick stated that this is an alleged code violation to the properties owned by John & Sylvia Debick, 60 Maple Hill Dr., S. Russell Village and Jason & Katherine Ignaut, 64 Maple Hill Dr., S. Russell Village.

These cases are in regards to section 3701-29-22(A) of the Geauga County Health District Household Sewage Disposal System Regulations that states, "An evaluation of a residential sewage system must be completed prior to the 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. Tusick explained that the owners of both properties have had a lot evaluation conducted by the department. The property owners provided the Board with a timeline of their attempt to get sanitary sewers into their neighborhood. They continue to work on the sewer issue. They anticipate that within a few months they should have a final decision from the South Russell Village Council.

Mr. Weisdack stated he did not object to the Board giving the owners a little more time, but felt that the Board should make a decision before too long. The owners asked for six months to get it approved by the South Russell Village Council and a commitment from the Department of Water Resources to move forward with sanitary sewers.

Dr. O'Hara moved to table the Administrative Hearings for John & Sylvia Debick, 60 Maple Hill Dr., S. Russell Village and Jason & Katherine Ignaut, 64 Maple Hill Dr., S. Russell Village until the September 16, 2013 regular Board of Health meeting. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

VII. Personal Health Services Update

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

Mr. Mix reported the ODH SNS Assessment is scheduled for March 11, 2013. Tentatively, we will be receiving the same funding for the PHEP 2013-2014 grant year that we received for 2012-2013.

Mr. Mix reported flu activity has significantly decreased since last month.

The FORT (Food borne Outbreak Response Team) is currently working on updating their SOP.

The Board was asked to approve an extension of an agreement with the University of Pittsburgh for National Retail Data Monitoring.

b. Nursing Services

The nursing staff provided one Amish Well Child Clinic, six children and adolescent immunization clinics and four Friday-Morning Adult clinics in January. Two clinics were cancelled due to adverse weather conditions.

Due to a new tracking system for children immunizations used by many public schools has resulted in an increase of children attending our clinics.

The nurses participated in several trainings, including Gestational Diabetes and Lead Case Management training. The nursing director continues to represent the health district on the Early Childhood Collaboration and Geauga Family First Council.

There is a shortage of medication used to treat active and latent TB. We are not currently treating anyone but have been notified of a case that will be arriving in April. The cost of the available INH has risen significantly. When this case arrives, we will discuss the options with the physician and the patient's family.

c. WIC

The Board was asked to approve a resolution to allow the payment of Then & Now purchase orders to pay expenses that were incurred prior to the 2013 budgets being in place.

The WIC caseload for January was 848, which is a 2.5% increase from December.

The President's FY2013 federal budget will keep WIC operating through September 30, 2014. However, WIC is considered a Domestic Discretionary Program and is not guaranteed. WIC must document its cost effectiveness as a nutrition education and breastfeeding support program and must constantly focus on caseload retention.

WIC caseloads have fallen consistently all around the country. WIC has identified barriers, which include long waits for re-certifications and not following up on missed appointments. In addition, SNAP benefits do not have food restrictions that WIC clients must meet and birth rates for teens and women in their early 20's are the lowest since the 1940's.

WIC is suggesting an improvement plan, which would include reminding clients of appointments via email, phone and/or text messages.

VIII. Old Business

a. Budget Workshop

Mr. Weisdack reviewed the proposed 2014 Geauga County Health District budget with the Board. He stated that Mr. Mix has been working very closely with Ms. Ribar-Yu through the process and they both have done a great job with the budget.

b. Vaccine Administrative Fee

Dr. O'Hara moved 2.13-a to approve the second reading of the establishment of a \$10.00 administration fee to be charged per patient per visit for both adult and children vaccines. Mr. Gragg

seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

IX. Executive Session

Mr. Gragg moved to adjourn for Executive Session at 8:33 pm to discuss pending litigation. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes. The meeting reconvened at 8:39 pm. Mr. Goergen stated no action was needed.

X. New Business

Dr. O'Hara moved 2.13-b to adopt Resolution 2-2013 which authorizes payment of Then & Now Purchase Orders. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

Dr. O'Hara moved 2.13-c to approve the preliminary 2014 Geauga County Health District budget as presented and approve the presentation at the preliminary budget meeting of the HDAC. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

Dr. O'Hara moved 2.13-d to approve the agreement with the University of Pittsburgh for National Retail Data Monitor (NRDM) to collect data for epidemiological use, pending prosecutor's approval. Mr. Gragg seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Goergen, yes; Dr. O'Hara, yes; and Mr. Gragg, yes.

XI. Other Business

Mr. Weisdack mentioned that he took the 2014 budget to Mr. Benenati for his review. He indicated he had no questions and though the budget looked good.

XII. Meetings

Preliminary HDAC Budget meeting, Thursday, February 21, 2013 in the Personal Health Services Lobby at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

The regular meeting of the Board is scheduled for Monday, March 18, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., in the atrium of 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

Annual HDAC Meeting, Wednesday, March 27, 2013 at 7:00 p.m., 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, **Mr. Goergen adjourned the meeting. Dr. O'Hara seconded the motion.**

Respectfully submitted,

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

a