

Geauga County General Health District  
Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
December 21, 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.

Staff members present: Robert Weisdack, Health Commissioner, Dan Mix, Personal Health Services Director and Michael Tusick, Registered Sanitarian.

Others present: There were no others 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 November 16, 2015 Board of Health meeting. 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.**

IV. Current Expenses/Financial Report

**Mr. Gragg moved to approve the Current Expenses and Financial Reports, November 12, 2015 to December 17, 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. Walter Wallace and Enger Family LLC

Neither Walter Wallace nor any representatives from the Enger Family LLC were 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 properties owned by Walter Wallace, 9580 Venus Dr., Hambden Twp. and Enger Family LLC, 7939 Sherman Rd., 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.

**Mr. Gragg moved that a code violation exists at the properties owned by Walter Wallace, 9580 Venus Dr., Hambden Twp. and Enger Family LLC, 7939 Sherman Rd., Chester Twp. 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 that by Walter Wallace, 9580 Venus Dr., Hambden Twp. and Enger Family LLC, 7939 Sherman Rd., 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; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.**

b. Andrew Miller

Andrew Miller was not 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 property owned by Andrew Miller, 13510 Bundysburg Rd., Middlefield 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) (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 sewage effluent identified through a dye test;

Discussion followed.

**Dr. Rubal moved that a code violation exists on the property owned by Andrew Miller, 13510 Bundysburg Rd., Middlefield Twp. 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 by Andrew Miller, 13510 Bundysburg Rd., Middlefield Twp. be required to make any corrections necessary 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; Mr. Gragg, yes; and Dr. Rubal, yes.**

c. DBR Properties, Perfetto, LLC, Auburn Community Church, Western Reserve Memorial Gardens, Western Reserve Maintenance, Sports Haven/Michael Zappia, Hambden Country Inn, Kinetico Incorporated, and Fair Weather Farm/Ann Yan

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 DBR Properties, 7049 Mulberry Rd., Chester Twp., Perfetto, LLC, 12021 Ravenna Rd., Munson Twp., Auburn Community Church, 11076 Washington St., Auburn Twp., Western Reserve Memorial Gardens, 11521 Chillicothe Rd., Chester Twp., Western Reserve Maintenance, 11521 Chillicothe Rd., Chester Twp., Sports Haven/Michael Zappia, 9887 Kinsman Rd., Newbury Twp., Hambden Country Inn, 13960 Rock Creek Rd., Hambden Twp., Kinetico Incorporated, 11015 Kinsman Rd., Newbury Twp., and Fair Weather Farm/Ann Yan, 10065 Taylor May Rd., Auburn Twp.

These cases are in regards to the following sections of Article V, of the Geauga County Health District Semi-Public Sewage Disposal System Regulations, which states:

Section 52.05.02: "APPLICATION – Any person, firm, association, or corporation who, subsequent to the first day of September of that year, has intent of operating a semi-public sewage disposal system must obtain an inspection certificate from the Geauga County Health Department."

Section 52.05.04: "CERTIFICATE ISSUANCE – Certificate renewal forms will be mailed the last week of July. Owners of the property are responsible for returning the completed form and proper payment to the Geauga County Health Department by the filing deadline of September 1 of that year. All applications post marked later than the September 1 date shall be regarded as late and be subject to a 25% late fee. The fee schedule shall be adopted by the Geauga County Board of Health." Discussion followed.

**Mr. Gragg moved that a code violation exists on the properties owned by DBR Properties, 7049 Mulberry Rd., Chester Twp., Perfetto, LLC, 12021 Ravenna Rd., Munson Twp., Auburn Community Church, 11076 Washington St., Auburn Twp., Western Reserve Memorial Gardens, 11521 Chillicothe Rd., Chester Twp., Western Reserve Maintenance, 11521 Chillicothe Rd., Chester Twp., Sports Haven/Michael Zappia, 9887 Kinsman Rd., Newbury Twp., Hambden Country Inn, 13960 Rock Creek Rd., Hambden Twp., Kinetico Incorporated, 11015 Kinsman Rd., Newbury Twp., and Fair Weather Farm/Ann Yan, 10065 Taylor May Rd., Auburn Twp. 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 DBR Properties, 7049 Mulberry Rd., Chester Twp., Perfetto, LLC, 12021 Ravenna Rd., Munson Twp., Auburn Community Church, 11076 Washington St., Auburn Twp., Western Reserve Memorial Gardens, 11521 Chillicothe Rd., Chester Twp., Western Reserve Maintenance, 11521 Chillicothe Rd., Chester Twp., Sports Haven/Michael Zappia, 9887 Kinsman Rd., Newbury Twp., Hambden Country Inn, 13960 Rock Creek Rd., Hambden Twp., Kinetico Incorporated, 11015 Kinsman Rd., Newbury Twp., and Fair Weather Farm/Ann Yan, 10065 Taylor May Rd., Auburn Twp. be required to make application, pay for the yearly certificate along with any associated late fees 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.**

VI. Environmental Health Program Update

a. Sewage Rules

Mr. Weisdack stated that due to scheduling difficulties, the meeting with the other health commissioners in December to continue the discussion of the new sewage rules would be rescheduled.

Mr. Weisdack reported that some of the counties have not set up their O/M Shareholders Committees yet. This committee is required as part of the new rules.

b. General Information

The Board and Mr. Weisdack received a thank you card from the Benenati family. Mr. Weisdack read the card to the Board.

Mr. Weisdack reviewed a map showing the positive rabies cases in Ohio.

Mr. Weisdack stated that several staff members would be needed. There will be two secretaries needed including one for Environmental Health and one for Personal Health Services. A Health Educator and Accreditation Coordinator will be needed due to accreditation and another sanitarian is needed due to the new sewage rules. An additional Registered Nurse will be need due to attrition in the near future.. Mr. Weisdack would like to review the salary ranges and organizational adjustments also. He requested the Board to have a meeting to discuss the proposed additional staff increase.

We have a new assistant prosecutor. Ann Mitchell has resigned and Kate Jacob will now be representing the Geauga County Health District. The Board asked Mr. Weisdack to invite Ms. Jacob to a meeting so they can meet her.

VII. Personal Health Services Update

a. Public Health Emergency Preparedness

The regional and local Ebola workgroups continue to meet updating local plans and preparing for the state audit.

b. Disease Surveillance

The disease count for November was 20, 13 of which were STD's. Flu activity is down nationwide. Geauga County had only two cases this month.

The Board was asked to approve a renewal of a contract with the University of Pittsburgh for Real-time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance (RODS). This contract allows the monitoring of sales of over-the-counter healthcare products to identify disease outbreaks.

c. Nursing Services

During the month of November, the nursing staff provided two Amish Well Child Clinics, 4 children and adolescent immunization clinics, 3 Friday Morning Adult clinics, and four Senior Center clinics. Included were visits for 34 children at the well child clinics, 494 vaccinations given to 182 children, 22 adult immunizations, 87 BP and 8 TB tests. The nurses also provided vision screenings that resulted in referrals for glasses for 25 children. There were no maternal/newborn visits and four BCMH home visits.

The staff conducted their semi-annual assessment feedback to determine the on-time vaccination rates for children between 24 and 35 months. A training session for staff and contract nurses was provided to increase vaccination rates among clients. In addition, the staff participated in the Immunization Action Plan site visit from ODH.

Mr. Mix stated that he and the nursing director would be evaluating staffing requirements. They, along with Mr. Weisdack are exploring the possibility of adding an additional nurse who would support many existing programs as well as other duties.

d. WIC

The WIC caseload for November was 732.

WIC nutrition benefits have been completely converted to electronic cards in Geauga County. Ohio is one of 12 states to have electronic benefits. The cost to rollout the new benefit program was 42% under projected budget and is expected to save 57% in operating costs.

e. Administration

Mr. Mix and the fiscal coordinator are working together to prepare for the year-end closing. This involves estimating carryover expenses, closing accounts and de-appropriating unused funds. In addition, new purchase orders will be opened for 2016.

Mr. Mix provided a report to the Board of revenue and expense levels to date. It appears that the building industry is on the picking up.

f. Accreditation

The Ohio Department of Health is now accredited. Eight local health districts have completed accreditation. Ohio and Illinois have the most accredited health departments in the United States. Mr. Mix explained the process and the timeline to become accredited. He also reported that some of the smaller health departments have limited resources to become accredited.

Mr. Mix stated that this process is even more difficult due to the high turnover of staff at the Ohio Department of Health.

VIII. Old Business

a. OEPA Water Pollution Control Fund

Mr. Weisdack and Alta Wendell met with Anita Stocker and her assistant recently to discuss how Community Development had handled this grant when they had it a few years ago. They provided valuable information and insight into how to implement this program. We still have the option of referring applicants who do not qualify for the OEPA program to the Department of Agriculture. Mrs. Livers suggested this job may be handled by a health educator. Mr. Mix stated that the health educator will have many internal and external job duties.

b. General Information

There were no other topics discussed.

IX. New Business

**Mrs. Livers moved 12.15-a to approve the renewal of the data use and service agreement with the University of Pittsburgh for Real-time Outbreak and Disease Surveillance (RODS). 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

There was no other business.

XI. Meetings

**Regular Board of Health Meeting**, Tuesday, January 19, 2016 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 **Mrs. Livers moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m. 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.**

Respectfully submitted,

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

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