

Geauga Public Health
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
April 15, 2019, 5:00 p.m.
Geauga Public Health Office
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

I. Call to Order

Mr. David Gragg, President, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 5:01 p.m.

Board members present: Mr. David Gragg, President, Mr. Richard Piraino, Pro-Tem, Mrs. Catherine Whitright, and Ms. Lynn Roman. Dr. Patricia Levan was not present.

Staff members present: Thomas Quade, Health Commissioner, David Sage, Director of Environmental Health, Dr. Christine Wyers, Director of Nursing, Alta Wendell, Chief of Administration, Dr. Brad Moritz, Medical Director, and Karolyn Johnson, Fiscal Coordinator.

Others present: Russell Nelson and Adam Litke, Financial Consultant.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

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

III. Welcome Lynn Roman

The Board welcomed Ms. Roman to the group. Ms. Roman is from Chester Township.

IV. Election of President and Pro-Tempore

Mrs. Whitright moved to nominate David Gragg as President. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Whitright moved to nominate Rich Piraino as Pro-Tempore. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

V. Approval of Board Minutes

Mrs. Whitright moved to approve the minutes from the March 18, 2019 regular meeting. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried with an abstain by Ms. Roman.

VI. Approval of Current Expense and Financial Reports

Mrs. Whitright moved to approve the Current Expense and Financial Reports, March 14, 2019 to April 4, 2019. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Litke reported that the Board would be invited to an exit conference with the State auditors soon. This meeting is exempt from the Sunshine Law so all Board members can attend. He strongly suggested that all Board members attend.

Mr. Litke and Mrs. Johnson will be attending public records training in May. They will present any new information to the Board.

VII. Administrative Hearings

a. Russell Nelson

Russell Nelson was present and sworn in by Mr. Gragg. Mr. Gragg also swore in Mr. Sage.

Mr. Sage stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Russell Nelson, 18118 Auburn Rd., Auburn Twp. This case is based on following section of the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Administrative Code sections 3701-29 - Sewage Treatment System Rules:

- 3701-29-06 (C) **All sewage and human excreta generated from within a dwelling or building shall be conveyed to an approved STS or a sanitary sewerage system. All or a portion of the gray water from the dwelling or building may be conveyed to an approved GWRS installed and operated in accordance with rule 3701-29-17 of the Administrative Code.**

- (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.”** Discussion followed.

Mr. Sage stated that this case was based on a nuisance complaint. It has been verified that the system is failing. Mr. Nelson stated that this is a rental home and he did not have the funds to replace the system.

Mr. Piraino moved that a code violation exists on the property owned by Russell Nelson located at 18118 Auburn Rd., Auburn Twp. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Whitright moved that the owner be required to eliminate the nuisance condition by immediately capping the end of the septic tank and pumping the tank until a new sewage system is permitted and installed. Capping must be done within 30 days of receipt of Board order. Pumping receipts from a registered septage hauler must be submitted to this office immediately after each pumping. Corrections or replacement of the septic must be completed by a registered sewage installer within 90 days of receipt of Board order. Failure to follow this order will result in referral to the Prosecutor’s office for legal action. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried.

VIII. Environmental Health Update

Mr. Sage stated that the ODH Sewage survey would begin at the end of April. They will be in the office for 2-3 days. This is the first time for this survey for Geauga.

IX. Population Health Update

Dr. Wyers stated she has received notice from one of the public health nurses that she will be retiring in June. Rachel McDade, contract Epidemiologist will be hired full time and will assume some of the nurse's duties. Dr. Wyers stated that she would also be advertising for a full-time RN.

Dr. Wyers met with the new Director for Ohio Department of Health at a meeting to discuss some changes into the budget to support public health nursing and home visiting for new families. The director seemed very receptive.

X. Old Business

a. HDAC Meeting

Mr. Quade stated that he felt it was very good meeting. The annual report and budget were presented. They were clear that they knew that the Board was the governing authority to approve the Geauga Public Health budget.

They were concerned that assessments would be made. Mr. Quade explained that currently, assessments would not be placed on the political subdivisions, but as time goes on, they may be. The hope is to be able to continue to work within the budget the health district has.

Mr. Piraino stated that the trustees were impressed with and have trust in Mr. Quade.

Mrs. Whitright and Mr. Quade indicated that the group was very engaged and lingered afterwards to talk.

XI. New Business

- a. Policy Adopted Regarding State Mandated Programs.

Mr. Piraino moved 4.15.19-a to adopt the policy which engages all State of Ohio mandated programs by Geauga Public Health as presented. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Mr. Sage stated that a policy was needed to be adopted by the Board stating that Geauga Public Health will engage all the state mandated programs. **Motion carried.**

- b. Committee Appointments

Mr. Quade stated that in the past at the April Board meeting, committees appointments were assigned. History has shown that those committees have not met with any regularity. The Board of Health By-laws have a section stating that the committees would be formed in April. He suggested eliminating this section from the by-laws and having ad-hoc meetings instead. The Board discussed and agreed. Mr. Quade will present the updated by-laws at the next regular meeting for approval.

- c. Board of Health Training

Mr. Quade suggested having "boardsmanship" training. He stated that he is a member on a board who has this training every other year and feels that it is very worthwhile. This training would also count towards the required CEUs that the Board of Health must have every year.

The Board all agreed that the training would be valuable.

- XII. Other Business

There was no other business.

- XI. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, Monday, May 20, 2019 at 5:565 p.m. in the small meeting room of 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

- XII. Adjourn

As there was no further business to come before the Board, Mr. Piraino moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Quade
Secretary, Geauga County Board of Health

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