

Geauga Public Health
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2019, 5:00 p.m.
470 Center Street, Bldg. 8, Chardon, OH 44024

1. Call to Order

Mr. David Gragg, President, called the monthly meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 5:00 p.m.

A roll call found the following Board members present: Mr. David Gragg, President, Mr. Richard Piraino, Pro-Tem, Mrs. Catherine Whitright, Dr. Patricia Levan and Ms. Lynn Roman.

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

Others present: Adam Litke, Fiscal Consultant, Brian Schultz, Joseph & Molly Novotny, and Michael Kane

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

3. Approval of Board Minutes

Mr. Piraino moved to approve the minutes from the October 21, 2019 regular meeting with changes. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Environmental Health Update

a. Administrative Hearings

i. Brian Brandt and Patrick Studnicka

Neither property owner was present. Mr. Gragg swore in Mr. Sage.

Mr. Sage stated that this is an alleged code violation to the property Brian Brandt, 11711 Fowlers Mill Rd., Munson and Patrick M. Studnicka, 11868 African Acres Dr., Chester. These cases were based on the failure to make corrections after having a For Sale of Property Evaluation conducted as per Section 3701-29-25 of the Geauga County Sewage Treatment System Rules. Discussion followed.

Mrs. Whitright moved that a code violation exists at the properties owned by Brian Brandt, 11711 Fowlers Mill Rd., Munson and Patrick M. Studnicka, 11868 African Acres Dr., Chester. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Roman moved that the owner be required to make repairs and/or corrections and/or obtain the necessary permits and install a new sewage disposal system within 30 days of receipt of Board order. Failure to follow the order will result in referral to the Prosecutor's office for legal action. Dr. Levan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

ii. Joseph T. & Molly U. Novotny

Joseph and Molly Novotny were present and sworn in by Mr. Gragg.

Mr. Sage stated that this is an this is an alleged code violation to the property owned by Joseph T. & Molly U. Novotny, 13669 Heath Rd., Newbury Twp. This case is based on following section of the Ohio Department of Health and Ohio Administrative Code sections 3701-29 -06 (E) (1) and 3701-29-06 (E) (3) of the Sewage Treatment System Rules. Discussion followed.

Mr. Sage stated that an installer had located the existing sewage system. Mr. & Mrs. Novotny currently use a composting toilet and only grey water is entering the existing system. Mr. Novotny stated it is his intention to install a new system when the weather permits.

Mr. Piraino moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Joseph T. & Molly U. Novotny, 13669 Heath Rd., Newbury Twp. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Dr. Levan moved that the owner be required be required to obtain a Board of Health Variance from the Board of Health tonight and within 30 days of Board order, connect the septic tank, install a high water alarm and cap and pump until such time that the soil absorption component can be installed. The owners must also obtain a signed contract with a registered septage hauler to pump the septic tank. The septage hauler must submit pumping receipt(s) to this department immediately after each pumping. Failure to obtain the Board of Health Variance from this board tonight will result in referral to the Prosecutor's office for legal action immediately. Failure to meet the requirements after the variance is approved will result in referral to the Prosecutor's office for legal action. The Board of Health Variance for the capped sewage tank is valid until July 21, 2020. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Whitright moved that consistent with the Board order, the Board approves the variance for Joseph T. and Molly U. Novotny, 13669 Heath Rd., Newbury Twp. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. Population Health Update

Dr. Wyers stated that another Health Educator has been hired who is also an RN. She will be working on the Safe communities' grant, which started October 1, 2019. We have already held an event at the Chester Senior Center and another coming up at Kent State Geauga.

The first public Naloxone distribution will be held this evening. Christie Gigliotti is providing the education for the program. Dr. Wyers stated that a portion of grant funds have been received for work completed on the policies and procedures.

The nurses are preparing to do training at the local doctor's offices for the Get Vaccinated Ohio Grant.

Everything is in place for Falls Prevention Grant and are ready for referrals. This grant targets patients over 60 years of age who were recently discharged from the hospital and do not qualify for home health care. Dr. Wyers stated that the staff consulted with a physical therapist to develop some exercises to help reduce the risk of falls in those patients. It also will help with home modification needs as well.

Dr. Wyers reported that she and the nurses participated in a pandemic flu tabletop exercise that was organized by Tammy Spencer, Emergency Response Coordinator. It included other agencies and members of the community. She stated that this was her first time participating and found it very interesting.

Gauga Public Health is part of the Lake Geauga Tobacco Collation. Our role will be handing the vaping deliverables, which focuses on educating parents, children, professionals, and the general community.

Dr. Wyers stated that a CPCRE event began in September in which ODH was involved. Our Epidemiologist worked with the facility to provide education. The facility had to do testing and has now been cleared.

There is one active case of TB going on in Geauga County. There have been no other reports for flu, vaping or other communicable diseases. Mr. Quade stated that nothing is trending out of the normal events.

7. Administration Update

Mrs. Wendell reported that a part-time file clerk has been hired and has recently began her employment with Geauga Public Health. She is learning very quickly and in just the short time with Geauga Public Health has provided so much support for the front-line staff.

The other two clerical specialists who have been here a short time have settled into their positions very well and are becoming valued staff members. The group has become a very strong team and support each other with great attitudes. I have received many compliments on how well they work together.

a. Finance Report

Mrs. Johnson explained some variations in the revenue and expense items shown on the finance report.

Mr. Gragg moved to approve the November 2019 financial report as recommended by the health commissioner. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mr. Piraino asked that any changes to the budget be sent to the Board at least 10 days before the meeting to allow time for review. Mr. Litke stated that he has discussed this with Mr. Quade and agreed that it could be done.

8. Health Commissioner Update

Mr. Quade stated that he has added a brief description for each graph on the Environmental Health and Population Health reports. He stated that for 2020, he would be providing a fund graph, which correlates to each section of the report to show YTD revenue and expenses for each fund.

Mr. Quade attended the American Public Health Conference. He has attended for many years and has always found it very worthwhile. He was able to speak with US Surgeon General about the intentional integration of people with developmental disabilities project they had worked together on.

The first edition of the Geauga Public Health newsletter recently went out. It features a short description about the Board along with a picture. It will be distributed to many community agencies and be posted on Facebook and Twitter.

The Geauga County Administrator has indicated that the architect's proposal for the new building was being presented to the county commissioners at the next regular session. They anticipate that having a contract in place to begin building. Mr. Quade confirmed that Geauga Public Health would be part of the building project. They are still saying that the building will be completed within 2 years.

9. Old Business

Mrs. Whitright moved 11.18.19-a to approve the third and final reading of the proposed 2020 fees as presented. Fees will become effective January 1, 2020. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Mr. Sage stated that the Public Hearing was held November 13, 2019 at 3:00 pm in the meeting room. There were no attendees. Ms. Roman suggested that when fees are increased, more information be provided just for a historical perspective. The information should include the percentage of increase and the date the fees were last increased. Mr. Quade agreed that could be done. Mr. Sage stated that most of the fees presented have not increased in many years. Cost analysis are now being done annually to keep all the fees in line. **Motion carried.**

Mrs. Whitright moved 11.18.19-b to adopt Resolution 2019-16 to amend the 2020 Geauga Public Health Budget as presented by the health commissioner. Dr. Levan seconded the motion. Mr. Quade stated this is the time of year we make final adjustments to the 2020 budget. He reviewed some changes that were made from the preliminary budget approved in early 2019. **Motion carried.**

10. Executive Session

Mr. Gragg moved to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss the compensation of personnel at 6:25 pm. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Gragg, yes; Mr. Piraino, yes; Mrs. Whitright, yes; Dr. Levan, yes; and Ms. Roman, yes. The meeting reconvened at 6:28 pm. Mr. Gragg stated that no action would be taken because of discussion during Executive Session.

11. New Business

Mr. Piraino moved 11.18.19-c to adopt Resolution 2019-14 to transfer \$20,000.00 from 6002- BOH to 6040- Workforce Development Fund as presented and recommended by the health commissioner. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Mrs. Johnson explained that this resolution puts funds in place for the 2020 budget. **Motion carried.**

Mrs. Whitright moved 11.18.19-d to adopt Resolution 2019-15 to transfer \$245,000.00 from 6002- BOH to 6042- Population Health Fund as presented and recommended by the health commissioner. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Mrs. Johnson explained that this also puts funds in place for the 2020 budget. **Motion carried.**

Mr. Gragg moved 11.18.19-e to approve the supplemental appropriation in 6002- Board of Health fund not to exceed \$315,000.00 as presented and presented and recommended by the health commissioner. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Mrs. Johnson explained that this also puts funds in place for the 2020 budget. **Motion carried.**

12. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, Monday, December 16, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

13. Adjourn

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Quade
Secretary, Geauga County Board of Health

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