

Geauga Public Health  
Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
June 24, 2020, 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 (via WebEx) Mr. Richard Piraino, Pro-Tem, Mrs. Catherine Whitright (via WebEx), and Ms. Lynn Roman. Dr. Patricia Levan was not present.

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

Others present: Adam Litke, Fiscal Consultant

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

3. Approval of Board Minutes

**Ms. Roman moved to approve the minutes from the May 27, 2020 regular meeting. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

4. Environmental Health Update

Mr. Sage stated that the Board has been asked to sign the renewal of the Phase II Stormwater Memorandum of Understanding. The MOU has language requiring the health department to perform services that are beyond our capacity. Mr. Sage will be asking to have it revised to remove that language. Once revised, the Board will be asked for approval.

5. Population Health Update

Dr. Wyers reported that Jodi Gearhart, Health Educator has also been given the role as Public Information Officer.

Four part-time contact tracers have been hired. Their salaries are funded by the \$99,000.00 grant we received from the Ohio Department of Health. They are being onboarded this week and transitioning into their new roles. In addition, a part-time Public Health Technician has been hired. He will work 24 hours per week with 16 hours in Population Health and 8 hours per week in Environmental Health until the end of August.

Carol Straniero has been promoted to Nursing Supervisor and will oversee the contact tracers and public health nurses.

The staff are meeting with resistance from the people who are asked to isolate or quarantine. Some people do not want to abide by the isolation or quarantine orders or give information. It has been a challenge dealing with this problem.

6. Administration Update

a. Finance Report

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

**Ms. Roman moved to approve the June 2020 financial report as recommended by the health commissioner. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

7. Health Commissioner Update

Mr. Quade praised the members of his leadership team, Mr. Sage, Dr. Wyers and Mrs. Wendell for their hard work during this time. He stated that they have made his work life much more bearable.

Mr. Quade provided graphs to the Board showing different data sets in regards to Covid. He stated that we will know over the next few weeks if the number of cases in the State and within the county increase due to businesses opening back up. The current trend of positive cases is toward younger people.

The guidance of the State is everchanging. The superintendents from Lake, Geauga & Ashtabula County are working together to meet those guidelines to keep the children safe and re-opening the schools. Mr. Quade has been working closely with school superintendents in Geauga County with their plans for re-opening. He stated that one of the biggest challenges is transportation.

Mr. Quade received confirmation that our Accreditation site visit will be virtual. A review team has not been assigned yet.

8. Old Business

a. Budget Commission

The Budget Commission meeting was held on June 16, 2020. Mr. Quade, Mr. Litke, Mr. Piraino and Mrs. Johnson attended. Mr. Litke reported that the 2021 budget was approved without any changes. There were a few questions about the Operation and Maintenance program that will be put into effect this year. Mr. Quade explained that the program is State mandated and must be implemented.

The Budget Commission expressed that they have been very pleased with the Geauga Public Health budget for the past two years.

b. Amend Bamboo HR motion from May 27, 2020

Mr. Quade explained that after receiving a demonstration from Bamboo HR, there were other parts of the program that would be very helpful. The Board was asked to amend the motion from the May 27, 2020 meeting to reflect the new cost of the program.

**Mr. Gragg moved 6.24.20-a to amend motion 5.27.20-c to reflect the change of the not to exceed amount of \$7,000.00 to \$12,000.00 for the period of June 1, 2020 to December 31, 2021. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

9. New Business

a. Supplemental Appropriations and Revenue Certifications

Mrs. Johnson explained that the changes are needed because of several factors. We are at the half-way point of the year and this is the point where we look at the current year budget to assure we have funds in place to make it through the end of the year and to account for extra revenue we have been receiving for Covid. Another reason is because of 2020 having 27 pays instead of 26 pays. The 2020 budget needs to be adjusted for salaries and fringes for the extra payroll.

**Mr. Piraino moved 6.24.20-b to approve the Supplemental Appropriations and Revenue Certifications as presented and approved by the Health Commissioner. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

b. Cash Transfers

Mrs. Johnson explained that the Cash Transfers move funds from the Board of Health fund to Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs, Injury Prevention and Population Health funds.

**Mr. Gragg moved 6.24.20-c to approve the Cash Transfers as presented and approved by the Health Commissioner. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

c. Proclamation for Dr. J. Bradley Moritz

The Board wished to show their appreciation to Dr. Moritz for his many years of service to Geauga Public Health. Mr. Gragg read a proclamation honoring Dr. Moritz for his dedication to the department.

d. Dr. Jennifer Williams-Reid Contract

Mr. Quade stated he had spoken to Dr. Moritz and Dr. Reid about transitioning. Dr. Moritz will remain Medical Director until the end of July during the transition. He will remain as backup for Dr. Reid.

**Mr. Gragg moved 6.24.20-d to approve the contract with Dr. Jennifer Williams-Reid as Medical Director effective July 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

10. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, **Wednesday, June 24, 2020** at 5:00 p.m. at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

11. Adjourn

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Quade  
Secretary, Geauga County Board of Health

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