

Geauga Public Health
Regular Board of Health Meeting
March 23, 2020, 5:00pm
470 Center Street Bldg. 8, Chardon OH 44024

1. Call to Order

Mr. David Gragg, President, called the special meeting of the Geauga County Board of Health to order at 5:02pm.

A roll call found the following 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, Dr. Christine Wyers, Director of Population Health, David Sage, Director of Environmental Health, and Karolyn Johnson, Fiscal Coordinator.

Others present: Adam Litke, Fiscal Consultant, Dr. Bradley Moritz, Medical Director, and Mark Citriglia, Registered Sanitarian-in-Training.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

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

3. Approval of Board Minutes

Mr. Gragg moved to approve the minutes from the February 18, 2020 regular meeting. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Whitright moved to approve the minutes from the March 19, 2020 special meeting. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Environmental Health Update

Mr. Sage received a phone call from the Ohio Department of Health regarding water testing that the Ohio EPA has been conducting at some public water supplies in Chester Township. The Ohio EPA was testing for per- and polyfluoralkyl substances (PFAS) in the private wells serving the businesses. PFAS is a group of man-made chemicals applied to many consumer products to make them waterproof, stain resistant, or nonstick. Babies, young children, pregnant women, nursing women, immunocompromised individuals, and individuals with certain health conditions are most sensitive to PFAS. Two businesses were identified by the Ohio EPA testing to having low levels of PFAS compounds in their water. The businesses happen to be daycares, which is one of the sensitive populations. The Ohio Department of Health, Ohio EPA, and Geauga Public Health staff had a conference call to discuss the matter. When normal operations resume, Ohio EPA will be doing more testing of these two businesses' water along with other surrounding businesses with wells. The Ohio Department of Health gave our department

sample template letters that will be emailed to property owners informing them of the detection and information for them to have their wells tested.

a. Variance

Ray Gotliebowski/Cleveland Excavating LLC

Mr. Sage was sworn in and stated his experience.

Mr. Gotliebowski was not present. Mr. Sage stated that this is a variance request by Ray Gotliebowski/Cleveland Excavating LLC. This request involves the section 3701-29-03(C)(5) of the Household Sewage Treatment Systems Regulations which requires 6 continuing education credits (CEUs) be obtained prior to the registration year for system installers, service providers, and septic tank haulers.

3701-29-03(C)(5) states: "Beginning with the registration year starting on January 1, 2016, proof of completion of at least six continuing education hours during the previous calendar year through educational programs approved by department of health or demonstration of competency obtained through one of the following mechanisms." Discussion followed.

Mr. Gragg moved to approve the variance as requested. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion.

Motion carried.

5. Population Health Update

Dr. Wyers and Mr. Quade gave an update on the COVID-19 pandemic. Dr. Wyers went over the contact tracing that staff were doing with cases the department received. Dr. Wyers stated at this time, there are four positive COVID-19 cases in Geauga County. The numbers will increase since we are only at the beginning stages of the virus. Mr. Quade discussed an e-newsletter that he and Jodi Gearhart, Health Educator, are developing. The e-newsletter will be emailed to partners with information and updates in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Quade encourages the partners to forward the e-newsletter onto others. Mr. Quade stated the e-newsletter will be also be available on the Geauga Public Health website. Dr. Wyers and Mr. Quade are updating the website as quickly as possible with pertinent COVID-19 information from the Ohio Department of Health and the Centers for Disease Control.

6. Finance Report

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

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

7. Health Commissioner Update

Mr. Quade updated the board of health by-laws and had distributed them to the board members for comment.

Mr. Quade informed the board that PHAB is experiencing delays.

Dr. Wyers and Mr. Quade discussed the outreach that is being done with county departments, community partners and the Amish for best practices.

Mr. Quade reported the Health District Advisory Council meeting that was scheduled for Wednesday, March 25, 2020 had been postponed. There will be a vacancy on the board of health until the Health District Advisory Council can meet.

8. **Mr. Gragg moved 3.23.20-a to adopt the by-laws for the Geauga County Board of Health as revised, changing the Geauga County Board of Health regular monthly meeting to the fourth Wednesday of the month. Discussion followed. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
9. **Mr. Gragg moved 3.23.20-b to rescind Resolution #6-2010, giving the health commissioner and his/her delegate to suspend or revoke a food service operation or retail food establishment. Discussion followed on how the board adopted the updated resolution in regards to this at the last board meeting. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
10. **Mr. Gragg moved 3.23.20-c to approve the supplemental appropriations as presented. Mr. Piraino seconded the motion. Motion carried.**
11. **Mr. Gragg moved 3.23.20-d to adopt resolution 2020-9 authorizing the stop payment of warrant #1061684 in the amount of \$83.91 to Amazon Credit Services and the reissue of the warrant. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

12. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, Wednesday, April , 2020 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 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Quade
Secretary, Geauga County Board of Health