

Geauga Public Health
Board of Health Meeting Minutes
February 24, 2021, 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 5:04p.m.

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

Staff members present: Thomas Quade, Health Commissioner, David Sage, Director of Environmental Health, Alta Wendell, Director of Administration (via WebEx), Carol Straniero, Director of Population Health, and Dr. Jennifer Williams-Reid, Medical Director (via WebEx), and Zachary Myers, Registered Sanitarian.

Others present: Adam Litke, Fiscal & HR Consultant, Paul Pettinato, Sellie Echols, Robin Echols-Cooper, Rhonda Echols, and Dan Mamrack, Esq.

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 January 27, 2021 regular meeting of the Board of Health. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comment Session

Public comment session is to last 20 minutes unless the Board moves to extend. Each speaker is allotted 2 minutes to make comments and ask questions. Questions will be answered by the Board after having an opportunity to investigate responses following the meeting. Board responses will be recorded and publicly filed with meeting minutes.

There was no public comment.

4. Environmental Health Update

Mr. Sage reported that Administrative Hearings were held recently. There were nine hearings scheduled with five owners attending and agreeing to timelines to get the work done. Those who did not attend will be sent directly to the prosecutor's office for action.

Variance

a. Paul Pettinato

Paul Pettinato was present and sworn in by Mr. Gragg. Mr. Sage was also sworn in.

Mr. Sage stated that this was a variance request by Paul G. Pettinato for the property located at 10112 Charlton Ln., Newbury Twp. The request involves section 3701-29-18 (C) (6) of the Household Sewage Treatment Regulations which states:

“A holding tank permitted as a HSTS shall meet the following specifications when a variance has been granted by board of health: On a temporary basis during inclement weather and/or during non-installation season when the property owner must take occupancy until the soil conditions are suitable for complete system installation.”

The owner wishes to have his registered sewage installer connect the sewer line from the home to 2000 gallon chambered septic tank and 1000 gallon pumping station with high water alarm. This is part of the approved design for the new construction home to act as holding tanks to allow occupancy. Due to the weather and soil conditions, the soil absorption components cannot be installed until the spring or early summer. Discussion followed.

Ms. Roman moved to approve the variance to allow the sewage tank and pump station with high water alarm to operate as holding tanks. Pumping of the tanks will be done as necessary by the registered septage hauler. All pumping receipts must be submitted to this office. The complete system must be installed by July 3, 2021. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Administrative Hearing

a. Sellie Echols

Sellie Echols and Dan Mamrack were present and sworn in by Mr. Gragg.

Mr. Sage stated that case is based on a Solid Waste nuisance complaint received by this office for the property owned by Sellie Echols, 11389 Clark Road, Chardon OH 44024 with orders issued in a Notice of Violation letter issued to the owner of the property dated July 24, 2020. The Notice of Violation is in regards to Section 3734.01(E) and (J) of the Ohio Revised Code, Section 3734.03 of the Ohio Revised Code, and Section 3745-27-05(D) of the Ohio Administrative Code.

ORC 3734.01(E) "Solid wastes means such unwanted residual solid or semisolid material as results from industrial, commercial, agricultural, and community operations, excluding earth or material from construction, mining, or demolition operations, or other waste materials of the type that normally would be included in demolition debris, nontoxic fly ash and bottom ash, including at least ash that results from the combustion of coal and ash that results from the combustion of coal in combination with scrap tires where scrap tires comprise not more than fifty per cent of heat input in any month, spent nontoxic foundry sand, nontoxic, nonhazardous, unwanted fired and unfired, glazed and unglazed, structural products made from shale and clay products, and slag and other substances that are not harmful or inimical to public health, and includes, but is not limited to, garbage, scrap tires, combustible and noncombustible material, street dirt, and debris. "Solid wastes" does not include any material that is an infectious waste or a hazardous waste.

ORC 3734.01(J) "Hazardous waste means any waste or combination of wastes in solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous form that in the determination of the director, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical or chemical characteristics, may do either of the following:

(1) Cause or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible or incapacitating reversible illness;

(2) Pose a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or safety or to the environment when improperly stored, treated, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed.

ORC 3734.03 "No person shall dispose of solid wastes by open burning or open dumping..."

OAC 3745-27-05(D) "No person shall conduct, permit, or allow open dumping. In the event that open dumping is occurring or has occurred at a property, the person responsible for the open dumping, the owner of the property, or the person who allow or allowed open dumping to occur, shall promptly remove and dispose or otherwise manage the solid waste in accordance with Chapter 3734. of the Revised Code and shall submit verification that the solid waste has been properly managed." Discussion followed.

Mr. Sage stated that Mrs. Echols' son continues to bring more solid waste to the property in addition to barrels of petroleum products. Mr. Mamrack stated that the Mrs. Echols has no control over what her son brings to the property. There has been issues receiving notifications from the health department as well. He asked that all correspondence be hand delivered instead of mailed.

Mr. Sage stated that a timeline needs to be established for the cleanup. He will work with Mrs. Echols regarding correspondence with to her.

Mrs. Whitright moved that a code violation exists at the property owned by Sellie Echols, 11389 Clark Road, Chardon. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Whitright moved that the owner(s) be ordered to comply with the recommendation of the Environmental Health staff by removing all the solid waste and hazardous waste and properly disposed of waste at a licensed facility and disposal receipts submitted to this department within 45 days. While significant progress must be made removing the solid waste and hazardous waste, as determined by health district staff, within the 45 days, the site must still be ultimately cleaned up by no later than August 4, 2021 with all waste properly disposed at a licensed facility and disposal receipts submitted to this department. In addition, the owner(s) must discontinue dumping/bringing solid and hazardous waste materials to this site. Failure to follow these orders will result in referral to the Prosecutor's office for legal action. Ms. Roman seconded the motion.

After some discussion, **Mrs. Whitright moved to amend the timeline from 45 days to 90 days. Ms. Roman seconded the amendment to the motion. Motion carried.**

5. Population Health Update

Mrs. Straniero reported that a health educator has been hired and will begin employment on March 9, 2021.

We recently were approved through ODH to have an agreement with Ravenwood to provide training and distribute Naloxone kits. This agreement satisfies a grant deliverable.

6. Administration Update

a. Finance Report

A report showing what the carryover amounts were from 2020 to 2021 was provided to the Board. These funds adjust the 2021 budget. Normally, the Board would approve any of these revisions. Mr. Litke and Mrs. Johnson explained that the carryover revisions are made by the Auditor on the health department's behalf. This report is to make the Board aware that revisions were made to the 2021 budget.

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

Mr. Piraino moved to approve the February 2021 financial report as recommended by the health commissioner. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. Health Commissioner Update

Mr. Quade provided graphs to the Board showing different data sets and trends in regards to COVID. He provided data showing the percentages of Geauga County residents that have been vaccinated to date. Geauga County is leading in the numbers of vaccinations administered in Ohio.

The Governor's order was to open schools by March 1, 2021. The Population Health Staff worked very hard at scheduling clinics. At this time, school employees who wanted the vaccine have had their first dose administered. They will all be coming back for their second dose in about 4 weeks. Mr. Quade commended Mrs. Straniero and her team on their work at the vaccination clinics.

The schools have been very generous allowing Geauga Public Health to use their space to hold clinics. We are still vaccinating everyone that is currently eligible. The Department on Aging has been helpful in scheduling the elderly residents for vaccine.

Mr. Quade stated that the scheduling program should be ready to go very soon. Until then, we will continue using the tool we currently have.

Scheduling is still a challenge because we never know how many doses we will be receiving each week. UH Geauga has been providing some of their doses to the health department. This has kept us from having to cancel any clinics.

8. Old Business

There was no old business.

9. New Business

a. 2022 Geauga Public Health Proposed Budget

The 2022 budget was provided to the Board for review. Mr. Quade briefly reviewed the budget. The budget will be voted on at the March 2021 meeting.

b. Supplemental Appropriations

Mr. Piraino moved 2.24.21-a to approve the supplemental appropriation in fund 6026 Board of Health WIC –to increase Transfer Out by \$10,443.00 and 6027 Child & Family Health Service – to increase Transfer Out by \$6,250.00. Ms. Roman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

c. Revenue De-Certification

Mr. Piraino moved 2.24.21-b to approve the revenue decertification to reduce Property & Other Taxes by \$13,886.00 and State Reimbursement Real Estate by \$3,944.00 within the 6002 Board of Health fund. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10. Executive Session

Ms. Roman moved to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss personnel issues and compensation. Mrs. Whitright seconded the motion. Motion carried with a roll call vote. Mr. Gragg, yes; Mr. Piraino, yes; Mrs. Whitright, yes; Ms. Roman, yes; and Dr. Levan, yes. The meeting reconvened with no action by the Board.

11. Other Business

There was no other business.

12. Meetings

Regular Board of Health Meeting, **Wednesday, March 17, 2021** at 5:00 p.m. at 470 Center St., Bldg. 8, Chardon, Ohio.

Annual HDAC meeting 7:30 pm., **Wednesday, March 24, 2021**, 470 enter St., Building #8, Chardon Ohio.

13. Adjourn

As there was no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas Quade
Secretary, Geauga County Board of Health

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