

Hamilton County General Health District
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
May 10, 2010
Minutes

1. Call to Order

At 6:30 p.m., President, Tracey Puthoff, called to order the regular session of the Board of Health of Hamilton County General Health District followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call of Members

Members Present: President, Tracey Puthoff, Esq.; Mark Rippe; Jim Brett, Kenneth Amend, M.D and Tom Chatham arrived at 6:35pm.

District Staff: Timothy Ingram, Health Commissioner; Kathy Lordo, Assistant Health Commissioner; Nee Fong Chin, Hamilton County Chief Prosecuting Attorney; Chris Griffith, Water Quality Director; Greg Kesterman, Environmental Health Director; Lisa Humble, Plumbing Director; Dr. Bjornson, Medical Director; Tamar Simpson, Temporary Administrative Secretary.

Guests: Chris Habel, William Sloneker, Tom Miller

3. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Rippe moved to approve the Board of Health minutes from the April 12, 2010 regular meeting. **Mr. Brett** seconded the motion.

Roll call vote – Yes: Amend, Rippe, Brett, Chatham, Puthoff

4. Health Commissioner's Report

Mr. Ingram stated that he previously submitted his report to the Board members and wanted to defer his time to allow Dr. Bjornson, Medical Director to give an update on the Tuberculosis Program.

Dr. Bjornson reported that the number of Tuberculosis cases have remained constant during 2004 through 2010, with exception in 2008, where there was a significant decrease in the number of newly diagnosed Tb cases per 100,000/population. He also announced a new electronic database has been put in place to track homeless individuals who have been diagnosed with Tb, called the HMIS database. Dr. Bjornson further explained how this database was a community wide system where all homeless shelters have access to. This will allow homeless shelters the opportunity to report those individuals when and if they arrive at their particular facility.

Dr. Bjornson stated there has been an increase in the number of requested skin tests. This is a result of students enrolling to becoming nurses and/or nurse's aides and being obligated to have such tests completed. In closing, he mentioned Tb has remained constant within the last 5-6 years.

Staff Reports

Kathy Lordo, Assistant Health Commissioner

Kathy Lordo, Assistant Health Commissioner announced the three grant funded programs that are currently in place. The CDC Strategic Alliance for Health, RWJF Healthy Kids Healthy Communities and CDC Communities Putting Prevention to Work, which have broad goals to reduce/prevent obesity through healthy eating and exercise. The Strategic Alliance for Health work is focused in three communities – Lockland, Lincoln Heights and Woodlawn while the other grants have a county wide focus.

5. Unfinished Business

a. **Finances – Revenues and Expenditures**

Line item: Regulations & Subscriptions – April 13th report

Mr. Ingram stated that the issue has been rectified. He submitted an email to the Board members that included a new copy of the March financial statements along with an explanation from Clara Hughes, Finance Officer.

6. Finances

a. **Revenues and Expenditures, Mileage and Disbursements**

Mr. Rippe moved to approve the Revenues and Expenditures, Mileage and Disbursements.

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.

Roll call vote – Yes: Amend, Rippe, Brett, Chatham, Puthoff

7. New Business

a. **Regulation 2-2010 AMENDING SECTION VII, (B) (1) OF REGULATION NO. 1-97**

Lisa Humble, Director of Plumbing explained that this regulation revision is the result of the gradual decrease in plumbing responsibility for the inspection of sanitary force mains. It will also give MSD the authority over how force mains and lift stations are installed and designed and will benefit both the consumer and sewer district.

Mr. Rippe moved to approve Regulation 2-2010, AMENDING SECTION VII, (B) (1) OF REGULATION NO. 1-97

Mr. Chatham seconded the motion.

Roll call vote – Yes: Amend, Rippe, Brett, Chatham, Puthoff

b. **Resolution B-2010, TO SCHEDULE THE DEPOSIT OF PUBLIC MONEYS RECEIVED**, comes with recommendation from the 2007 State Audit (which was not received until 2010), that authorizes employees to make deposits of all moneys received twice per week.

Dr. Amend moved to approve Resolution B-2010, TO SCHEDULE THE DEPOSIT OF PUBLIC MONEYS RECEIVED

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.

Roll call vote – YES: Amend, Rippe, Brett, Chatham, Puthoff

c. **Variances**

1. Variance – 8625 Indian Hill Road – Indian Hill – homeowner is requesting to install a leaching chamber system in soil conditions that do not have the required vertical separation distance specified in code. Mr. William Sloneker was in attendance, along with his lawyer, Mr. Chris Habel.

Mr. Griffith, Water Quality Director gave a brief summary by stating that the lot is approximately 3.16 acres and is irregular in shape. The current sewage system consists of primary treatment only and might be original to the home. The system was found to be malfunctioning on May 5, 2009 by Indian Hill personnel. The system failure was confirmed by effluent sampling conducted by Hamilton County Public Health on September 14, 2009 and January 14, 2010. He also mentioned that Hamilton County Public Health has suggested the following options to help improve this system:

- A Pretreated In-ground Drip Distribution System
- A Pretreated At-Grade System
- A Pretreated Low Pressure Pipe System

Mr. Griffith concluded by stating that as an end result, such an alternative system will not create a public health nuisance but by installing the applicants proposed system will result in failure during wet soil conditions. In drier soil conditions, wastewater will leak from the existing septic tank/building sewer and migrate into the surrounding soils untreated.

Mr. Chris Habel, legal representative, spoke on behalf of Mr. Sloneker. He reported that between the May 2009 sampling event and the September 2009 sampling event, Mr. Sloneker had the tanks pumped and cleaned and added one or more store-bought products to try to improve the septic system performance. It is his belief that a leach field once existed but has been cut off at some point and time. Mr. Habel stated their main concern was to achieve compliance and believes that by replacing the missing leach field on this system will do just that. He also reported that Mr. Sloneker is currently pumping his system per request of the District.

Mr. Chatham suggested tabling the request and allowing for Mr. Sloneker to have further negotiations with the staff and find some type of intermediate alternative. Mr. Sloneker was not in agreement with this suggestion.

Dr. Amend moved to deny Variance - SVAR 201006

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.

Roll call vote – Yes: Amend, Rippe, Brett, Chatham, Puthoff

2. Variance – 8531 Bridgetown Road – Miami Township – applicant is a potential buyer for this property and is requesting to install approximately 180ft. of leach lines after and existing septic tank to fix a failing system until sewers are available. Mr. Tom Miller was in attendance at the meeting.

Mr. Griffith reported that the home is presently vacant and the current sewage treatment system was found failing and consists of a septic tank with the leach lines which were previously found to be failing since 2003.

Mr. Miller stated that he was trying to have a system put in place that would be financially suitable in order for him to sell the property. He also stated that he was proposing to install leach lines in the hope of abating the nuisance until sanitary sewers become available.

Mr. Brett moved to deny Variance – SVAR 201004

Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.

Roll call vote – Yes: Amend, Rippe, Brett, Chatham, Puthoff

8. Adjournment

At 8:14 p.m. **Mr. Chatham** moved to adjourn the meeting. **Mr. Brett** seconded the motion.

Roll call vote – Yes: Amend, Rippe, Brett, Chatham, Puthoff

The next Board of Health meeting will be held on Monday, June 14, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Tracey A Puthoff, President

Timothy I. Ingram, Secretary
Health Commissioner