

Hamilton County General Health District
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
October 10, 2011
Minutes

1. Call to Order

At 6:30 p.m., Vice President, Jim Brett, 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: Vice President, Jim Brett
Dr. Kenneth Amend
Mark Rippe
Tracey Puthoff, Esq.

District Staff Present: Timothy Ingram, Health Commissioner
Kathy Lordo, Asst. Health Commissioner
Steve Bjornson, M.D., Medical Director
Greg Kesterman, Asst. Health Commissioner
Nee Fong Chin, Chief Asst. Prosecuting Attorney
Robin Fristoe, Administrative Secretary
Chuck DeJonckheere, Director of Waste Management
Chris Griffith, Director of Water Quality

Guests: Sharon Wachter, Jewish Hosp. – Clean Kitchen award recipient
Shari Turner, Jewish Hosp. – Clean Kitchen award recipient
Ray Wilkotte, homeowner
Raquel Lopez, XU student
Colleen McGuire, XU student
Emily Jansing, XU student
John Peckskamp, New Baltimore Landfill
Denny Truman, New Baltimore Landfill
Michael Truman, New Baltimore Landfill

3. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Amend moved to approve the September 10, 2011 Board of Health meeting minutes; **Ms. Puthoff** seconded the motion.

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

4. Clean Kitchen Award

Sharon Wachter and Shari Turner from Jewish Hospital Food Nutrition Services attended the Board of Health meeting to receive their Clean Kitchen Award. The City of Blue Ash Recreation Center also received the Clean Kitchen Award, although there was no staff in attendance at the meeting. Mr. Kesterman will mail the award to the appropriate people at the Blue Ash Recreation Center.

5. Health Commissioner's Report

Mr. Ingram began by mentioning the two compliments received for two Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) staff members.

Stacy Wegley, Director of Health Promotion and Education, received a compliment from the YMCA commending her on her excellent leadership and commitment with the Communities Putting Prevention to Work program.

Greg Cassiere, Supervisor of Water Quality, received a complimentary letter from the Ohio EPA Southwest District office, District Chief, for his prompt response to a sewage spill into a stream that flows into the Winton Woods Lake.

Ms. Puthoff inquired as to any updates on the lease for the 237 William Howard Taft Road building. Mr. Ingram responded that he had recently received a copy of the proposed lease and has not had a chance to review it. The people purchasing the property are proceeding with their due-diligence; Mr. Ingram has been told that they expect to close on the sale of the property by the end of November/first of December. The lease is currently being reviewed by the Prosecutor's office and Tim will be meeting with them sometime within the next two weeks. The County Commissioners will be the lease holder for the space occupied by the TB Control program. Mr. Ingram offered to email the Board members an outline of the pertinent information on the proposed lease.

Staff Reports

Kathy Lordo, Assistant Health Commissioner, Department of Community Health Services

Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) was awarded another full year of funding for the Strategic Alliance for Health program. In July 2011, HCPH made an application for the Community Transformation Grant and in September were notified that we were approved but unfunded. Additional dollars may be released in 2012. If so, our application would be reconsidered at that time.

The programs within the Division of Health Promotion and Education (HPE) focus on prevention, so we look at all of the risk factors of chronic disease. The major focus in our programs is to get people moving and decrease obesity. In doing so, we are now going to daycare facilities to talk to them about adopting better eating policies and better exercise policies. Currently, daycare facilities within the three targeted communities of Colerain, Springfield Township and Forest Park are being contacted. We received additional funding to take the project to the rest of the county.

The Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) program also addresses obesity issues. We have collaborated with Cincinnati Children's Hospital to identify pediatricians that have patients who are over weight and encourage those offices to use the electronic medical records to identify these children and offer counseling services to their parents to connect them with resources within the community.

Our Customer Service reports a 2% decrease in the number of births within Hamilton County for the last three quarters although there was an 18% increase in the number of records that have been purchased. This is a plus for the online and phone purchasing process.

We are beginning to see growth with online plumbing applications. To date, 5% of the plumbers registered with HCPH used the on line registration process. The early adopting plumbers used the system 59% of the time; this accounted for 20.5% of the total purchases.

Dr. Bjornson, Medical Director, Disease Prevention

The number of confirmed TB cases has decreased by half compared to this time in 2010 with no explanation for the decrease.

Due to pool closure and cooler weather, there has been a dramatic decrease in the number of cryptosporidiosis cases reported.

Mr. Ingram discussed the HealthWatch newsletter that is included in the Board report. This is a collaborative project with Butler County Health Department, Clermont County General Health District, and Hamilton County Public Health. The HealthWatch system is used in the schools by the school nurse reporting the number of absences per day as well as the symptoms. The Epidemiology Division of HCPH produces the newsletter.

Greg Kesterman, Assistant Health Commissioner, Department of Environmental Health Services

The Division of Environmental Health (EH) has seen a slight increase in the number of licenses purchased for the Food Service Operations and Retail Food Establishments licensed in 2011. Mr. Kesterman mentioned that at the next Board of Health meeting, the Board will need to hold a public hearing to lower the fees again by approximately 6.5%. This is based on a cost methodology which is required by law. We will continue to see efficiencies through realignment of inspection areas as well as the digitalization of the program. Mr. Kesterman feels that the education efforts of the EH staff allows them less time spent in each facility, too without compromising quality.

Complaints in the nuisance program for the EH division shows a slight increase while the Smoke Free Ohio program shows a decrease.

Brown County has reported that they are pleased with the current contract and the level of service that they are receiving from our plumbing inspectors.

Rumpke has received a large number of odor complaints related to the reaction occurring at the landfill. HCPH staff will continue to monitor.

The Division of Water Quality has seen a slight decrease in the number of complaints. The Ohio EPA recently released funds to HCPH for the installation of new septic systems for residents who qualify. It is anticipated that this will help 18 to 20 homes.

6. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

7. Finances

a. Revenues and Expenditures, Mileage and Disbursements

Mr. Ingram reported that HCPH had a good quarter financially, in part due to the diversification of funding streams.

Mr. Rippe moved to approve the Revenues and Expenditures, Mileage and Disbursements; **Ms. Puthoff** seconded the motion.

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

8. New Business

a. Variance SVAR201106 – 2660 Elstun Road, Anderson Township

Applicant requests to install a replacement sewage treatment system that will not meet the setback requirements set forth in Regulation 529. Additionally, the applicant is requesting to discharge treated effluent into an undefined drainageway.

Ms. Puthoff moved to approve Variance SVAR201106 following recommendations of staff; **Dr. Amend** seconded the motion.

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

b. Resolution E-2011 - To approve the transfer of the 2011 Construction and Demolition Debris Landfill operating license from New Baltimore C&DD, LTD. to New Baltimore, LLC.

Mr. DeJonckheere, Director of Waste Management, introduced those in attendance from the New Baltimore, LLC. He explained that this company also owns a municipal solid waste landfill in Perry County. A public notice has been provided via the Enquirer and letters were mailed to the adjoining properties to alert those homeowners of the change of ownership. There were no comments or objections that resulted from the notification.

Ms. Puthoff moved to approve Resolution E-2011; **Dr. Amend** seconded the motion.

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

9. Executive Session

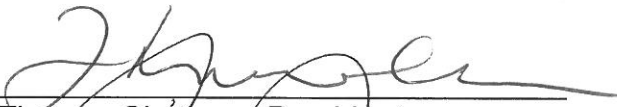
Ms. Puthoff moved to enter into executive session at 7:30pm to discuss personnel matters; **Mr. Rippe** seconded the motion.

At 8:12pm the Board of Health concluded the executive session.


10. Adjournment

At 8:14pm **Ms. Puthoff** moved to adjourn the meeting; **Dr. Amend** seconded the motion.
Roll call vote – Yes: Amend, Rippe, Puthoff, Brett

The next Board of Health meeting will be held on Monday, November 14, 2011 at 6:30 pm.



Thomas Chatham, President



Timothy I. Ingram, Secretary
Health Commissioner