

**Hamilton County General Health District  
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH  
March 9, 2015  
Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

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

District Staff Present: Timothy Ingram, Health Commissioner  
Greg Kesterman, Asst. Health Commissioner  
Kathy Lordo, Asst. Health Commissioner  
Dr. Stephen Bjornson, Medical Director  
Robin Fristoe, Administrative Secretary

**3. Clean Kitchen Awards**

Sixteen Clean Kitchen Award recipients were recognized.

**4. Approval of Minutes**

**Dr. Amend** moved to approve the minutes from the February 9, 2015 Board of Health meeting.

**Ms. Puthoff** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**5. Health Commissioner's Report – Staff Reports**

Commissioner Ingram thanked Dr. Amend for agreeing to serve a five-year term on the Board.

Commissioner Ingram reported that Clermont County Health District renewed, for the fourth time, its contract for tuberculosis medical and consultant services with Hamilton County Public Health.

Commissioner Ingram provided an update of the meeting with the administration of Indian Hill to review the new statewide Sewage Rules and the recently adopted Board of Health policies. Hamilton County Public Health is planning to initiate routine sewage system inspections under the new statewide sewage rules. The first two areas to focus on are newer systems installed after 2007 and the semi-public systems. We will then create a plan with Indian Hill to inspect systems installed prior to 2007.

Ms. Puthoff complimented the layout of the 2014 Annual Report. She feels it is very readable and the charts are helpful.

## **5a) Department of Community Health Services**

Ms. Lordo discussed the 18-month supplemental PHEP funding from Ohio Department of Health for county and regional Ebola planning throughout Ohio. She explained Hamilton County Public Health would receive funding for Southwest Ohio and distribute it to the public health jurisdictions within the region.

Ms. Lordo recognized an article written by Mary Ellen Kramer, Health Educator at Hamilton County Public Health that was published in Center for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Community Health Success Story library.

Ms. Lordo discussed the progress with Sharonville services. The immunization clinics in Sharonville continue to be operated by Hamilton County Public Health staff, although the attendance is very low. Our staff provides Sharonville a monthly report regarding community health services to its residents. The Health Commissioner, Ms. Lordo, and Mr. Kesterman will attend the next Sharonville Board of Health meeting to answer any questions.

Ms. Puthoff asked to whom we report on the Sexually Transmitted Disease program. She said she would like to see the progress to date. Commissioner Ingram told her all reports are found on the Hamilton County Public Health website in the resource library and he directed her to the page.

Dr. Bjornson provided an update on communicable diseases. Reportable communicable diseases were down this month, Syphilis cases were the same as January (48), and Tb visits were down this month.

## **5b) Department of Environmental Health**

Mr. Kesterman provided a storm water success story where staff identified a salt pile at a shopping center that was not properly covered and/or enclosed. Staff promptly notified the property owner and maintenance contractor of the issue and they were provided directions and guidelines for proper salt storage to protect public health and the environment.

Mr. Kesterman told of an incident where the Environmental Health Division had received a complaint through Colerain Township EMS who had responded to a property in early January. Staff found the home to have an infestation of flies, significant water intrusion, and a non-functioning bathroom. The elderly residents were unable to take care of themselves or maintain general sanitation around the home. During inspection, Mobile Crisis removed the residents for mental and medical health evaluation. The home was condemned.

The successful intervention resulted in a quick turnaround for the residents. In February, a re-inspection of the home was conducted and all violations had been corrected. Mr. Kesterman reported that the most exciting part of the story is that the residents were set-up with in-home care and the family has made it a priority to visit regularly the occupants to ensure they are okay.

Mr. Rippe would like Sanitarian supervisor, Tucker Stone, to put together a presentation on a similar success story that involved a man who was mentally unstable and living in deplorable conditions. Mr. Rippe was touched by the great strides and care that Tucker Stone took to get help for this man.

Mr. Kesterman mentioned the Division of Environmental Health has received positive feedback from Sharonville residents, businesses and the administration. One restaurant owner went so far as to contact the Sharonville Chamber of Commerce to compliment Hamilton County Public Health service.

**6. Unfinished Business**

There was no unfinished business.

**7. Finances**

**Monthly Disbursements**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to approve the monthly disbursements.

**Mr. Rippe** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**8. New Business**

a) Board of Health reorganization  
Nominations for President and Vice President

**Dr. Amend** nominated Tracey Puthoff for President.

**Mr. Rippe** seconded the motion. There were no further nominations.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**Dr. Amend** nominated Mark Rippe for Vice-President.

**Ms. Puthoff** seconded the motion. There were no further nominations.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

Meeting Schedule

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to schedule regular Board of Health meetings for the second Monday of each month, beginning at 6:30 pm and to be held at the offices of Hamilton County Public Health, 250 William Howard Taft, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45219.

**Mr. Rippe** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

b) Health Commissioner – Out of State Travel Requests

April 23-25, 2015 – West Baden, Indiana

July 6-10, 2015 – Kansas City

November 1-5, 2015 – Chicago

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to approve Commissioner Ingram’s out of state travel.

**Mr. Brett** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

**9. Adjournment**

**Ms. Puthoff** moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**Dr. Amend** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**

The next Board of Health meeting is April 13, 2015.

  
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Tracey Puthoff, President

  
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Timothy I. Ingram, Secretary  
Health Commissioner