

Hamilton County General Health District
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
March 14, 2016
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: Tracey Puthoff, President
Dr. Kenneth Amend
Jim Brett
Thomas Chatham
Mark Rippe

District Staff Present: Timothy Ingram, Health Commissioner
Greg Kesterman, Assistant Health Commissioner
Craig Davidson, Assistant Health Commissioner
Nee Fong Chin, Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
Mike Samet, Public Information Officer

Guests: Ken Schroeder, Clean Kitchen Award Winner

3. Clean Kitchen Awards

Mr. Kesterman read the list of 11 Clean Kitchen Award recipients. One of the recipients, Mt. Washington Care Center, has received the award each year (six) since the award's inception. Mr. Schroeder accepted the award on behalf of Mt. Washington Care Center, along with congratulations and thanks from the Board of Health members.

4. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Amend moved to approve the minutes from the February 8, 2016 Board of Health meeting.

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – Ms. Puthoff, Dr. Amend, Mr. Brett, Mr. Rippe – Aye; Mr. Chatham abstained.

5. Health Commissioner's Report

Commissioner Ingram provided a brief re-cap of the District Advisory Council meeting held March 7, 2016. He also reviewed a series of compliments received for various staff members. Two in particular were letters from the Miami Township Senior Center discussing the value of Clean Kitchen Awards and one from the Hamilton County Sheriff's office thanking Dr. Bjornson for naloxone training.

Staff Reports

(a) Department of Community Health Services

Mr. Davidson reported that the agency provided an update on the Zika virus to the Hamilton County Emergency Operations Team March 14. In addition, he reported on the agency initiative to provide breastfeeding policy for staff, as well as a dedicated room for pumping. Finally, Mr. Davidson reported hiring of a health educator dedicated to HIV/STD, as well as a nursing supervisor.

Ms. Puthoff inquired as to the agency's stance on promoting breastfeeding and asked that staff maintain sensitivity to women who may be unable and/or unwilling to breastfeed.

(b) Department of Environmental Health Services

Mr. Kesterman reported that bed bug complaints have declined significantly since 2003. He attributes part of the decline to educational efforts by Environmental Health staff in remediating bed bug infestations, as well as education for tenants and property owners.

The District Licensing Council will hold its annual meeting March 23, 10 a.m. at Hamilton County Public Health.

There were five home condemnations due to unsanitary condition during the past month.

6. Unfinished Business

Mr. Davidson completed 30 minutes of required training for Board of Health members, in accordance with Public Health Accreditation Standard: 12.3.1 (Diseases and Health Equity). The training consisted of a thorough review of agency efforts to reduce the incidence of syphilis and HIV. Syphilis rates, while not yet reduced to pre-epidemic levels, have declined steadily since Hamilton County Public Health assumed responsibility for STD remediation in the County.

He also reviewed the 2015 Hamilton County Child Fatality Review, covering causes of death, demographic characteristics of victims and strategies to reduce the incidence of child fatality. The report represented a detailed look at the causes of child mortality and cited work by members of the county-wide Child Fatality Review Team and its associated agencies to move Hamilton County to fatality numbers more in line with Ohio and national rates.

8. Finances

a) Monthly Disbursements Report

Mr. Brett moved to approve the monthly disbursements.

Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Commissioner Ingram announced the resignation of the assistant finance officer, as well as the 2017 scheduled retirement of the finance officer. As the Board was instrumental in the

hiring of the finance officer, Commissioner Ingram asked that if there are any candidates known to members, please forward them.

9. New Business

a) Board of Health Reorganization

Dr. Amend moved to appoint Ms. Puthoff President of the Board of Health and Mr. Rippe Vice President.

Mr. Brett seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Dr. Amend moved to schedule 2016-2017 Board of Health meetings for the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at Hamilton County Public Health, 250 William Howard Taft, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219.

Mr. Rippe seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Mr. Rippe moved to reschedule the May Board of Health meeting from May 9 to May 18, beginning at 6:30 p.m., at Hamilton County Public Health.

Dr. Amend seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

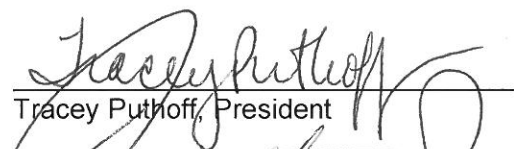
10. Adjournment

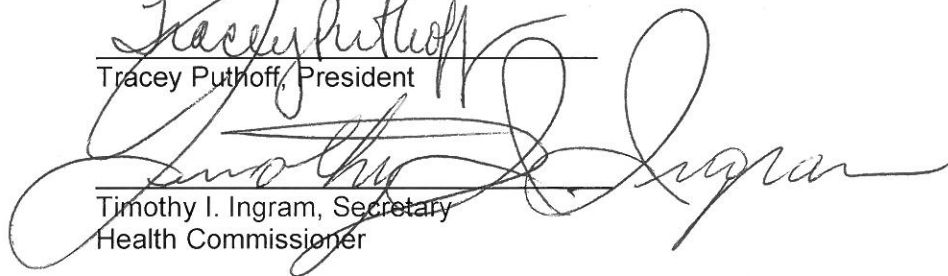
Mr. Rippe moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:20 p.m.

Mr. Brett seconded the motion

Roll Call Vote – All Aye

Next Board of Health meeting: April 11, 2016.


Tracey Puthoff, President


Timothy I. Ingram, Secretary
Health Commissioner