

Hamilton County General Health District
REGULAR MEETING – BOARD OF HEALTH
July 11, 2011
Minutes

1. Call to Order

At 6:35 p.m., President Tom Chatham 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, Tom Chatham
Vice President, Jim Brett
Dr. Kenneth Amend
Tracey Puthoff, Esq.
Mark Rippe

District Staff Present: Timothy Ingram, Health Commissioner
Nee Fong Chin, Hamilton County Chief Prosecuting Attorney
Stephen Bjornson, M.D., Medical Director
Kathy Lordo, Asst. Health Commissioner
Greg Kesterman, Asst. Health Commissioner
Greg Cassiere, Water Quality Supervisor
Chuck DeJonckheere, Waste Management Director
Brad Johnson, Waste Management
Robin Fristoe, Administrative Secretary

Guest: Charles Meyer
James Riggs

3. Clean Kitchen Award

Mr. Kesterman announced the current recipient of the Clean Kitchen Award; Sharon Hill Daycare and Preschool located in Forest Park. The members of the Board commended the facility on a job well done. With no representative present, Mr. Kesterman will mail the award, signed by the Board President, to Sharon Hill Daycare and Preschool.

4. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Amend moved to approve the June 13, 2011 Board of Health meeting minutes; **Ms. Puthoff** seconded the motion.

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

5. Health Commissioner's Report

Mr. Ingram discussed some of the changes to the State Budget Bill that is now law. County Commissioners will continue to be obligated to pay housing and utility costs for general health districts; the Manufactured Home Program will remain an active program with Ohio Department of Health and local health districts; the Smoke Free

Ohio enforcement program was funded again; and marinas are no longer a regulated entity in Ohio.

Mr. Ingram reported that Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) has reached the mid-year point in our fiscal year, and we continue to be sound both fiscally and programmatically.

Staff Reports

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

The TB control program is on target with the use of the electronic medical records software. They will begin entering clinic appointment information in July followed by the entry of record information in September. Ms. Lordo mentioned that after review of the necessary x-ray equipment to purchase, the budget cost will be much lower than anticipated.

HCPH received a great score of 93 from CDC for our Cities Readiness Initiative. We responded to the report with information that had been overlooked and we were informed by CDC that the information provided would again raise our score.

The Division of Epidemiology and Assessment purchased a web-based system that will provide on line access to community health information. Ms. Lordo explained how this program will work and the information it will provide. The Epi staff will meet individually with each community to explain how the program works as well as how they can obtain their community's information.

Ms. Lordo provided a brief update on the TB case that was drug resistant. Since the drug to treat this case cost more than the usual medication, Board members expressed concern as to how that would impact the TB budget. She explained that based on our contract, any expenses above the expected will be absorbed by the County Commissioners.

Website visits are down, although this may be due in part to the fact that if a person bookmarks a page they can visit that page at anytime without showing a hit to the website. We hope to see an increase as people become more aware of the online applications.

Dr. Bjornson, Medical Director, reported that the Communicable Disease report reflects consistency for the past four years. To date there are no active TB cases associated to the multi drug resistant case.

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

Food inspection totals for the Division of Environmental Health for 2011 are slightly below last years totals. Mr. Kesterman feels confident that all food service facilities will receive the required inspections for 2011.

HCPH received notice today of a new development in the Smoke Free Ohio program. The Ohio Liquor Department of Commerce decided they would not renew the liquor license for Peg's Pub. This is due to the \$56,000 in penalties owed to the Ohio Department of Health for violations of Smoke Free Ohio. Peg's Pub will have thirty days to appeal this decision.

Luke Jacobs, Supervisor in the Division of Environmental Health, and Craig Davidson, Epidemiologist from the Division of Epidemiology, presented a poster at the National Environmental Health Association (NEHA) spring conference and it was presented for viewing at the Board meeting. The poster focused on the 2010 Salmonella outbreak that occurred during a local church festival. The poster highlighted an overview of Salmonella, data used for confirming the outbreak, and the Environmental Health response to the outbreak. As a result of this outbreak, greater outreach has occurred to church festivals since they are non-regulated. This incident showed the need for additional education.

Mr. Kesterman reported on a local farmer's market that will soon be selling herd shares of dairy cows to interested customers. Customers who purchase herd shares will, in exchange, be able to pick up their portion of raw milk. This is a loop hole since the sale of raw milk is illegal in Ohio. Staff are working with Ohio Department of Agriculture in an attempt to restrict this activity as there is a large public health risk.

Mr. Rippe suggested that HCPH staff contact Cincinnati Water Works (CWW) and inform them of our success in aligning backflow devices. He indicated that there would be benefits for business owners if their backflow inspection dates were the same for both CWW and HCPH.

Construction and Demolition Debris (C&DD) volumes continue to decline to record lows at C&DD facilities. This could be attributed to the decrease in construction. Burger C&DD landfill requested an exemption from the standard cap requirements. The Ohio EPA concurs with the recommendations of HCPH.

HCPH Waste Management staff recently observed EPA staff sampling at the Saint Bernard landfill. They are checking to see what lies below the surface, which then will determine in what direction to move forward.

Director of Waste Management, Chuck DeJonckheere, discussed the coal ash facility in Whitewater Township. The coal ash is being disposed of in a dry landfill with leachate collection that contains a clay liner. He added that this collection site is in close proximity of the Great Miami and Whitewater River.

Mr. Kesterman introduced Chuck DeJonckheere and Brad Johnson, RS, from the Division of Waste Management who provided a presentation on their Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) project. Their project looked at two programs, the Infectious Waste and the Retail Tire Inspections. Through the process they were able to prioritize the frequency of inspections, reduce documentation, and revise program spreadsheets. Program spreadsheets were improved and updated to capture the necessary information to categorize the facilities and assign them to the inspectors. Dramatic improvements were also made to facility correspondence and inspection sheets, including their delivery during the inspection.

Mr. Johnson added, although the staff entered the CQI process with much skepticism, they have benefited greatly from the process.

6. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business to discuss.

7. Finances

a. Revenues and Expenditures, Mileage and Disbursements

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

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

8. New Business

a. Variance SVAR201104 – 8563 Bridgetown Rd., Green Twp. – Homeowner requests to install a black water holding tank until sanitary sewer is available.

Mr. Brett moved to approve Variance SVAR201104; **Dr. Amend** seconded the motion.

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

b. Variance SVAR201105– 7360 Indian Hill Road, Indian Hill –

Mr. Brett moved to approve variance SVAR201105 contingent upon the submission of new site plans that are approved by staff and that meet HSTS Regulation 529 and ODH Regulations; **Ms. Puthoff** seconded the motion.

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

9. Executive Session

Ms. Puthoff moved to enter into executive session at 8:00pm to discuss personnel matters; **Mr. Rippe** seconded the motion.

At 8:16pm the Board of Health concluded the executive session with no decisions to vote upon.

10. Adjournment

At 8:17pm **Ms. Puthoff** moved to adjourn the meeting; **Mr. Brett** seconded the motion.
Roll call vote – Yes: Amend, Puthoff, Chatham, Brett, Rippe

The next Board of Health meeting will be held on Monday, August 8, 2011 at 6:30 pm.

Thomas Chatham, President

Timothy I. Ingram, Secretary
Health Commissioner