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Licking County Health Department

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Board of Health

Minutes

April 21, 2020

Call to Order – The April 21, 2020, board meeting was held by teleconference. President Neisha Grubaugh called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Members in attendance by telephone were: Dr. Scarpitti, Mary Billy, John Wetmore, Larry Friesel, Gary Wood, Chicky Dyer, Carole Wachtel and Shelly Ellis.

Before beginning the meeting, Joe asked that our thoughts turn to the family of Licking County Board of Health member Jim Glover. Jim passed away recently. A moment of silence was observed in honor of Jim Glover.

Adoption of the Agenda – Dr. Scarpitti made a motion to approve the revised meeting agenda adding a variance. Second by Carole Wachtel, motion approved.

Approval of Minutes – Dr. Scarpitti made a motion to approve the March 17, 2020, meeting minutes. Second Chicky Dyer, Gary Wood abstained, motion approved.

Public Comment – No members of the public present due to the pandemic. The board meeting was provided to the public by Facebook live.

Hearings and Variances – A variance request was presented to the Board for the address of 375 Woodside Drive S.W., Pataskala. The existing well on the property is 5 feet from the home. A new home had to be built on the existing footprint of the previous house.

A motion to approve the variance request at 375 Woodside Drive S.W., Pataskala, was made by Carole Wachtel. Second Mary Billy, motion approved.

A variance request was presented to the Board for the address of 15061 Brushy Fork Road, Newark. The request is to allow a 5-foot isolation distance from the East, West, and North property line. The lot is small.

A motion was made by Dr. Scarpitti to disapprove the variance until the property can be re-surveyed per the Sanitarian recommendation. Second Larry Friesel, motion approved.

A variance request was presented to the Board for the Lazy River At Granville, 2340 Dry Creek Road, N.E., Granville. The request is to allow the installation of a spray irrigation system in a floodplain. It is indicated that the area is not prone to flooding. The approval should be contingent upon the Licking County Planning Commission approving the work in the floodplain and issuing a permit.

A motion was made by Dr. Scarpitti to approve the variance at the Lazy River At Granville upon the Licking County Planning Commission approval. Second Mary Billy, motion approved.

Community and Personal Health Report – Kari Kennedy provided a written report to the Board.

The entire Board thanked Kari and her staff for all they are doing to track Covid-19 cases and assisting in tasks to keep Licking County residents safe from the virus.

Environmental Report and Health and Preparedness Report - Chad Brown provided a written report to the Board.

The EH staff are responding to complaints being made by the public of non-compliant facilities. Facility inspections are each documented.

The entire Board expressed appreciation to the Environmental Department for all their efforts during the pandemic.

Maternal and Child Health Report - Todd Kirkpatrick provided a written report to the Board.

Shelly asked about the Farmer's market pertaining to WIC coupons. Coupons are given to families in July. Hopefully, the families will be able to utilize.

Health Promotion Report - Ashley See provided a written report to the Board.

Health Commissioner Report - Joe Ebel provided a written report to the Board.

The main concern right now is of course COVID-19. Many LCHD employees are working from home. Glass enclosures have been installed at the public access windows for the vital statistic, clinic, and WIC offices. The consensus from Ohio Department of Health is that a major reopening of the state will not happen soon. Manufacturing facilities may be first to begin to open. Restaurants, retail, beauty/nail salons and leisure venues may not begin to open May 1.

Dr. Scarpitti asked about antibody testing. A few testing surveys are to begin in Licking County. John Wetmore asked about concerns of persons' actions when the state does relax restrictions and if our staff will be overwhelmed. Chad stated we are working on a plan now to prepare. We can call on additional LCHD staff from other departments to assist the Environmental Department in this effort. Gary Wood noticed that all the employees in Walmart are now wearing masks. The public on the other hand were not practicing social distancing or seem to be worried about health safety. It was a disappointing experience. Mary Billy is surprised that the Farmer's Market is opening. Guidance came out today on how to reduce public exposure of the virus at the Farmer's Market.

The quantity of virus testing numbers is not available at this time. We do know the number of those which were tested and sent by Licking Memorial Hospital, but many are tested elsewhere. We are in contact with our county jail daily to monitor the status and assess their needs.

Financial Reports and Bills -The financial reports were presented to the Board and discussed.

The March LCHD Financial Reports were approved on a motion by Dr. Scarpitti, second Carole Wachtel, all members voted yea, motion approved.

The March LCHD Bills were discussed and approved on a motion by Carole Wachtel, second Shelly Ellis, all members voted yea, motion approved.

Personnel: A notice letter of retirement was presented to the Board from Barb

Lanthorn.

A motion was made by Mary Billy to approve the resignation, with regret, from Barb Lanthorn. Second Carole Wachtel, motion approved.

A request was made to hire a Director of Environmental Health. Greg Chumney, EH Manager, has applied for the position.

A motion was made by Carole Wachtel to authorize the Health Commissioner to hire Greg Chumney as the Director of Environmental Health effective May 30. Second Gary Wood, motion approved.

A request was made to internally post the position of Director of Administrative Services. The new Director of Administrative Services will begin duties upon the retirement of Barb Lanthorn.

A motion was made by Dr. Scarpitti to authorize the LCHD to post internally the position of Director of Administrative Services. Second Mary Billy, motion approved.

A request was made to authorize the appointment of a new Vital Statistic Registrar and Deputy Vital Statistic Registrar. The current registrar is Barbara Lanthorn and deputy registrar is currently Patty Merriam.

A motion was made by Carole Wachtel to authorize the Health Commissioner to appoint Patty Merriam as the new LCHD Vital Statistic Registrar and Anna Wollenburg as the new Deputy Vital Statistic Registrar. Second Shelly Ellis, motion approved.

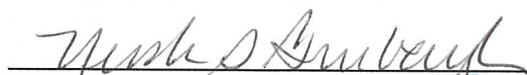
Board member comments: Several Board members expressed their gratitude for all the hard work and accomplishments being made by the LCHD staff. Carole Wachtel mentioned her admiration for the nursing home care givers who are staying at the facility to further protect patients by not leaving for home each day.

Neisha asked what negative impact employees working at home may cause and can we sustain this practice. Joe answered that those who can work effectively from home will continue to do so at this time. But those needed at the facility will be reporting back to the office soon. Justin Ward, IT Manager, has been a god send to LCHD to have been able to achieve all our technical needs during this pandemic concern. Shelly Ellis thanked all the employees at LCHD for doing a great job of keeping everyone safe. John Wetmore noted how different the notes from last meeting was from this meeting. In a month, a lot can change.

The next scheduled meeting of the Licking County Board of Health will be held Tuesday, May 19, 2020.

The Licking County Board of Health was adjourned at 7:25 PM on a motion by Dr. Scarpitti, Mary Billy second, motion approved.

Approved:



Neisha Grubaugh, Board President



R. Joseph Ebel, Health Commissioner



Barbara Lanthorn, Administrative Director