



Board of Health

Minutes

October 20, 2020

Call to Order – The October 20, 2020 board meeting was held with in-person attendance as well as the option to attend virtually. President Neisha Grubaugh called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Health Commissioner Chad Brown introduced Ms. Kathy Wyatt, a 12-year resident of Licking County and newly appointed member for the City of Pataskala. Kathy introduced herself and will be serving a five-year term.

Members in attendance were: Mr. John Wetmore, Mr. Larry Friesel, Mrs. Carole Wachtel, Mrs. Neihsa Grubaugh, Mrs. Shelly Ellis, Mrs. Chicky Dyer, Ms. Kathy Wyatt, with Mr. Gary Wood attending virtually.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Adoption of the Agenda –Mrs. Carole Wachtel made a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Second by Mrs. Shelly Ellis, motion approved.

Approval of Minutes – Mrs. Chicky Dyer made a motion to approve the September 15, 2020 meeting minutes. Second by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, motion approved.

Public Comment:

Mrs. Barb Lechner of Granville, Ohio addressed the board.

Hearings and Variances – One hearing, and two variance requests were presented to the board for the following:

The Mockingbird Hills Subdivision was presented for review. The plot of land located on Loudon Street in Granville would be divided among nine two-to-three acre lots, split between Granville and McKean townships. There is adequate groundwater in the area for the supply of water wells, and the requirements have been met for the sewage treatment systems that will serve the homes in the subdivision. The sanitarian and Health Commissioner both recommend approval of the development.

A motion to approve the subdivision request was made by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, seconded by Mr. Larry Friesel, motion approved.

A 4601 Linnville Road, Heath variance request was presented to the board for Beagle Hills Services, on behalf of the homeowner. This is an approved Water Pollution Control Loan Fund site, and the presented system will not meet the required length on contour due to site limitations, but the installer will make up for the lack of length for an increase in square footage. An aeration treatment unit will also be installed as part of the system.



Based on the soil type at the location, Health Commissioner Chad Brown and the sanitarian recommend approval.

A motion was made to approve by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, second by Mr. John Wetmore, motion approved.

A 744 Burg Street, Granville variance was presented to the board to install a pool at the location which will infringe upon the existing household sewer system. Connecting to public sewer was discussed, but the public system is not accessible to the property. The system will be ten feet from the pool and four feet from the property line, but it is being encouraged to move closer to the pool, and further from the property line to avoid any encroachment. The system would require a lift pump to be installed which would eliminate any concerns with elevation if they were identified during the installation process.

A motion was made by Mr. John Wetmore to approve, seconded by Mrs. Shelly Ellis, motion approved.

Featured Program – Ashleigh Thornton and Casey Pitcock presented on the ODMAP Tool as well as statistical overdose data collected through the end of 2019.

Community and Personal Health Report – Kari Kennedy provided a written report to the board. Kari discussed flu vaccines and reported a high demand for the vaccine. We should receive the remaining shipment of our 2020 vaccine this week. In years past, we have had difficulty with the vaccine being released in portions, rather than all at once, which causes a short fall in the distribution. Kari provided an update to the board pertaining to pandemic and that we started to see an uptick in cases beginning last week. Despite this increase, we are still maintaining a timeline of making initial contact within 24 hours of receiving the case. As part of this, Pataskala Oaks Long Term Care facility has seen an uptick in cases in residents and staff and have been testing on a weekly basis. The remaining long-term care facilities have a few sporadic cases, but it seems that most facilities have cases under control. Long term care facilities Sharon Brooke and Sharon Glen still have not seen any cases, testing staff on a daily basis with a rapid test. The director of nursing advised that the rapid tests are costing the facility a significant amount per week, but it has proven to be successful in protecting their residents. School cases have been sporadic, with a high number of students quarantined. Kari discussed the confusion among the general public with the difference in the definition of quarantine and isolation. In addition, there was discussion about the desire of the public to be tested. Kari did advise of a Lacrosse Encephalitis case listed on the Communicable Disease Report, which is still suspected and with the CDC for confirmation. The individual is no longer hospitalized. Mrs. Shelly Ellis inquired about deaths at Pataskala Oaks and hospitalizations, and that overall, we have not seen a significant number of either. Health Commissioner Chad Brown advised that the facility disbursed a letter today advising that we approved them to have COVID-19 positive



employees to continue to work, which was not accurate. This information and our concerns about the practices at the facility have been shared with ODH. Chad explained that allowing staff that are in quarantine without symptoms to work should be used only as a last resort, but at this point in time, they have not exhausted all options to be in this type of situation. There was discussion that the staff could be off and continue to get paid through the Cares Act and other available funding resources.

Environmental Report and Health and Preparedness Report – A written report was not provided to the board. Health Commissioner Chad Brown advised that we are up to date on food inspections. We have done a file review on Water Well and Sewage permits, advising 70 customers that their permits would be expiring due to a lack of activity. To date, about 60 of those individuals have reached out to achieve compliance. Legend Valley Campground and Concert venue is hosting drive-in events, with a solid plan that is working, and has been conducting concerts almost weekly. The EH division is at a critical point to get the new software up and running and anticipates about half of the programs being operational in the system this year, while the remaining half coming on in 2021. A question arose from Mrs. Kathy Wyatt asking about mask enforcement. Chad advised that this responsibility fell to the food inspectors at the beginning of the pandemic, and the Health Promotion division now provides this enforcement through education, with visits to the facility only occurring in the event that we get continued complaints. We do not have the authority to remove food licenses or fine these facilities for violations of the mask order, but we can refer ongoing issues to the Ohio Department of Liquor Control, who can enact repercussions through their liquor licensure.

Maternal and Child Health Report - Todd Kirkpatrick provided a written report to the board. Todd advised that WIC and Early Head Start continues to provide the same services that they have always provided, but with slight variation. Todd advised that some other WIC clinics are reopening in their counties. We do not feel that this is necessary at this time, but Todd advised that he would like to provide this service for children who have specific needs for special formulas. Our facility would be designed to handle this to determine height and weight and establish the necessity for the special nutrition needs. With current exemptions, WIC is reaching a point where we have height and weight data from ten months ago, which is an integral part of what this program is based on. Todd advised that WIC conducted a survey of their clients and a vast majority of the responses were positive. The WIC Dietetic intern had been wonderful and finished last week. Early Head Start's visits are linked to the state's Public Health Advisory System, which has forced them to be all virtual. The staff is providing activities through porch drop off. Rachel Woods applied for our vacant Public Health Outreach Specialist position and was chosen as the best candidate. She is quickly becoming acclimated to her new duties, while continuing to help with Covid-19 relief efforts.

Health Promotion Report - Ashley See provided a written report to the board. Ashley provided kudos to Ashleigh Thornton and Casey Pitcock and encouraged the board



members to reach out to them. Health Promotion Manager Carrie McKee has returned from maternity leave which brings their department to full capacity. This year's Pink Strides event was held virtually, which was different, but still went very well. There were 86 registrants, with t-shirt pick up this past Saturday. Drug Take Back day is this Saturday, from 10 to 2 in two locations. The Health Education staff has been working through Covid-19 compliance complaints, with Ashleigh Thornton and Jon Kraus helping with the quarantine aspect of the Covid-19 response.

Health Commissioner Report – Chad Brown provided a written report to the board. Chad also updated the board on the back to school efforts with a majority of our county schools doing well, with few or zero cases. He elaborated on the issue of probable cases recently, which arises from having an antigen test and presenting symptoms or having an epidemiological link to a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19. Due to these scenarios, there has been a large increase in probable cases with October presenting nearly as many cases as the beginning of the pandemic as a whole. Access to testing has increased, which will result in our rating system remaining red as our cases per 100,000 is nearly 200. If you are a probable case, and receive a confirmatory test that is negative, the state no longer considers the individual as a case, which presents a problem with quarantine protocols. Overall, we are not seeing quarantined students becoming ill. A call at Denison revealed that their plan continues to work, as they have minimal cases. They have a plan for their holiday break which includes sending students home before Thanksgiving and not allowing them to return until the end of January. Regarding the Covid-19 vaccine, we aren't sure what we are going to receive, but we are still being told that we should be prepared to receive vaccines in November. Because of this, we are purchasing an ultra-low temp freezer through the CARES Act, despite ODH advising that just dry ice can be used. We are planning our vaccine distribution efforts with on-site and outdoor locations as well. Right now, pharmacies are being encouraged to provide vaccines to long term care facilities. We have requested to be a provider for the vaccine. Chad discussed the CARES Act and that the county commissioners are not required to provide any funding to us but have worked with us to help in our vaccine response planning. Chad indicated we are most appreciative of the commissioners' willingness to work with us on this effort. In addition, we plan to replace our aging back-up generator, update outdoor signage to ensure ease in way-finding, add a fire suppression system in the server room to allow for continued services and response, and replace the elevator car to become ADA compliant in the event that vaccines are provided at LCHD.

Chad discussed Capital projects for the following year to obtain a security update to the building. This project would secure the building, and only allow access to the Front Office window, providing increased security to the building and allowing staff to permit access through the use of a buzzer system. We assume that this will be at a cost of \$40,000. Mr. John Wetmore inquired about staff entry, but we would continue to use our existing fob system. Chad also advised that we plan to obtain quotes for gutter



replacement on the building as water intrusion is a major concern. We aren't sure what this cost estimate will be just yet.

As a follow-up to the previous meeting, Chad advised that he spoke to the City of Canton pertaining to their syringe exchange program, but they were not able to provide any data as to rehab submission, overdoses in the county, etc. Chad has not heard back from the staff member that conducts the program and will share more as the information comes available.

Resolution 2020-17 was presented to the board. Chad presented the resolution which would declare a public health emergency due to an outbreak of a contagious disease (COVID-19) The state of emergency will expire with the governor's declaration expiration.

A motion to approve the declared state of emergency was made by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, second by Mr. Larry Friesel, motion approved.

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

The September LCHD Financial Reports were motioned for approval by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, second by Mrs. Chicky Dyer, all members voted yea, motion approved.

The September LCHD Bills were discussed and approved on a motion by Mrs. Chicky Dyer, second by Mrs. Shelly Ellis, all members voted yea, motion approved.

The Health Commissioner presented the 2021 budget to the board. He reviewed what was approved in March and has outlined the changes that have taken place through data collection throughout the year. He reviewed the line by line changes for each income and expense and discussed a plan for future years and how the board would like to approach budgets. Chad will solidify these figures and present the final budget to the board next month for approval.

Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, and seconded by Mr. John Wetmore to enter Executive Session to consider the employment of a Public Employee. Second by A roll call vote was conducted.

Mr. John Wetmore	Yes
Mrs. Neisha Grubaugh	Yes
Mrs. Carole Wachtel	Yes
Mrs. Shelly Ellis	Yes
Mrs. Chicky Dyer	Yes
Mr. Gary Wood.	Yes



Mrs. Kathy Wyatt

Yes

The board entered Executive Session at 8:50 PM

The board returned from Executive Session at 9:15 PM

Board member comments:

Chad provided an update on Chief Glover's monument. The DAC plans to host a meeting on October 27 to appoint someone to fill his vacancy.

The next scheduled meeting of the Licking County Board of Health will be held at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, November 17, 2020.

The Licking County Board of Health was adjourned at on a motion by Mr. John Wetmore at 9:16 PM, second by Mrs. Carole Wachtel, motion approved.

Meeting adjourned.

Approved:

Neisha Grubaugh, Board President

Chad Brown, Health Commissioner

Anna Wollenburg, Administrative Director