

Washington County Board of Health
Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2008

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Washington County Board of Health was called to order by President Wilbert Antill at 7:00 p.m. Board members present: Wilbert Antill, Richard Daniell, Jim Rodgers, Bob Powell, and Steve Johnson, Alternate. Excused: Dr. Todd Myers. Staff present: Dr. Kathleen Meckstroth, Valerie Betkoski, Ken Robinson, Jeannie Farnsworth. Guest: Devena Moore

Mr. Powell moved approval of the minutes of the May 13 meeting. Second Mr. Daniell. Motion carried.

Public Comment: Ms. Moore requested that the Board consider a variance to allow her to connect a trailer to her existing home sewage treatment system. This trailer is small and only for use by her mother-in-law for a very short period of time while she is recovering from knee surgery and several falls associated with this recovery. The trailer would be disconnected when no longer required. Mr. Rodgers moved to allow variance. Second Mr. Daniell. Motion carried. Ms. Moore was reminded that an alteration permit would be required for this connection.

Fiscal Report: Ms. Farnsworth presented the fiscal report as distributed to the Board members. The county auditor reconciliation report was available for review. Budget actions were presented as dated May 16 and May 30. Mr. Daniell moved approval. Second Mr. Rodgers. Motion carried.

The list of bills to be paid was presented for approval. Mr. Powell moved approval. Second Mr. Daniell. Motion carried. Ms. Farnsworth was reminded that the Board members reimbursement is due for the first half of the year.

Health Commissioner Report: Dr. Meckstroth discussed the report as mailed to Board members. She also distributed a chart indicating the breakdown on dental clinic patients. It was explained that this chart was not complete as she is reviewing each account individually and has only completed about half of the review. The chart presented was only a snapshot of what she has accumulated in data related to self-paying patients. She also explained that very few patients have outstanding accounts, but most pay on the date of the service. Those for whom payment schedules are set are usually those patients requiring extensive dental work and/or dentures. A complete report should be available at the next board meeting. She also explained that the dental clinic is currently self-supporting but will only remain so if we can continue to receive grant funding to offset the Medicaid reimbursement rates and the rates charged through the sliding fee scale.

Public Health Nursing: Ms. Betkoski reported that only the city of Marietta and Washington County employees are participating in the River Cities Biggest Loser contest that began June 9. Each team has 20 to 30 participants. Employee health and wellness screenings were made available for all county employees and adult dependents. Nursing staff assisted with these screenings. Several new cases of pertussis were reported to the Health Department. Nursing staff investigated the cases and were unable to determine a link between them. One case was in an infant that was too long to receive immunizations.

Healthy Happenings is scheduled for July 10 at the Health Department. Plans are underway and we expect the day to be quite successful. We have received some contributions from the Medicaid managed care companies to aid in publicity. All staff members have been cooperating on this project.

Environmental Health: Mr. Robinson informed the Board that the property owned by Craig Nichols and formerly licensed as a manufactured home park has been licensed as a recreational vehicle park (park-camp). The Ohio Department of Health inspected the property and OEPA approved the use of the former sewage treatment system as a holding tank with appropriate monitoring alarms and gauges. A backflow preventer was required by ODH and has been installed.

Mr. Robinson related that the Ruble septic system problem is being addressed and that he met with the installer to determine the best way to fix the problem. Mr. Powell was also present at this meeting and has reviewed the situation.

Mr. Robinson also reported on the Glen Miller Subdivision. Seven lots have been approved by the OEPA and will be connected to sewer. Mr. Miller brought in the plat map for approval after the May Board meeting. Since this subdivision is to be on sewer and has already been approved by OEPA, Mr. Powell moved to allow the health commissioner to act on behalf of the Board of Health and sign off on this subdivision. Second Mr. Rodgers. Motion carried.

New Business:

1. There have been occasions when in the process of performing a loan inspection the sanitarian has found that the septic system may need to be replaced. If this is the case, can the fee for loan inspection be applied to the cost of the septic permit? Mr. Rodgers moved that separate fees be collected for the loan inspection and septic permit and that the loan inspection could not be credited to the fee for septic permit. Second Mr. Powell. Motion carried.

2. In the course of the financial audit, the question of refund of an overpayment arose. Although infrequent, this sometimes does occur and previously these refunds have required Board of Health approval. This delays the process and may result in a long wait for the client to receive a refund do to an error on behalf of the Health Department. Mr. Daniell moved that refunds on overcharges may

be made with review by the Health Commissioner and that every care be made to avoid overcharging clients and to correct the situation as it arises. Second Mr. Rodgers. Motion carried.

3. The salary increases were presented for approval. Dr. Meckstroth presented several alternatives and the cost of these increases to the Health Department. Charts were presented that showed what was needed for the remainder of the fiscal year as well as what would be needed in the budget next year with no additional raises. Persons funded completely through grants were not considered in the discussion as these salary increases are negotiated individually based on the grant funding and costs are included within the grant. Although Dr. Meckstroth felt that \$1 per hour would be preferable, she pointed out that this would depend on more income being generated by the Health Department. After much discussion and careful consideration, Mr. Rodgers moved that employees not funded solely by grants be given a \$0.50 per hour raise effective with the pay period beginning June 30, 2008. Furthermore, salary increases for those employees funded through grants will be considered separately prior to the beginning of the grant cycle. Second Mr. Powell. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the Board was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Meckstroth, Secretary

Wilbert Antill, President