



## **Clermont County Public Health**

Prevent. Promote. Protect.

### **Clermont County General Health District Board of Health Meeting**

The Clermont County Board of Health held its monthly meeting on April 10, 2024. President Dr. Janet Rickabaugh called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Dr. Rickabaugh led the Board Members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Call to Order:**            Dr. Janet Rickabaugh, present            Dr. Joseph Khan, present  
                                 Andrew Crum, present                    Dennis Brown, present  
                                 Steve Meadors, present

Others present included Dr. James Kaya, Medical Director; Julianne Nesbit, Health Commissioner; Tim Kelly, Assistant Health Commissioner of Environmental Health Services; Maalini Vijayan, Assistant Health Commissioner of Community Health Services; Robert Wildey, Director of Water and Waste; Tom Racke, Director of Plumbing; Tara Jimison, Director of Nursing; Katrina Stapleton, Fiscal Officer, Jessica Johnson, Administrative Assistant; Jason Fountain, Clermont County Assistant Prosecutor, and others as listed on Attachment #1.

**Reorganization of the Board-** Dr. Rickabaugh relinquished the Chair to Ms. Nesbit. Ms. Nesbit asked for nominations for the President of the Board of Health position. Dr. Rickabaugh made a motion to nominate Dennis Brown to the position of President of the Board of Health. The motion was seconded by Dr. Khan. The vote was all ayes; Dennis Brown was elected President of the Board of Health.

Ms. Nesbit returned the Chair to Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown asked for nominations for Vice President of the Board of Health. Mr. Crum made a motion to nominate Dr. Janet Rickabaugh as Vice President of the Board of Health. The motion was seconded by Dr. Khan. The vote was all ayes; Dr. Janet Rickabaugh was elected Vice President of the Board of Health.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

Ms. Nesbit stated a consent agenda was prepared for the Board and asked if any member wanted items moved to the non-consent agenda for further discussion and consideration. No members requested further discussion of items on the consent agenda. Ms. Nesbit recommended approval of the following items:

- 1. Approval of Board of Health Meeting Minutes March 13, 2024** - Recommendation to approve the minutes from the March 13, 2024 Board of Health Meeting.
- 2. Approval of Satisfaction of Mortgage Relative to the Septic System Rehabilitation Financing Program-** Recommendation to execute Satisfaction of Mortgage, certifying that the terms of the mortgage and promissory note it secured have been satisfied, and authorizing the Recorder to release the mortgage of record as it relates to the Septic System Rehabilitation Financing Program
  - a. Joshua A. Collier and Lesley Collier – 1889 St. Rt. 232, New Richmond, OH 45157 (Attachment #2)
- 3. Variances Black Water Holding Tank Extension Requests** - Recommendation to approve extending the variances for black water holding tanks for an additional month.

- a. Ha – 4135 Clough Lane, Union Township (7-V-24)
4. **Approval of Certification of State Subsidy Application-** Recommendation to approve the Certification of State Subsidy application. (Attachment #3)
5. **Approval to Receive Stipend to Attend the 2024 Child Passenger Safety Conference –** Recommendation to receive a stipend to attend the 2024 Child Passenger Safety Conference for \$150.
6. **Approval to Apply for the Clermont County Mental Health And Recovery Board Mini-Grant –** Recommendation for approval to apply for two Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board Mini-Grants for the total amount of \$6,000.00.
7. **Approval to Appoint Kevin McDonald as a Water Quality Technician 1 in the Water and Waste Division –** Recommendation to appoint Kevin McDonald as a Water Quality Technician 1 in the Water and Waste Division contingent upon meeting all pre-employment requirements at the salary indicated on the attached salary sheet. (Attachment #4)

Mr. Crum made a motion to approve consent agenda items #1 through #7. Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried.

#### **NON-CONSENT AGENDA:**

##### **Variances:**

**OAC/REG: 3701-28-12(J) – Use of the Monjolin Smart Filter Instead of a Roof Washer at 1083 O'Bannonville Rd., Goshen Township (11-V-24)** – This variance was originally tabled at the March 13, 2024, Board of Health meeting. Ms. Nesbit reminded the Board that the property owner, Ron Salatin, is requesting a variance to use a Monjolin Smart Filter instead of a roof washer at 1083 O'Bannonville Rd., Goshen Township (11-V-24). Staff had recommended disapproval because the Monjolin Smart Filter did not redirect the first 10 gallons of water away from the private water system as required in the Ohio Administrative Code 3701-28-12 (J).

Robert Wildey, Director of Water and Waste, stated he reached out to the Director of Water and Waste in Warren County, who informed him they had not granted any variances to allow the Monjolin Smart Filter to be installed instead of a roof washer.

The homeowner, Ron Salatin, was present and stated he had copies of a 2021 permit to install a Monjolin Smart Filter from Warren County, and on the paperwork, the filter was referred to as a "roof washer." He had questions about when Clermont County may approve the Monjolin Smart Filter and what a variance entailed. He also had concerns about whether or not traditional roof washers are actually flushing out the first ten gallons of water during a heavy rain. He stated using a roof washer would reduce the capacity of his current cistern.

Mr. Meadors stated the Board must follow the state rules.

Mr. Wildey stated the state code says when a homeowner is using a private water system, there must be one roof washer for every 2500 square feet of roof space, and a variance would be necessary to deviate from the code. He further stated homeowners can use a Monjolin Smart Filter, but the filter must be used in addition to a roof washer.

Dr. Khan advised the Board that after the last meeting, he did an Internet search for roof washer alternatives and could not find any. He then researched the Wisy roof washer, which had previously been approved for use in Clermont County. Based upon his research, he believes the Wisy system

does have some diversion. He further stated he believes there will be problems with clogging when using the Monjolin Smart Filter, and although it may filter particulates, it will eventually plug or crack. He stated it is his understanding the filter in the approved wash boxes works by using a vortex action; thus, the surface tension of the water allows it to be pulled through the holes of the filter.

Dr. Khan made a motion to disapprove the variance to use a Monjolin Smart Filter instead of a roof washer at 1083 O'Bannonville Rd., Goshen Township (11-V-24). Dr. Rickabaugh seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #5)

**Isolation Distance at 5612 Wild Rose Lane, Stonelick Township (12-V-24)** – Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, Rebecca Estridge, is requesting an isolation distance variance at 5612 Wild Rose Lane, Stonelick Township (12-V-24). Ms. Nesbit stated that this is a leach line system, and a loan inspection was performed in 2015. During that inspection, the two ends of the gradient drain discharge pipe could not be located. A routine inspection in April 2018 found the system saturated, a missing/broken concrete lid, and a swimming pool on top of leach lines. The swimming pool has since been removed. The new proposed swimming pool is eight feet one inch away from the closest leach line of the septic system. The request is for an allowance of a minimum isolation distance of six feet between the pool construction and the septic system. Staff recommended approval.

The homeowner was present and indicated the proposed pool is kidney-shaped and will be ten feet off of the property line to the outside of the concrete apron of the pool.

Dr. Rickabaugh asked if the proposed pool was an in-ground pool. The homeowner stated the pool was an in-ground pool.

Dr. Khan made a motion to approve the isolation distance variance request at 5612 Wild Rose Lane, Stonelick Township (12-V-24). Dr. Rickabaugh seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #6)

**Connect a New Home to an Existing Household Sewage Treatment System at 6509 Taylor Pike, Wayne Township (13-V-24)**– Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, Todd Winemiller, is requesting a variance to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 6509 Taylor Pike, Wayne Township (13-V-24). She stated this is a leach line system. Staff recommended disapproval based on the observation that the leach lines appear to be going into a corn/bean field, and the septic system is undersized and not up to current standards.

The homeowner, Deborah Winemiller, was present. She stated that even though the Auditor showed the prior home as a two-bedroom, it was a three-bedroom home.

Dr. Rickabaugh asked how many acres the home sat on. Ms. Winemiller stated there were 88 acres.

Mr. Meadors asked if the homeowner could protect the leach lines. Ms. Winemiller stated they would be able to protect the leach lines. Mr. Meadors reiterated all system components need to be barricaded with caution tape when the property is under construction. He also stated the system should have risers.

Dr. Rickabaugh made a motion to approve the variance to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 6509 Taylor Pike, Wayne Township (13-V-24). Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Mr. Crum, aye; Dr. Khan, aye; Mr. Meadors, abstain; Dr. Rickabaugh, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; motion carried. (Attachment #7)

**Connect a New Home to an Existing Household Sewage Treatment System at 6000 Newtonsville Rd., Wayne Township (14-V-24)** – Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, Carl Ritter, is requesting a variance to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 6000 Newtonsville Rd., Wayne Township (14-V-24). She stated the leach bed system consists of a septic tank followed by a 720-square-foot leach bed. The property was occupied and passed inspection in March 2016. The property was vacant at the time of inspection in August 2019 and has remained vacant since then. Staff recommended disapproval due to the system being older, a small portion of the leach bed is located underneath a disturbed area adjacent to the driveway, another portion of the leach bed is located off the property, and the edge of the leach bed is underneath the neighbor's shed building.

The homeowner was present and clarified that the area noted to be "disturbed" next to the driveway was not a portion of the driveway. However, gravel was inadvertently placed over the area during another construction project. He stated the inspector advised him if he placed sand and topsoil over the area and avoided disturbing it, it would be acceptable upon further inspection.

Mr. Brown asked if this property was eligible for the Newtonsville sewer connection project. Mr. Wildey indicated it was not eligible due to location, but a connection may be available in the future.

Dr. Rickabaugh asked about the age of the system. Ms. Nesbit stated the age was unknown.

Dr. Rickabaugh and Mr. Brown expressed concerns about the space necessary for a new system if the current system should fail. Ms. Nesbit stated it was unlikely a leach line system could be installed if the current system should fail due to the size of the property.

Mr. Crum made a motion to approve the variance to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 6000 Newtonsville Rd., Wayne Township (14-V-24). Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Mr. Crum, aye; Dr. Khan, aye; Mr. Meadors, abstain; Dr. Rickabaugh, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; motion carried. (Attachment #8)

**Connect a New Home to an Existing Household Sewage Treatment System at 2056 Clermontville Laurel Rd., #3, Monroe Township (15-V-24)** – Ms. Nesbit stated the property owners, Paul A. and Terry Lintner, are requesting a variance to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 2056 Clermontville Laurel Rd., #3, Monroe Township (15-V-24). Ms. Nesbit stated this is a leach line system consisting of a septic tank followed by 926 linear feet of leach lines. There are no records of any inspections with the property occupied. Staff recommended disapproval based upon the system not being installed to current standards, as well as the system being located in an area that is mapped with severely rated soil, the leach lines area is overgrown with small trees and bushes, and a fence and a farm lane path are over the top of the leach lines area. Pictures taken during the inspection showed water inside the tank near the top.

The homeowner, Terry Lintner, and her neighbor, Melodee Vaughn, were present.

Mr. Brown asked how much property was located at the address. Ms. Lintner stated there are approximately 3.75 acres.

Dr. Rickabaugh asked how long Ms. Lintner has owned the property. Ms. Linter stated she has owned the property since 2006.

Dr. Rickabaugh asked if there was a home on the property. Ms. Lintner stated she was told a mobile home was once on the property.

Ms. Vaughn indicated she lives next door to the property and has no problems with her leach lines placed in the same soil type.

Dr. Khan asked what would cause the tank to be filled with water since no home is connected to the system. Mr. Meadors and Ms. Nesbit explained it is ground and surface water.

Mr. Meadors asked the property owner what her intentions were with the property. Ms. Lintner stated she planned to install a double-wide on the property.

Mr. Meadors asked how many people would be living in the home. Ms. Lintner stated one adult and three children would live in the home.

Mr. Crum asked if there was a way to tell if the lines had collapsed. Mr. Wildey stated there is no definitive way to know if the lines are collapsed; however, a red flag would be if the tank becomes saturated. Mr. Wildey further indicated water usage will play a role in the success or failure of the system.

Mr. Meadors made a motion to approve the variance to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 2056 Clermontville Laurel Rd., #3, Monroe Township (15-V-24). Dr. Rickabaugh seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #9)

**Connect a New Home to an Existing Household Sewage Treatment System at 6704 Coke Ave., Miami Township (19-V-24)** – Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, Brian Robertson, is requesting a variance to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 6704 Coke Ave., Miami Township (19-V-24). She stated the system consists of a septic tank followed by a leach bed. A complaint investigation in August 2020 confirmed sewage discharging from a black corrugated pipe behind the home. The property went vacant, and no inspections have been conducted since then. The existing home is a two-bedroom home, and the proposed room addition will add two more bedrooms. The footprint of the home will not change. Staff recommended disapproval and further indicated if approval is granted, it will need to be contingent on removing the discharge line and the system not becoming a sewage nuisance.

The homeowner, Brian Robertson, was present and stated he had been living in the home since October and had the tank pumped once. He stated the tank appeared to be holding solids. He also stated he would be living in the home and have his two children living there part-time. He further stated he was adding two bedrooms upstairs for his children.

Dr. Rickabaugh asked how big the property was. Mr. Robertson states there are .44 acres.

Dr. Khan made a motion to approve the variance to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 6704 Coke Ave., Miami Township (19-V-24), with the contingency that the bleeder line must be eliminated. Dr. Rickabaugh seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #10)

**Black Water Holding Tank at 7000 Thompson Rd., Goshen Township (16-V-24)** - Ms. Nesbit stated the property owners, Justin and Kristina Henze, are requesting a variance to install a black water holding tank at 7000 Thompson Rd., Goshen Township (16-V-24). Ms. Nesbit informed the

Board the property is too wet to install the mound system, and all required paperwork had been received and is in order. Staff recommended approval contingent on the tanks being installed and passing a water-tight test.

Mr. Crum made a motion to approve the variance request to install a black water holding tank at 7000 Thompson Rd., Goshen Township (16-V-24). Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #11)

**Black Water Holding Tank at 2897 SR 132, Ohio Township (17-V-24)** - Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, Justin Renn, is requesting a variance to install a black water holding tank at 2897 SR 132, Ohio Township (17-V-24). Ms. Nesbit informed the Board the property is too wet to install the mound system, and all required paperwork had been received and is in order. Staff recommended approval contingent on the tanks being installed and passing a water-tight test.

The homeowner, Justin Renn, was present.

Mr. Crum made a motion to approve the variance request to install a black water holding tank at 2897 SR 132, Ohio Township (17-V-24). Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes, motion carried. (Attachment #12)

**Black Water Holding Tank at 1911 US 50, Stonelick Township (18-V-24)** – Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, Mike Brock, is requesting a variance to install a black water holding tank at 1911 US 50, Stonelick Township (18-V-24). Ms. Nesbit informed the Board the property is too wet to install the mound system, and all required paperwork had been received and is in order. Staff recommended approval contingent on the tanks being installed and passing a water-tight test.

Mr. Crum made a motion to approve the variance request to install a black water holding tank at 1911 US 50, Stonelick Township (18-V-24). Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #13)

**Public Comment** - No members of the public offered any comments at this point in the meeting.

**Approval to Increase the 2024 Estimated Resources and Appropriations in Fund 7301 (Environmental Health)** - Ms. Nesbit stated, based on discussions with the Auditor's Office, the agency needs to clean up the existing grant funds. The COVID fund was originally set up for grants, including the Enhanced Operations Grant, the COVID Bridge Grant, and other short-term grants. The Workforce Development Grant, was also placed in this fund with COVID funds because it was determined to be a short-term grant. However, the Workforce Development Grant has been extended through November 30, 2027, and because it is not COVID-related, it needs to be moved out of the COVID fund. The Auditor's Office recommended setting up a Miscellaneous Grants Fund and moving the Workforce Development Grant funds from the start of 2024 into that fund. This will also allow the placement of other short-term grants into that fund in the future. The grants will be assigned separate project numbers for tracking purposes. Ms. Nesbit further stated other grants anticipated to be permanent, such as Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) and Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP) would be placed into separate funds. She stated the hope is to completely shut down the COVID fund in a couple of years, but the Enhanced Operations Grant has been extended another year.

Because the receipt of grant dollars is based on deliverables, cash must be advanced to the funds to cover expenses until the agency is reimbursed. Cash in the amount of \$80,000 was advanced from

the Environmental Health Fund 7301 (General Fund) to the COVID fund to cover the expenses. This money needs to now be returned to the Environmental Health Fund to be transferred to the proposed Miscellaneous Grants Fund. Since this was not planned when adopting the 2024 budget, the estimated resources in the Environmental Health Fund 7301 need to be increased because the repayment will look like revenue. The appropriations must also be increased by the same amount to cover the expense of advancing cash to the new fund. Ms. Nesbit requested approval to increase the 2024 estimated resources and appropriations in Fund 7301 (Environmental Health Fund) by \$80,000 as follows: Revenue - \$80,000; Purchased Services - \$80,000.

Mr. Crum made a motion to increase the 2024 Estimated Resources and Appropriations in Fund 7301 by \$80,000 as follows: Revenue - \$80,000; Purchased Services - \$80,000. Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #14).

**Adoption of Resolution 06-24 Authorizing the Advance of Cash in the Amount of \$80,000 from the COVID Grant Fund (Fund #7330) to the Environmental Health Fund (Fund #7301)** – Ms. Nesbit requested a resolution authorizing the advance of cash in the amount of \$80,000 from the COVID Grant Fund (Fund #7330) to the Environmental Health Fund (Fund #7301). As previously stated, this resolution is necessary to repay the cash previously advanced to the COVID Grant Fund from the Environmental Health Fund.

Dr. Khan made a motion to adopt Resolution 06-24 Authorizing the Advance of Cash in the Amount of \$80,000 from the COVID Grant Fund (Fund #7330) to the Environmental Health Fund (Fund #7301). Mr. Crum seconded the motion. The vote upon roll call was Mr. Crum, aye; Dr. Khan, aye; Mr. Meadors, aye; Dr. Rickabaugh, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; motion carried. (Attachment #15)

**Adoption of Resolution 07-24 Authorizing the Establishment of the Miscellaneous Grants Fund (Fund #7331)** – Upon recommendation from the Auditor's Office, Ms. Nesbit requested a resolution authorizing the establishment of the Miscellaneous Grants Fund (#7331) and requested all revenues and expenses since January 1, 2024 for the Workforce Development Grant be transferred to the fund.

Mr. Crum made a motion to adopt Resolution 07-24 Authorizing the Establishment of the Miscellaneous Grants Fund (Fund #7331) and for all revenues and expenses since January 1, 2024, for the Workforce Development Grant to be transferred to the fund. Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote upon roll call was Mr. Crum, aye; Dr. Khan, aye; Mr. Meadors, aye; Dr. Rickabaugh, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; motion carried. (Attachment #16)

**Approval to Increase the 2024 Estimated Resources and Appropriations in Fund 7331 (Miscellaneous Grants)** – Ms. Nesbit stated since the Miscellaneous Grants Fund 7331 was not established when the 2024 budget was adopted, the estimated resources and appropriations must be established. The estimated resources are \$250,000, which accounts for an \$80,000 cash advance and anticipated reimbursements throughout the year. However, only \$213,400 in appropriations is being requested as that is all that has been budgeted to spend on the Workforce Development Grant this year. Ms. Nesbit requested approval to increase the 2024 estimated resources and appropriations in Fund 7331 (Miscellaneous Grants) as follows: Revenue - \$250,000; Salaries - \$143,000; Benefits - \$42,000; Purchased Services - \$28,400.

Dr. Khan made a motion to increase the 2024 Estimated Resources and Appropriations in Fund 7331 (Miscellaneous Grants) as follows: Revenue - \$250,000; Salaries - \$143,000; Benefits - \$42,000;

Purchased Services - \$28,400. Mr. Crum seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #17)

**Adoption of Resolution 08-24 Authorizing the Advance of Cash in the Amount of \$80,000 from the Environmental Health Fund (Fund #7301) to the Miscellaneous Grants Fund (Fund #7331)**

– As previously explained, because the receipt of grant dollars is based on deliverables, cash must be advanced to the funds to cover expenses until the agency is reimbursed. To cover these expenses, Ms. Nesbit requested a resolution to advance \$80,000 from the Environmental Health Fund (Fund #7301) to the Miscellaneous Grants Fund (#7331) until the expenses are reimbursed.

Mr. Crum made a motion to adopt Resolution 08-24 Authorizing the Advance of Cash in the Amount of \$80,000 from the Environmental Health Fund (Fund #7301) to the Miscellaneous Grants Fund (Fund #7331). Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote upon roll call was Mr. Crum, aye; Dr. Khan, aye; Mr. Meadors, aye; Dr. Rickabaugh, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; motion carried. (Attachment #18)

**Mr. Crum exited the meeting at this time.**

**Adoption of Resolution 09-24 Declaring Properties Public Health Nuisances** – Ms. Nesbit presented the addresses of eight properties to be considered public health nuisances as stated on Attachments A and B of Resolution 09-24 Declaring Public Health Nuisances and Ordering Abatement of Nuisances at Identified Properties.

Following a review and discussion, Dr. Khan made a motion to waive the three required readings of Resolution 09-24 Declaring the Properties listed on Attachments A and B Public Health Nuisances. Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote upon roll call was as follows: Mr. Crum, absent; Dr. Khan, aye; Mr. Meadors, aye; Dr. Rickabaugh, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; motion carried. Dr. Khan then made a motion to declare Resolution 09-24 an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety and for the purpose of the immediate need to abate or remove the dangerous public health nuisances. Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote upon roll call was as follows: Mr. Crum, absent; Dr. Khan, aye; Mr. Meadors, aye; Dr. Rickabaugh, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; motion carried. Dr. Khan then made a motion to adopt Resolution 09-24 Declaring the Properties listed on Attachments A and B to be Public Health Nuisances and ordering abatement of nuisances at the identified properties. The motion further stated if corrections were not made within the allotted time, the nuisance cases would be referred to the Health District's legal counsel for appropriate action. Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote upon roll was Mr. Crum, absent; Dr. Khan, aye; Mr. Meadors, aye; Dr. Rickabaugh, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; motion carried. (Attachment #19)

**Approval and Payment of Bills** – Ms. Nesbit presented the Health District's bills for consideration. Following the Board's review and discussion, Dr. Khan made a motion to pay the bills as presented. Dr. Rickabaugh seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes, motion carried. (Attachment #20)

**Septic Rehabilitation Program** – Ms. Nesbit stated there have been gradual changes over the years in how the Septic Rehabilitation Program is funded. Katrina Stapleton, Fiscal Officer, deals with the program's paperwork, contracts, and financial side. Ms. Nesbit further stated it has become increasingly difficult to provide assistance to homeowners in a timely manner and to complete jobs within the funding windows, so options need to be discussed to simplify the program. She indicated Katrina Stapleton would explain the current issues to the Board. Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Jason Fountain was present at the meeting to answer any questions the Board may have. If program changes are deemed necessary, those changes will be presented to the Board at the May meeting for consideration.

Fiscal Officer Katrina Stapleton explained to the Board how once the funds are accessible to the public, applications are accepted once per year. Any applications received after the deadline must wait until the following year for consideration. The applications are then ranked. The current system institutes a five-year forgivable mortgage; therefore, title searches must be completed. At that time, approved projects are put out for bid to septic installers. However, because the installation season in Ohio is short due to the weather, most installers are booked in advance and cannot begin the projects for some time. These factors can cause an eligible applicant to wait anywhere from one to three years to have a failing system repaired or replaced.

To alleviate the waiting period, Ms. Stapleton suggested no longer placing mortgages, thus forgoing the title searches and giving the money as a grant. The mortgage system was implemented so if the homeowner sold the home within five years of the mortgage, they must repay the award for the years they did not own the home up to the five-year limit. This term was intended to discourage flippers. However, based on past years, this rarely occurs. If the Board does not want to do away with the mortgage aspect of the program completely, Ms. Nesbit suggested possibly reducing the time frame to a three-year contract agreement to repay the funds to help alleviate some of the administrative hardship. Ms. Stapleton suggested limiting the number of times a homeowner could apply for the program or capping the amount of funding received by a homeowner. Mr. Fountain advised the inherent problem with eliminating the mortgages involves the practical difficulties of enforcing the contract. He suggested letting the current mortgages stand on existing properties in the program.

Ms. Stapleton also suggested year-round funding with applications being accepted throughout the year instead of for a closed time period and modifying the current ranking system. This could potentially reduce the wait time and wait list and also allow smaller repairs to be completed quicker.

Since the money for the program is received from two different funding sources (Water Pollution Loan Control Fund and Community Development Block Grant), the parties must sign two separate contracts. Mr. Fountain suggested possibly consolidating the two contracts to simplify the process.

Mr. Brown asked if the program can be updated in the future if it is updated now. Ms. Nesbit stated it is possible, but future updates cannot be reinforced retroactively.

Dr. Khan asked what is being fixed by modifying the program as it now operates. Ms. Nesbit indicated the money is not being used quickly enough with the delays previously described. Mr. Wildey added that more of the homeowners' expectations would be met by potentially fixing issues more promptly.

Dr. Khan indicated he favors having language in the contract stating the homeowner is not receiving the funds with the intent to sell the property.

Mr. Brown asked how reworking the program could help the Newtonsville Sewer Connection Project. Ms. Stapleton advised the recipients could receive the funds quicker.

Ms. Nesbit stated that based upon the discussion, revisions to the program will be drafted, submitted to Mr. Fountain for his approval, and then presented to the Board at the May Board of Health meeting.

**PHAB Reaccreditation Site Visit** – Ms. Nesbit advised the Board of the Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) site visit held on March 18, 2024. She fully anticipates being reaccredited. The PHAB Board will meet on May 14, 2024, and should have a final decision regarding reaccreditation within ten days of that date.

**Solid & Infectious Waste Programs, Construction & Demolition Debris Programs** - Ms. Nesbit stated On December 1, 2023, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) completed its annual survey of the Clermont County Health District regarding the Clermont County Public Health Solid and Infectious Waste Programs and Construction and Demolition Debris Programs in accordance with Ohio Administrative Code Rule 3745-37-08. The annual survey included the time period between December 3, 2022, and December 1, 2023.

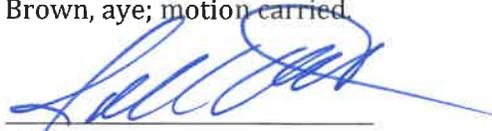
The OEPA determined Clermont County Public Health is in substantial compliance and placed the agency on the approved lists of health districts authorized to administer and enforce the solid and infectious waste and construction and demolition debris laws and rules in accordance with Sections 3734.08 and 3714.09 of the Ohio Revised Code (ORC).

Ms. Nesbit thanked the Water and Waste Division staff for their efforts in the programs. (Attachment #21)

**Additional Discussion** – A discussion regarding the agency’s insurance was held.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Dr. Khan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:08 p.m. Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote was as follows: Mr. Crum, absent; Dr. Khan, aye; Mr. Meadors, aye; Dr. Rickabaugh, aye; Mr. Brown, aye; motion carried.

  
SECRETARY  
RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED