



Clermont County Public Health

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Clermont County General Health District Board of Health Meeting

The Clermont County Board of Health held its monthly meeting on August 14, 2024. President Dennis Brown called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Mr. Brown led the Board Members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Others present included Dr. James Kaya, Medical Director; Julianne Nesbit, Health Commissioner; Tim Kelly, Assistant Health Commissioner of Environmental Health Services; Maalinii Vijayan, Assistant Health Commissioner of Community Health Services; Robert Wildey, Director of Water and Waste; Tom Racke, Plumbing Director; Tara Jimison, Director of Nursing; Jessica Johnson, Administrative Assistant; Annabelle Terrell, Office Specialist; and others as listed on Attachment #1.

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 July 10, 2024** - Recommendation to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2024 Board of Health Meeting.
2. **Approval to Appoint Samantha Tipton as a Children with Medical Handicaps Public Health Nurse II in the Community Health Services Branch** – Recommendation to appoint Samantha Tipton as a Children with Medical Handicaps Public Health Nurse II in the Community Health Services Branch contingent upon meeting all pre-employment requirements at the salary indicated on the attached salary sheet. (Attachment #2)
3. **Approval to Appoint Daniel Slone as a Water Quality Technician 1 in the Water and Waste Division** – Recommendation to appoint Daniel Slone 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 #3)
4. **Variiances Black Water Holding Tank Extension Requests** - Recommendation to approve extending the variiances for black water holding tanks for an additional month.
 - a. Brock – 1911 US 50, Stonelick Township (18-V-24)
 - b. McKinzie – 4281 Moore-Marathon Rd., Jackson Township (28-V-24)

Dr. Khan made a motion to approve consent agenda items #1 through #4. Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried.

NON-CONSENT AGENDA:

Variations:

Connect a New Home to an Existing Household Sewage Treatment System at 1778 US 50, Stonelick Township (31-V-24) - Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, Tom Verkamp, is requesting a variance to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 1778 US 50, Stonelick Township (31-V-24). The owner built a new home on the property, intending to demolish the old home; however, the owner has since changed his mind and would like to keep the old home connected to the existing system and use it as a pool house/guest house. If the variance is approved, two three-bedroom homes (six total bedrooms) will be connected to a three-bedroom sand filter system. Staff recommends disapproval.

The property owner, Tom Verkamp, was present and stated he has been in construction for 30 years and understands the concerns the Board may have in this instance. He stated the existing system was installed approximately 22 years ago and was intended for a four-bedroom home. He further indicated he rebuilt the existing home from the ground up and did not want to tear it down when the new one was built. He has turned off both the water and the electric to the existing home.

Dr. Khan asked if a variance regarding the first home was ever initially granted. Mr. Wildey stated if the system had been installed 20 years ago, records would likely have been available for review, thus negating the need for a variance request.

Mr. Meadors asked if two homes on the same property could have two separate septic systems. Mr. Wildey stated there would be no issue with that situation from the agency's standpoint, but it could be a zoning issue.

Mr. Wildey stated the issue now becomes if there are two homes connected to one system, the system is then considered a small flow discharging system, which would be deemed to be a commercial system. If that is indeed the situation, the EPA would need to be contacted by the homeowner for approval. Mr. Wildey stated he needed to look further into this situation to give a definitive answer as to this set of facts, and a decision by the Board would need to be delayed. The homeowner had no issues with Mr. Wildey doing further research on this matter and postpone a decision by the Board.

Mr. Wildey also stated the new home is already connected to the system.

Mr. Brown asked if the homeowner was currently occupying the new home. The homeowner stated he did have conditional occupancy.

Ms. Nesbit informed the homeowner that the Health District would approve his extension request to the Clermont County Building Department if his conditional occupancy date were approaching.

Dr. Khan made a motion to table the variance request to connect a new home to an existing household sewage treatment system at 1778 US 50, Stonelick Township (31-V-24) until the September 11, 2024, Board of Health meeting. Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried.

Isolation Distance at 6642 Epworth Rd., Miami Township (32-V-24) – Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, Rodolfa Islas Flores, is requesting an isolation distance variance at 6642 Epworth Rd., Miami Township (32-V-24). The isolation distance variance is requested for a replacement system, an NPDES System to Soil Absorption with Discharge. The soil absorption component will

reduce the sampling frequency requirements. It was noted that the property had been vacant from 2009 through 2017. There were no problems identified in 2019. In 2022, a new septic tank was installed without a permit. In March 2024, sewage wastewater was observed discharging onto the surface of the ground near the drainage way east of the home. The isolation distance variance is necessary due to the new sewer pipe being located four feet from the property line and the end of the last leaching chamber being located 26 feet away from the stream bank. Staff recommended approval.

The property owner, Rodolfa Islas Flores, was present and had concerns with the cost of the replacement system and questions regarding being cited for not having a permit when he has receipts to show payment for the permit. Upon review, Mr. Wildey determined Mr. Flores' receipts were for the operation permits for the prior system. A permit was required for the replacement tank installed in 2022 and was never obtained.

After further discussion, it was decided that regardless of the type of new system installed, there would still be the need for an isolation distance variance due to the lot size. Mr. Wildey indicated he could sit down with the homeowner and the inspector to review all viable options for a replacement system. Ms. Nesbit stated grant funds may also be available if the homeowners qualify.

Dr. Khan made a motion to approve the isolation distance variance at 6642 Epworth Rd., Miami Township (32-V-24). Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #4)

Isolation Distance at 6002 Jess Thelma Dr., Goshen Township (33-V-24) – Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, Dennis Helton, is requesting an isolation distance variance at 6002 Jess Thelma Dr., Goshen Township (33-V-24). The system is a Hydro Action to Discharge type. It was completed in September 2022 and has passed all inspections since. Ms. Nesbit indicated a pool deck and covered patio were constructed without permits. The existing septic system is approximately five feet, six inches from the edge of the covered patio. Staff recommended approval.

The property owner, Dennis Helton, was not present.

Dr. Khan made a motion to approve the isolation distance variance at 6002 Jess Thelma Dr., Goshen Township (33-V-24). Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #5)

Isolation Distance at 6612 Epworth Rd., Miami Township (34-V-24) – Ms. Nesbit stated the property owner, David Patton, is requesting an isolation distance variance at 6612 Epworth Rd., Miami Township (34-V-24). The system is an ATU (Coate Aer) with an upflow filter. There were no code violations from January 2006 through January 2016, and all inspections passed from February 2005 through November 2023. The septic tank, risers, and lids appear in good condition. The isolation distance is necessary because the closest edge of the septic tank is four feet, two inches from the existing deck being replaced, and the farthest edge of the septic tank is five feet, nine inches from the same deck. Staff recommended approval.

The property owner, David Patton, was not present.

Mr. Meadors made a motion to approve the isolation distance variance at 6612 Epworth Rd., Miami Township (34-V-24). Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes; motion carried. (Attachment #6)

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

Approval of 2023 Fiscal Year Audit Report and Waive the Exit Interview – Ms. Nesbit indicated the recent audit showed no findings and noted compliance with federal funding received from grants. She also complimented Katrina Stapleton, Fiscal Officer, for her hard work on the audit. She then asked the Board to approve the report and waive the exit interview.

Dr. Khan made a motion to approve the 2023 Fiscal Year Audit Report and Waive the Exit Interview. Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes, motion carried. (Attachment #7 and #8)

First Reading of a Resolution to Revise Local Air Pollution Control Regulations – Ms. Nesbit explained the agency has contracted with the Hamilton County Department of Environmental Services - Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency for many years. The existing contract with them was last updated in 2007. As part of the contract agreement, the agency must adopt local air quality regulations, and then a contract for services can be executed. At this time, they have requested that the Health District update their local regulations to reflect the current code and then renew the contract. These are the same laws and rules the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) follows. The advantage of contracting with Southwest Ohio Air Quality Agency is that they can typically handle complaints more quickly and at a reduced cost compared to the OEPA. Ms. Nesbit then held the first reading of the Resolution to Revise Local Air Pollution Control Regulations by title only.

Ms. Nesbit stated that a hearing to accept public comments on the proposed Local Air Pollution Control Regulations would be held at the Board meeting on September 11, 2024.

Approval of Tuition Reimbursement Request for Annabelle Terrell, Office Specialist I, to Attend the University of Cincinnati to Obtain her Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration – Ms. Nesbit introduced Annabelle Terrell, who currently works at Clermont County Public Health as an Office Specialist. Ms. Terrell started with the agency when she was a student at Grant Career Center, and she has since graduated. She will now attend the University of Cincinnati to obtain her bachelor's degree in Business Administration. She will complete her first two years, receive an Associate's Degree at UC Clermont, and then transfer to the main campus. Ms. Terrell has met all requirements to be eligible for tuition reimbursement and will submit for reimbursement after each semester. Her grades would be verified before the disbursement of any funds. Ms. Nesbit requested tuition reimbursement for eight semesters totaling up to \$42,528.00. Ms. Nesbit further stated Ms. Terrell might receive additional funds from outside sources, which would lower the reimbursement. Ms. Nesbit indicated that after the board approves the up to amount, Ms. Terrell will submit documentation after each semester for reimbursement approval that Ms. Nesbit will approve. Ms. Nesbit recommended approving the tuition reimbursement request of Annabelle Terrell, Office Specialist I, for up to \$42,528.00.

Mr. Meadors made a motion to approve the tuition reimbursement request of Annabelle Terrell, Office Specialist I, to attend the University of Cincinnati for up to \$42,528.00. Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes, motion carried. (Attachment #9)

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. Mr. Meadors seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes, motion carried. (Attachment #10)

Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board Mini-Grant Awards – Ms. Nesbit stated the agency was awarded two mini-grants from the Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board. The first grant of \$2,999 is for Xylazine Test Strips, and the second grant of \$2,900 is for Xylazine Wound Care Kits. Both grants will help support the Harm Reduction Program. (Attachment #11 and #12)

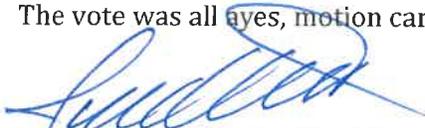
Dr. Rickabaugh arrived at the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Adoption of Resolution 16-24 Declaring Properties Public Health Nuisances - Ms. Nesbit presented the addresses of ten properties to be considered public health nuisances as stated on Attachments A and B of Resolution 16-24 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 16-24 Declaring the Properties listed on Attachments A and B Public Health Nuisances. Dr. Rickabaugh 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 16-24 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. Dr. Rickabaugh 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 16-24 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. Dr. Rickabaugh 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 #13)

ADJOURNMENT:

Dr. Rickabaugh made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:10 p.m. Dr. Khan seconded the motion. The vote was all ayes, motion carried.


SECRETARY


RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED

