Seneca County Board of Health Meeting Minutes

The Seneca County Board of Health met on Thursday, February 23, 2023, at the North Central Ohio Education Service Center, 928 W Market St, Tiffin, OH 44883. With a quorum present, Board President Dr. Clay Wolph called the Board's regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm. The Board then recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Roll Call:

Bonnie Boroff – Present	Edward Logsdon – Present	Scott Lyons – Present
McKenzie Posey – Present	Dr. Sarah Sewell– Present	Natasha Vitte - Absent
Robert Watson – Present	Dr. Zachary West– Present	Dr. Clay Wolph - Present

Others Present:

Anne Goon, MS, RD, LD, Health Commissioner
Anita Gaietto, BBA, Fiscal Director
Andrea Barrell, RN, BSN
Trisha Kahler, RD, LD
Erika Handru, BA, Health Communications Specialist
Lisa England, Registrar
Sarah Clouse, RN
Lori Clouse, RN

Dr. Clay Wolph started the meeting by reading the Mission Statement in the Seneca County Board of Health bylaws:

> The Seneca County General Health District, in collaboration with its citizens, promotes wellness, prevents disease, protects the environment, and assures access to quality health care.

Continuing Education – Foundational Public Health Services: Communications - Erika Handru

Erika Handru presented to the Board a slide show explaining the Communication Plan for the Health Department. She explained the purpose and application of this plan along with the methods used to communicate and the frequency they are used. This plan also includes the Branding Strategy for all communication. Mrs. Handru gave examples of the communication that has been developed using the plan.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Consent Agenda

Dr. West made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes from Previous Meetings 01/12/2023 AND 01/26/2023
2. WIC Division Report – Trisha Kahler, RD, LD
3. Nursing Division Report – Andrea Barrell, RN, BSN
4. Environmental Division Report (including Landfill report) - Laura Wallrabenstein, MA, REHS
5. Health Commissioner Activity Report – Anne Goon, MS, RD, LD
6. Health Planning and Promotion Section Report (Harold Huffman, PhD)

Mr. Logsdon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Health Commissioner Report

Ms. Goon provided the following updates:

1. PEOPLE PILLAR:
   - Ms. Goon started by having Andrea Barrell introduce two of her new Nursing Staff. Mrs. Barrell in traduced Sarah Clouse, RN and Lori Clouse, RN. They are both Public Health Nurse 2. Ms. Goon also added that there is a third new employee, Pat Elchert RN who is also a Public Health Nurse 2 but was unable to attend tonight's meeting.
   - Ms. Goon added that we are currently interviewing for 3 full-time positions: Health Planning and Accreditation Manager, Epidemiologist and Health Educator. Currently we are receiving very few applications. The Health Department is trying to work with local colleges to make students more aware of career opportunities in public health.
2. SERVICE PILLAR:
   - We had nursing staff collaborated with Heidelberg today at the Stoner Health Center for a focus vaccination clinic.
3. QUALITY PILLAR:
   - Ms. Goon, she had the results from the recent testing of the water wells that was done in December. The Health Department and the consultants from Gershman, Brickner and Bratton have reviewed those results and there are still some quality control checks with the lab data. The results do not show any exceedance of primary maximum contamination levels. The results do show that the results are higher in iron, but that is common in ground water in Ohio. Ms. Goon provided hand outs at the back that provided information on well water testing.
   - The recent water and sediment testing of ground water at Sunny Farms from December results have been received but not reviewed yet with Gershman, Brickner and Bratton due to being focused on individual well water testing results for everyone first.
   - We continue to meet every other week on the air quality monitor station planning. The updated cost estimates for each station are now around $100,000.00 per site and about $60,000.00 in annual operating costs.
   - In relation to the East Palestine, Ohio, incident, Ms. Goon reviewed the update from the Governor's office stating where the contaminated soil and liquid would be going.
   - Ms. Goon also reported that a Notice of Violation was issued by Ohio EPA last Friday, Feb 17, in response to the 2021 Annual Report filed by Sunny Farms Landfill. The violation was related to ORC chapter 3734, when WIN Waste Innovations documented an overfill of ~10 ft in the eastern slope of Phase 8B and NW portion of Phase 12B. EPA indicatesdin the Notice that the violation was previously abated.
4. GROWTH PILLAR:
   - Ms. Goon said that the 2022 Annual report was unable to be finished prior to this meeting. It will be provided to the District Advisory Council at their annual meeting on March 20, 2023. It will also be made available via Facebook and other communication methods when finished.
5. FINANCE PILLAR:
   - Ms. Goon spoke about the AOHC Public Affairs committee that she serves on, which is instrumental for the Health District to meet accreditation standards related to policy review. Committee members are in the process of reviewing House Bill 33, is the initial biennial budget bill, to identify potential impacts on Boards of Health or Health Districts. The section that Ms. Goon reviewed involved the creation of a state-level Department of Children and Youth, that would move nearly all the services and programs servicing the children in the state into one agency. There would be multiple programs that, if this is

approved, would be moved from the Ohio Department of Health, Department of Job and Family Services, and Department of Developmental Disabilities into this new agency. It is too early to predict the local impact if this would occur.

PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Out of county travel

Dr. West made a motion to approve the following out of county travel:

1. Andrea Barrell – 02/01/2023 – to Upper Sandusky to pick up Covid-19 vaccine and return to office - $25.52
2. Ryan Sendelbach- 02/07/2023 – to Fremont, Ohio for OSS Solid Waste Meeting and return to office - $25.52
3. Mindy Cook, Keesha Hiser, Corinna Feasel -3/1/2023 mileage to Marysville, Ohio for New Employee Training - $90.00; AOHC – 3/1/2023 registration for New Employee Training - $90.00
4. Sarah Clouse – 03/03/2023 – to Dublin, Ohio for Regional School Nurse Conference - $100.00

Mrs. Posey seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Policy Actions

Property Rescind Condemnation Orders

Dr. West made a motion to rescind the condemnation of the following property:

1. 45 Virginia Ave, Tiffin, Ohio 44883

   Owned by Ernest Jenkins 2679 SR 18 Norwalk, OH 44857

Mr. Logsdon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Financial Transactions

Payment of Bills

Mrs. Posey made a motion to approve the January bills as presented. Dr. Sewell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of January Intra-Fund Transfers (Appropriation Transfers)

Mr. Watson made a motion to approve the following Intra-Fund Transfers:

1. $1,500.00 from PHEP Equipment (7142-0717-5304.00) to Software License/Service (7142-0717-5306.25)
2. $200.00 from Public Health Workforce Grant – Contract Services (7143-0718-5306.00) to Software License/Service (7143-0718-5306.25)
3. $34,285.00 from Covid-19 Detection and Mitigation in Confinement Facilities – Salaries (7150-0731-5102.00) to Contract Services (7150-0731-5306.00)

Mr. Logsdon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Resolutions

Mrs. Boroff made a motion to approve Resolution 2023.03:

1. 2023.03 – A Resolution authorizing Seneca County General Health District to apply for, accept, and enter into a water pollution control loan fund agreement on behalf of the county of Seneca for the repair and replacement of Home Sewage Treatment Systems.

Mr. Logsdon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. West made a motion to approve Resolution 2023.04

2. 2023.04 – Resolution to approve letters of engagement with Van Kley Law, LLC and Haak Law, LLC

Mr. Logsdon seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote:

Bonnie Boroff – Yes	Edward Logsdon – Yes	Scott Lyons – Yes
McKenzie Posey –Yes	Dr. Sarah Sewell– Yes	Robert Watson – Yes
Dr. Zachary West–Yes	Dr. Clay Wolph - Yes	

Contracts and Agreements

Mrs. Posey made a motion to approve the following contracts:

1. Theis Septic Cleaning, L.L.C., for septic tank pumping services and systems with a Norweco component inspection service, 01/01/2023-12/31/2023, not to exceed $2,700.00 (payer)
2. Hoover's Property Services, L.L.C., for soil component and ATU inspection services, 01/01/2023-12/31/2023, not to exceed $6,000.00 (payer)
3. Ohio Department of Health, for vaccines for children program provider services, 01/01/2023 - 12/31/2023; no money
4. Public Entities Pool of Ohio for annual liability insurance – 3/1/2023-2/28/2024 for liability insurance limit of $3,000,000.00 (current coverage); $12,569.22

   Optional increases - $4,000,000.00 – **additional $1,294.00**; $5,000,000.00 – **additional $2,491.00**; $6,000,000.00 – **additional $3,642.00** (payer)

Dr. Sewell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Board had a brief discussion regarding the annual liability insurance coverage needed.

Mr. Lyons made a motion to approve the annual liability insurance amount of $3,000,000.00 at $12,569.22 from 3/1/2023-2/28/2024.

Mr. Logsdon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ohio Association of Boards of Health Membership Renewal

Mr. Logsdon made a motion to renew the Ohio Association of Boards of Health Membership. Mrs. Boroff seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote:

Bonnie Boroff – Yes	Edward Logsdon – Yes	Scott Lyons – Yes
McKenzie Posey –No	Dr. Sarah Sewell– No	Robert Watson – Yes
Dr. Zachary West–Yes	Dr. Clay Wolph - No	

Executive Session to discuss

Dr. West made a motion to go into executive to discuss the Health Commissioner's performance evaluation for 2022. Dr. Sewell seconded the motion. The motion carried upon roll call vote:

Bonnie Boroff – Yes	Edward Logsdon – Yes	Scott Lyons – Yes
McKenzie Posey –Yes	Dr. Sarah Sewell– Yes	Robert Watson – Yes
Dr. Zachary West–Yes	Dr. Clay Wolph – Yes	

At 7:02 the Board returned from executive session. No action was taken.

Public Comment

Mr. Dan Straub handed out an article from Long Island about rail cars going to Sunny Farms Landfill. He also discussed a story from a news station with concerns of where the soil and water

from the East Palestine, Ohio is going to be trucked or sent by rail. The news station contacted Norfolk Southern but at the time Norfolk Southern had not made the decision as to where that soil would be going. He is also concerned about a statement from a 02/21/2023 council meeting from Mr. Ben Nutter. Mr. Straub felt that the remarks from Mr. Nutter at this meeting were very vague about whether Sunny Farms Landfill would receive anything from East Palestine. He felt that it is a huge concern to citizens if they take toxic waste at the Sunny Farms Landfill. He felt the Health Department should have taken more of a stand for the people during the pandemic.

Next, Mrs. Brenda Kuhn, of Seneca County said she is concerned about the train derailment in East Palestine, Ohio, and does not want to see it happen here. She had questions about the procedures in place for if a railcar would catch on fire or leaking in Seneca County. Is the township it occurs in responsible or is there other plans? If it is sitting on Sunny Farms property, do they call the Health Department or the EPA? Ms. Goon did advise Mrs. Kuhn to reach out to the Seneca County EMA, this would be addressed in their emergency management plan. They would be the lead agency for emergencies in the county. She would also like to know if our fire departments are prepared if the hill at Sunny Farms would catch on fire. Also, she would like to know if Sunny Farms is certified for hazardous waste.

Mr. Don Kuhn of New Riegel spoke of his concerns related to the landfill and stated he is here to support Board members who want to do the right thing. He also feels that the landfill doesn't need more trash from out of state.

Mr. Bryan Ezyk, of Sunny Farms Landfill, addressed Mrs. Kuhn's question related to hazardous waste and stated that Sunny Farms is not authorized to accept hazardous waste. Mr. Ezyk said, as Vice President in the organization, that they would not be receiving any waste from East Palestine. Mr. Ezyk then reviewed where Ms. Goon stated that the waste will be going. He also addressed the citizens' concerns about their ground water. He discussed the samples collected in the wells near Sunny Farms show no impact from the landfill and felt that was important for the Citizens to hear. The surface water samples that were collected on 12/03/2022 and then again on 12/19/2022 all had no PCB and no samples were above drinking water standards. He also said that according to the Ohio water quality criteria for water supply use designation, none of those samples were above the primary standards. The soil samples also meet the Ohio voluntary action standards with no exceedance for residential use. Those samples show that those meet ground water, drinking water quality standards and the soil samples meet residential use requirements. Mr. Ezky ended by restating that waste from East Palestine was not coming to Sunny Farms, they will continue to not take hazardous waste and that Sunny Farms is interested in open communication.

Mr. Dan Tiell of Seneca County felt that the landfill should not continue to operate and that it is large enough. He also had concerns about the liner on the landfill breaks. He feels if it is construction waste then they should be able to take it somewhere else, he feels Seneca County has received enough.

Mr. Bill McAllister of Seneca County wanted to look back at the December 15, 2022 board meeting where Ms. Goon read a letter from Sunny Farms. Mr. McAlister read one sentence from that letter written by Sunny Farms. To him, that sentence was enough reason to change lawyers. He wanted to applaud the board for making the change and taking a stand.

Mrs. Ashley Stahl of Seneca County lives about 1 mile from the Sunny Farms Landfill for 10 years, and about 4 years ago, she started noticing problems with the water and can't say it is the landfill but it is her first concern with living a mile from the landfill. They had their water tested with the

Health Department and did not appreciate the result paperwork. She said there are no values or numbers to know what is abnormal it just tells you the results. Her and her husband got their well tested privately in September of last year and got the results in October of the same year. She said that from the prior October results compared to the results they just received from the Health Department all of the numbers have increased. She also added that the private tester results came with categories of concerning, non-concerning, detectable and not detectable. They had many things came back as flagged on that test. They were recommended to not drink their water from the private test. They also just found out about the Health Department testing wells near the landfill within the last year. She feels there should be a notice sent out every year to public about the free water testing. She was also concerned about when Austin sampled the wetlands on Sunny Farms property he had to wait to until he had a professional sampler could go with him. Austin is who tested her water, and did not know why he can test her water but not at the landfill. She is concerned about the openness concerning the landfill and she does not feel safe living where she does. She does not feel like the public is heard. She did thank the board for the voting for the intent to deny the Sunny farms Landfill License. She expressed concerns if the water at her home is safe for her children.

Dr. Sewell asked Mrs. Stahl if she could state the name of the private company she used for the water test in case other members of the public would like to use them. She stated it was National Testing Laboratories Limited.

Next Mrs. Dian West who is a Seneca County Resident said the last time a geology study was done was before or around 2019 and she would like to know if there has been or will there be another geology study done on the landfill and the effects of the most recent Earth quake? Her second question is if there can be a presentation of education by the environmental division discussing water sampling. She would also like to see them speak about what would impact the water testing quality of the samples taken. She would also like the presentation to explain water sampling, results, interpretation, and where to collect the sample from. She was concerned if all the data from the landfill and the history has been transferred to our current legal counsel.

Dr. West asked Health Commissioner Goon if it would be possible to get a copy of the Emergency Management plan and make it available on the Health Department's website to the public. Ms. Goon suggested that they contact the Seneca County EMA for the county plan.

Dr. West also asked if it was possible to have a presentation done by the Environmental Department on the water testing process. He stated as a board member he would like to know about this process. Ms. Goon will have a separate training recording and have it posted to our website so that it is available to the public.

Dr. West also had concerns about the building construction process and if the internal changes have been approved by the fire department and has there been an egress study? Mrs. Goon explained that this building is owned by the County and not the Health Department we would have no control over that, the commissioners are aware and have made modifications.

Dr. West also asked where the Health Department is on transferring information to the new attorneys. Ms. Goon reviewed where she is in the process and that there are only a few requests outstanding which need to be placed on a flash drive.

A community member asked when the questions asked would be answered.

Mrs. Posey made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. Motion carried.

The next Board of Health meeting is scheduled for March 23, 2023, at 6:00 pm, at the North Central Ohio Education Service Center.

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Board of Health President Board of Health Secretary