



LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

2122 So. 8th Street
Ironton, OH 45638
740-532-3962



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Lawrence County Health Department

Tony Virgin, MD
Health Commissioner

Jim Meadows, MD
Medical Director

Lawrence County Board of Health August 16th, 2023, Minutes

Call Meeting to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:17 PM. Board Members present included Randy Lambert (President), Mark Dickess, and Melanie Taylor.

Also present was Debbie Fisher (Administrator), Angela Bostick-Doyle (Director of Nursing), Paul O'Banion (Director of Environmental Health), and Zach Schweinsberg (Fiscal Officer).

Approve Minutes

Mark Dickess made a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Melanie Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Public Comment

The President of the Board noted that no members of the public were present for public comment.

Environmental

Paul O'Banion explained to the Board of Health that there were issues with Jack Pruiim's septic system that required correction. WPCLF may be able to help cover the costs. Paul also noted that there were some concerns about Jack's septic system being in the 100-year floodplain.

Mark Dickess asked if it was the responsibility of the Health Department to design septic systems. Paul stated that the Health Department has traditionally designed septic systems. Randy Lambert asked if the septic installers were capable of designing the septic systems. Paul stated that the septic installers could be asked to draft the designs.

Mark and Randy emphasized that it would be best to provide some guidelines and standards to installers for how systems should be designed, but that the Health Department should avoid designing septic systems because of the increased potential for liability.

Financial

Randy Lambert asked for a motion to approve expenditures, pay bills & salaries, and accept financial reports. Mark Dickess made the motion. Melanie Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion was passed.



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Next, the Board of Health Discussed Resolution 08162023a. Randy Lambert asked for a motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 08162023a.

Mark Dickess made the motion to waive the three-reading rule for Resolution 07202023a. Melanie Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Mark Dickess made the motion to approve Resolution 07202023a A RESOLUTION THAT THE LAWRENCE HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL PICK UP THE STATUTORILY REQUIRED CONTRIBUTION TO THE OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PURSANT TO IRC SECTION 414(h)(2). The resolution was to modify the existing PERS pickup policy of the Health Department so that it would not only include the Fiscal Officer, but also the Administrator and Director of Nursing. Melanie Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Environmental

Paul O'Banion noted that there was another issue to discuss regarding Kristi Hayes and Aqua Water. Kristi Hayes currently has a private septic system that appears to be in the mandatory hookup distance for city sewer. The private septic system appears to be properly functioning and was permitted by Tom Davis. Kristi was concerned about being able to afford the bill from Aqua Water if she is forced to switch. Aqua Water provided the Health Department with a copy of their delinquency policy.

Next, the Board of Health discussed garbage haulers. Debbie Fisher explained that few Health Departments in Ohio offer a service to inspect and register garbage haulers. Lawrence County initially started the program because Gallia County Health Department also offered the service at the time. The program does not make a lot of money for the Health Department and it is not a service that is mandated to be provided by the state. Debbie also noted that the current garbage hauler inspection does not cover items that are directly related to public health.

The Board of Health was presented with a copy of Ohio Attorney General Opinion No. 2009-026, which stated that the board of health of a general health district has no authority to require haulers of solid waste to obtain a license from, or pay a fee to, the health district in order to operate within the district.



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Randy Lambert asked for a motion to discontinue garbage hauler inspections and licensing. Mark Dickess made the motion. Melanie Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Next, the Board of Health reviewed correspondence from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources regarding the grey sedimentation in the culvert at the Land of Goshen (Osborne Run, near 81 Township Road 349 north of Ironton). The letter stated that the grey sedimentation was not related to coal mining but did not offer any suggestions as to the source. Mark Dickess asked if the Health Department had heard anything from Mr. Bryant or Mr. Holt. Debbie stated that the Health Department has had no contact with either party since receiving the letter. Further discussion was held concerning the source of the grey sedimentation. The Board inquired about the possibility that not all drains from Land of Goshen are connected to their septic system. Debbie stated that she spoke with Little's Septic Service and that they checked to verify that all drains were connected to the septic system.

Personnel

Next, the Board reviewed an invoice for Georgia Dillon's professional liability insurance. Mark Dickess asked if Georgia was working anywhere else beside the Health Department. Melanie Taylor made a motion to approve the payment of Georgia Dillon's professional liability insurance. Mark Dickess seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Other Reports

Next, the Board of Health reviewed the reports listed under section 6 of the agenda. Angela Bostick-Doyle (Director of Nursing) noted the Ohio Department of Health had listed special conditions (revisions) to the grant that the Health Department is working on.

Debbie Fisher provided more details regarding the special conditions. ODH outlined its concern that the Health Department had not submitted audited financial statements beyond fiscal year 2019. Debbie stated that the reason for this was that the 2018-2019 financial audit had significant issues due to a flood, resulting in some documents being lost while others were placed in the storage pods outback. After this, the Health Department's server was infected with ransomware, resulting on a loss of all digital documents. When Zach was hired in 2021, he had to sort through boxes in the storage pods that should have been turned over during the 2018-2019 financial audit. He spent a considerable amount of time reconstructing documents for this audit so that the issues do come up again later. Debbie stated that until now, ODH has been approving extensions to having the audit completed



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and that Zach submitted routine progress updates to the Auditor of State's Office. At this point, the independent auditors (Millhuff-Stang CPA) have been provided with everything that is available and the Health Department is waiting for them to begin the audit. Zach noted that the Health Department would have to switch from a biannual audit to a single audit due to having more than \$750,000 in federal expenditures. Further discussion was held regarding the details of the audit issues. Debbie stated that she sent an email to ODH to let them know that the independent auditors anticipate having the financial audit completed by the end of October. ODH has not provided a response to this email.


Randy Lambert asked for a motion to accept and file the reports listed under section 6 of the agenda. Melanie Taylor made the motion. Mark Dickess seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed.

Adjournment

Mark Dickess made a motion to adjourn. Melanie Taylor seconded the motion. All were in favor. The motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 5:14 PM.

The next meeting is scheduled for 09/20/2023 at 4:00 PM in the Conference Room of Lawrence County Health Department

Minutes Approved by:



Randall Lambert, BOH President

10/18/23

Date



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August 16th, 2023

Resolution 08162023A

A RESOLUTION THAT THE LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT WILL PICK UP THE STATUTORILY REQUIRED CONTRIBUTION TO THE OHIO PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM FOR THE EMPLOYEES OF LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT PURSUANT TO IRC SECTION 414(h)(2).

WHEREAS, pursuant to federal and Ohio laws, the LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT may offset future salary increases and "pick up" (assume and pay) the contributions statutorily required by such elected officials and covered employees to the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS) and such individuals will not be required to pay federal and state income taxes on such contributions; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT OF OHIO, THAT

SECTION 1: Effective 10/14/2023 the full amount of the statutorily required employee contributions to OPERS shall be picked up and paid as a fringe benefit by the LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT for each person within any of the classes established in Section 2 herein. This "pick up" by the LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT shall be designated as public employee contributions and shall be in lieu of contributions to OPERS by each person within any of the classes established in Section 2 herein. No person subject to this "pick up" shall have the option of choosing to receive the statutorily required contribution to OPERS directly instead of having it "picked up" by the LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT shall, in reporting to each person subject to this "pick up" has been made as provided by the statute. Therefore, contributions, although designated as employee contributions, are employer-paid, and employees do not have the option to receive the contributions directly. All contributions are paid by the employer directly to the plan.



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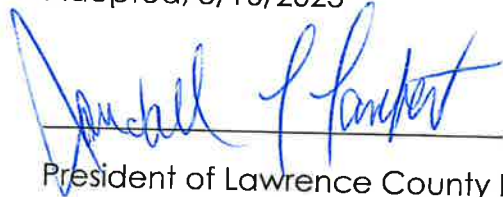
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SECTION 2: The "pick up" by the LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT provided by this ordinance shall apply to the position of Administrator, Director of Nursing, and Fiscal Officer at LAWRENCE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT who are or have become contributing member(s) of OPERS.

SECTION 3: Under the fringe-benefit method of employer pick up, salary is not modified; however, the employer will pay the employee's statutorily required contributions to OPERS.

SECTION 4: The Fiscal Officer is hereby authorized and directed to implement the provisions of this ordinance to institute the "pick up" of the statutorily required contributions to OPERS for those persons reflected in Section 2 herein so as to enable them to have their employee contributions paid by their employer.

Adopted, 8/16/2023



President of Lawrence County Board of Health

Attest:



Administrator