

Health board to present needs to commission

Inside millage amount will be determined in coming weeks

By MANDY HOCHSTEDLER
Examiner Staff Writer

The Logan County District Board of Health continued to take steps at its Wednesday afternoon meeting in preparation for the possible failure of the levy request on the November ballot.

Members approved a revised operating budget for 2009 that will be presented to the county budget commission.

The revised budget is based on the current 2008 budget updated June 30 with actual expenses of \$2,259,691 and actual revenues of \$2,068,813.

If the LCHD's 1-mill, 10-year operating levy does not meet voter approval in the fall, the agency will be funded through inside millage in an amount determined by the budget commission using this revised budget.

"In the next couple of weeks, we will know the amount (of funding) from the budget commission," Board President Don Spath said.

The health district receives approximately \$800,000 per year through the current tax levy, which expires at the end of the year. The proposed replacement levy would generate approximately \$900,000 per year.

Predicted inside millage amounts that the agency could receive for 2009 operations in the case of levy failure range from \$300,000 to \$900,000. Health district officials note that if inside millage is used to fund the agency, this will result in less overall funding for the townships and municipalities across the county. Health Commissioner Dr. Boyd Hoddinott said the health district needs to obtain the

actual inside millage amount as soon as possible because staff cuts are also imminent if the levy fails.

"The inside millage amount will help us to determine how many positions we can fund in the next year (if the levy fails)," he said. "That's pretty important — our staff is getting nervous. They want to know if they will have a job.

Another tool important in the wake of possible personnel cuts includes the agency's newly revised job position descriptions, which were approved by the board Wednesday. Dr. Hoddinott said the updated descriptions were created with the help of human resources management firm Clemans-Nelson.

The positions are also arranged in a hierarchy to help agency officials determine which ones might be eliminated first.

"If we have to cut staff numbers, we will be eliminating positions, not people," he said.

"If we cut a person's position who has seniority, they would be able to move to another position. In other action, the board:

- approved annual evaluations for Craig Kauffman, director of environmental health; and nursing division employees Darcy Tidd and Lee Barnes;
- approved the carry-over of vacation days for Kay Schroer, infectious diseases nurse;
- accepted a renewal contract with the Delaware General Health District for epidemiology services at the rate of \$32.81 per hour;
- accepted Family and Children First Council renewal contract to perform newborn baby visits in the county;
- approved a Women Infants and Children 2009 operating

agreement;

- ordered Nick Johnson of New Hampshire, Ohio, owner of a condemned building at 211 S. Main St., to replace or make necessary repairs to the building's roof and flooring and then to obtain a certified inspection by an engineer of the building's safety, all within 60 days, or to demolish the structure within the time period;

- ordered Ryan Shough of Covington to remove all collapsing parts of the building on his property at 106 N. Miami St., Quincy, and remove all solid waste and debris within 14 days;
- ordered Fred Werner of Brookville to repair and secure the shed on his property at 11016 Walnut St., Lakeview, and remove all solid waste within seven days;

- ordered Todd Fetter, owner of Colonial Mobile Estates, 8890 Township Road 239, Lakeview, to repair a sewer and water leak at lot 55 within 24 hours;

- ordered IDC Ohio Management, owner of Dairy Queen of Indian Lake, 432 Main St., Russells Point, to repair the fire suppression system within three days; and

- approved variance requests from Marie Kleinhans, 7727 Maple St., Waterbury, Russells Point; K.C. Becker, 10783 and 10781 State Route 366, Lakeview; Omer Korte, 10215 Seminole Shore Drive, Huntsville; John Hayes, 7844 Rosepath, Waterbury, Russells Point; to install wells on their properties.

The next meeting is 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 3, at the health district, 310 S. Main St.