

Health board prepares for levy decision

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The Logan County District Board of Health will vote at its July meeting whether to place an operating levy on the November ballot. The decision came during the regular meeting Wednesday afternoon.

Members will consider the recommendations of the health district levy committee, made up of community members and elected officials, when deciding the amount for the potential levy and whether it will be a replacement issue or a renewal issue.

The health district's last two ballot initiatives, both replacement levies, failed in March and November. However, both of these levy campaigns were conducted by health district employees, Health Commissioner Dr. Boyd

Hoddinott said.

"It is obvious that Don Spath (board president), myself and the employees cannot pass this levy without outside help," he said, referring to the new citizen-initiated levy committee.

The board also convened in executive session to discuss possible personnel cuts and other budget cuts for 2009 that come as the result of the first two failed levies.

"We won't be making a decision today about personnel cuts," Dr. Hoddinott said prior to the executive session. "The board will probably have a lot of questions about this very sensitive issue.

"We are currently working with Clemans-Nelson (human resource firm) to make sure

that we handle this correctly."

Members approved an agreement with the Ohio Manufactured Homes Commission that will allow the health district's plumbing inspector John Clary to inspect newly installed manufactured homes in the county.

"Before this agreement, an inspector from Athens had to come into the county, which often caused delays for the homeowner," Director of Environmental Health Craig Kauffman said.

As a part of the agreement, Mr. Clary will undergo formal training to complete his new task.

A fee structure for manufactured home installation inspections will be presented to the board at the next meeting, 1 p.m. Wednesday, July 2. Mr. Kauffman said the fees assessed to the homeowner should cover the health district's expenses for this program.

In other environmental health matters, Les Bowman of Piqua, owner of Indian Hills Mobile Home Park, 2499 Township Road 55, appeared before the board as the result of an order issued at last month's meeting.

The order related to numerous Ohio Revised Code violations in areas such as sewage, maintenance and lighting, found on his property. Mr. Bowman said

the violations had been corrected, and Mr. Kauffman agreed with his statement.

"We'll try to maintain a better communication line (with the health district)," Mr. Bowman said. "We want to stay away from these violations in the future."

In other action, the board:

- approved an agreement with Riverside Local Schools to provide nursing services for the 2008-09 school year at a cost of \$6,600 to the school district;
- approved increasing the employee mileage reimbursement rate from 39 cents per mile to 45 cents per mile, retroactive to May 29;
- accepted a \$4,500 CJ Foundation for SIDS grant, which will provide funding for an educational program on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome;
- tabled an order, pending further review at the next meeting, for Nick Johnson of New Hampshire, Ohio, to demolish and remove a collapsing structure at 211 S. Main St.;
- ordered William Brandyberry to remove excessive solid waste at his 319 E. Main St., Quincy, property within seven days and to cease open burning;
- ordered the owner of Antonio's Restaurant, 551 W. Main St., Russells Point, to remove excessive trash from behind the building within three days; and
- approved a well variance request from William McCurdy, 7736 Edgewater Ave., Huntsville.