



Public Health
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JO DAVIESS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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JO DAVIESS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, July 23, 2015 at 9:30 AM

Jo Daviess County Health Department Conference Room

1. Call to Order

Ron Lubcke, President of the Board of Health, called the meeting to order at 9:35 AM.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Ron Lubcke, Greg Stauder, Jim Vormezeele, and Bill Bingham

Others present: Dirk and Suzette Einsweiler, Ron, Jeannie and Braeden Norman, Bill Oldenburg and Bruce Hanson

Staff present: Elizabeth Kane, Matt Calvert, Sandra Schleicher and Evelyn Folks

3. Citizens' Comments: Ron Lubcke asked that any citizen comments be limited to 5 minutes.

Jeannie Norman opened by stating that she wanted to follow the correct process. She had made a statement at the Board of Health Meeting on June 24, 2015. The family addressed concerns in regard to waste dumping adjacent to their property.

Bill Bingham, Committee Member and County Board Representative to the Board of Health, entered the meeting at 9:37 AM.

The Norman's are asking that land application of sewage be banned in Jo Daviess County due to health and environmental concerns.

Dirk Einsweiler, who also lives in close proximity to the site, also asked that the land application be banned or regulated since it could affect the ground water, existing wells and sink holes.

Bill Oldenburg lives approximately ½ mile from the site. He stated that the raw sewage follows ditches and enters sink holes.

4. Old Business: None

5. New Business

a. Discussion and possible action to approve a revision to the Jo Daviess County Private Sewage Ordinance regarding land application.

Ron Lubcke introduced Matt Calvert, Director of Environmental Health.

Matt reviewed the ordinance and suggested clarification with clear and precise language. Ten of the twelve licensed sewage pumpers in the county use municipal sewage plants for disposal. Only 2 use land application. Municipal sewage facilities treat the raw sewage and only then use appropriate land application.

After discussion about the City of Galena Sewage Treatment Facility, Greg Stauder motioned that the Health Department send official correspondence to the City of Galena to request septic waste be deposited at the municipal treatment plant, second by Bill Bingham. Voice vote was taken. Yes=0, No=3. Motion does not carry.

Jim Vormezeele motioned that “As the Environmental Health Committee, we recommend to the Jo Daviess County Board of Health request that the City of Galena accept septic system waste”, second by Greg Stauder.

The timeline would include, in this order, Environmental Health Committee, Board of Health, Jo Daviess County Board and the City of Galena, City Council. This matter needs to be expedited in any way possible.

Ron Lubcke read the motion: “As the Environmental Health Committee, we recommend to the Jo Daviess County Board of Health request that the City of Galena accept septic system waste”. Voice vote was taken. Yes – 3, No = 0. Motion carries.

Bill Bingham recommended that any change needed to the septic land application regulations be considered and revised and updated concurrent with the motion moving forward.

6. Citizens’ Comments:

Mrs. Norman thanked the Environmental Health Program, and specifically Matt Calvert, for his help and counsel, but would appreciate anything the Environmental Health Committee or Board of Health could do to fast-track as soon as possible.

Dirk Einsweiler commented on the need to monitor and regulate existing 503 provisions regarding septage land application.

6. Next regular Board of Health Meeting: Wednesday, August 5, 2015 at 7:00 PM

7. Adjourn

With no other business to discuss, Bill Bingham motioned to adjourn, second by Jim Vormezeele. All in favor. Ron Lubcke adjourned the meeting at 11:15 AM.

BOH Officer

Date