

**Hamilton County General Health District**  
**PUBLIC HEARING - BOARD OF HEALTH**  
**February 10, 2025 - 3:45 p.m.**  
**Minutes**

**1. Call to Order**

At 3:45 p.m., Dan Meloy, President, called to order the public hearing of the Board of Health of Hamilton County General Health District.

**2. Roll Call of Members**

Members Present: Dan Meloy, President  
Max Miller  
Eric Knapp

District Staff Present: Greg Kesterman, Health Commissioner  
Jackie Lindner, Assistant Health Commissioner  
Craig Davidson, Assistant Health Commissioner  
Nee Fong Chin, Chief Assistant Prosecuting Attorney  
Dr. Steve Feagins, Medical Director  
Greg Varner, Finance Officer  
Allison Babka, Public Information Officer  
Erinn Sweet, Public Information Specialist  
Sean Moore, Director of Plumbing

Guests Present: None

**3. Proposed Plumbing Installation Fees Presentation**

Health Commissioner Greg Kesterman began by outlining the agenda and the process of making public comments.

Assistant Health Commissioner Mr. Craig Davidson reminded the Board about reasons for the recent evaluation of plumbing installation fees, commenting on the need to align with other programs across Ohio, particularly in southwest Ohio. He noted that other jurisdictions often posted fees that Hamilton County Public Health (HCPH) did not or that were higher than HCPH's current fees. Information was gathered through review of publicly available fees schedules and a statewide survey of plumbing programs conducted by the Association of Ohio Health Commissioners.

Mr. Davidson addressed steps that he and his team took to provide notice to contractors and other stakeholders about the proposed plumbing installation fees, including mailing notices, sending email messages, creating a website where interested parties could provide comments, and posting public notices in the Cincinnati *Enquirer*.

Mr. Davidson said that HCPH issues approximately 4,000 permits annually, and the plumbing team frequently encounters additional fixture installments on the job. The proposed new plan review fees will cover costs associated with re-inspections to verify accuracy of permit applications along with doing extensive plan reviews. Mr. Davidson said that the proposed fee structure and associated tasks would appropriately capture the plumbing team's effort both in the office and in the field, plus it would prevent more reinspections and save contractors and homeowners on additional fees. Ultimately, Mr. Davidson said, the new fees would be more

assurance for property owners and would help HCPH provide the best service to them and to their contractors, ensuring that everything is done correctly.

Mr. Davidson noted that members of the public left three comments about the proposed fees on the website form. He shared each comment and addressed each person's concerns. He said that overall, HCPH wanted fees to stay in the middle range among programs across the state while still covering more costs than today.

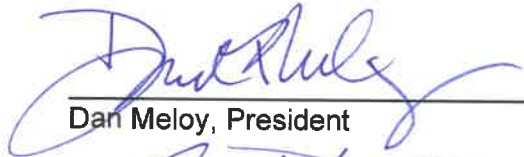
Board members asked Mr. Davidson a few questions about the fees, including what is considered "expedited fees" for faster service and creating internal guidelines.

#### **4. Adjournment**

**Mr. Meloy** moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:53 p.m.

**Mr. Miller** seconded the motion.

**Roll Call Vote – All Aye**



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Dan Meloy, President



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Greg Kesterman, Secretary  
Health Commissioner