Mayor Webster called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Board of Health Members
Present: Scott Garrison, Rita Hart, Lynn Jones, Dr. Ketring, James Squires
Dr. Webb, Medical Advisor

Others Present
Mayor Webster; Holly Emerson, Council representative to the Board of Health
City Staff: Matt Clayton, Health Commissioner; Jean Hicks, Public Health Nurse

Minutes of the December 10, 2015 Board of Health Meeting — Minutes of the December 10th, 2015 Board of Health meeting were considered. Mrs. Hicks noted that in her Nurse’s Report, under Latino Expo, the mini expo that they are planning in March will focus on immigration issues, rather than “immunizations” as stated in the minutes. Mr. Squires made a motion to approve the minutes, and with a unanimous “aye” vote, the minutes were approved with the aforementioned correction.

City Council Report
Mrs. Emerson reported on the December 16th, 2015 City Council meeting and highlighted the ordinance authorizing the 3-year contract with Rumpke and provided the rate increase rates. Other legislation at that meeting included the authorization for the contract with CT Consultants, which allowed an average 2% increase (did not have an increase in 2015); an ordinance setting the Mayor’s compensation; an ordinance providing a 2% wage increase for City of Springdale employees; and numerous resolutions for Mayoral and Council appointments to the Charter Review Committee, Board of Health, and Civil Service Commission.

Mrs. Emerson also reported on the January 6th, 2016 City Council meeting in which an ordinance authorizing the City of Springdale to purchase the property at 11911 Sheraton Lane (old Sheraton Hotel) was approved. The Mayor reported that closing had been scheduled for January 14th, but there were title issues uncovered that the owner was working to rectify. Additionally, development of separate Requests for Proposals for demolition and redevelopment were already underway.

Old Business

The Health Commissioner, Mr. Clayton, was pleased to announce that the investigation into the Warm Hands Massage Parlor resulted in the closing of the business with two persons arrested in December. The investigation was a collaboration by the City of Springdale Police Department, as well as the City of Springdale Health, Building, and Tax Departments. The Springdale Police Department and the Human Trafficking Task Force (aided by the Cincinnati Police Department) conducted the arrests on December 18, 2015. Mr. Clayton made previous contact with an investigator at the Ohio Department of Taxation during the initial investigation. He provided the contact information to the Springdale Police Department. Mr. Clayton indicated he felt the Ohio Department of Taxation may be able to assist the Springdale Police Department and the Hamilton County
Prosecutor by adding additional charges to the case, possibly bringing charges against the operator of the business, as well as the employees who were allegedly participating in prostitution. Board members thanked Mr. Clayton for undertaking this initiative. The Mayor reported that a dentist who has an office in that area also was very appreciative of Mr. Clayton’s efforts.

Mr. Clayton noted the success of the 2015 Springdale Offering Support Christmas program, which resulted in providing 67 families with gifts, food, and clothing for the holidays. The Mayor announced that 225 children were involved. Mrs. Emerson praised the efforts of the team coordinating this event and many BOH members supported the drive.

New Business

Mrs. Hart initiated discussion on locations where you can dispose of medications. The City of Springdale Police Department provides this service twice a year but Sharonville and Fairfield have this service available year-round. There was discussion whether there was enough of a need to think about providing this service more often. The Mayor asked Mr. Clayton to communicate with Chief Mathis as to the feasibility of expanding the City of Springdale’s service in this area. Mrs. Hart suggested providing medication disposal instructions in the newsletter and/or web page. Scott brought up the DEA website as having locations listed as well as providing envelopes in which you can mail unwanted medications in. Proper ways to dispose of medications were discussed – never flush!

Health Commissioner’s Report

Under **Nuisances, Animal Bites, and Food Illnesses**, Mr. Clayton provided a summary of complaints since the last meeting; individual complaints were included in the Board of Health packet as well as the school and motel inspection reports. A new incident was a squirrel bite – someone thought a squirrel was injured and attempted to move it and got bitten. Mrs. Hicks reported that the Ohio Department of Health Specialist stated that while the likelihood of rabies was low, the likelihood of other diseases carried by the squirrel was high. The person who was bitten opted not to get the rabies prophylactic treatment. A Howard Johnson’s housekeeper reported that the owners were not providing gloves for cleaning. Howard Johnson’s response was that this was a disgruntled employee. The Health Department is continuing to monitor the situation. During a Howard Johnson’s inspection, bedbugs were found and the area was treated. A defective smoke detector was noted during the Super 8 inspection.

**Food Service Operations** – Mr. Clayton noted that he and Mrs. Jergens were preparing to begin the second round of food service operations inspections. Construction continues at the new Chipotle location (Tri-County Mall out lot); operations should begin in early March. Mrs. Hart asked if the recent food-borne illnesses plaguing Chipotle was affecting their business. Mr. Clayton stated they are moving ahead. Dr. Ketring reported that their stock is down 30%.

**PHAB Accreditation** – Mr. Clayton, Mrs. Hicks, and Mrs. Jergens met with the PHAB consultant on December 22, to conduct a pre-accreditation assessment. The assessment report indicated that the Springdale Health Department (SHD) has significant strengths
that will support the accreditation process. This report was provided to the BOH members and included a draft timeline for accreditation. The next meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2016. To assist with the process, the SHD will begin hosting Western Kentucky University (WKU) Masters of Public Health (MPH) students for full-time internships (270 hours each) in January 2016, at no cost to the SHD. The first intern is scheduled to begin January 25th. Mr. Clayton stated he hopes SHD will be able to host three to four WKU MPH student interns per year. These are nonpaid internships. Mr. Clayton also discovered another potential resource – the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has Public Health Associate (PHA) positions, which are full-time employees that are paid for by the CDC but whose work would be directed by the Springdale HD. Mr. Clayton is pursuing this; the PHA would assist with the accreditation process as well as being involved with the public health emergency preparedness program.

Public Health Emergency Preparedness (PHEP). The SHD submitted the PHEP grant Mid-Year Report to Hamilton County on January 8th, 2016. Mr. Clayton began serving as the Secretary of the Southwest Ohio Executive Steering Committee at their January 7th, 2016 meeting. Mr. Clayton passed around the draft Southwest Ohio Public Health Region Mutual Aid Agreement.

Willows Work Group (WWG) – The WWG last met on January 8th, 2016; public health and safety concerns are addressed at these meetings. Mr. Clayton noted that, despite the Food Worker’s Union no longer participating, every month there are more participants. A Heritage Hill Elementary representative was in attendance at the last meeting and offered space for meeting as well as to assist with publicizing WWG events. A subcommittee was formed at the December 11th meeting to plan a neighborhood block party for all Springdale residents at Chamberlain Park on May 7th. The purpose of the event is to provide attendees with information about city services and to develop community involvement in the WWG. Along with the Springdale HD, the Springdale Fire and Police Departments and the Recreation Department have already expressed interest in participating as well as Su Casa and the Latino Coalition. Mrs. Hart noted that there have been less complaints coming out of the Willows. Mr. Clayton attributed that to the WWG as well as the Willow’s management, who has increased the staff and is making property improvements. The Mayor asked Mr. Clayton if a dollar figure on investments was known. Mr. Clayton will look into that for the next meeting, but initially, the new Willows management had pledged $700,000 in external improvements and a $92,000 monthly budget for internal improvements (reported in November).

Cincinnati Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired (CABVI) – The SHD is hosting the CABVI, who will present information about services available to Springdale residents and significant others at the Community Center on January 21st, 2016.

Hotel/Motel Initiative – Mr. Clayton is continuing to work with the Springdale Police Department on updating the City’s hotel/motel inspection program. Mr. Clayton received information from two other municipalities on how they had success in their programs. Mr. Clayton is still reviewing this information but noted that Columbus, OH had good success working with the Hotel Owners’ Association. Doctor Ketring asked why Springdale has hotel/motel issues and other communities do not. Mr. Clayton answered that there are many factors contributing to our problems such as our hotels are older, some appear to be
operating on a shoestring budget, and some of the hotel operators appear to lack pride in their facility. To turn our hotels/motels around, Mr. Clayton felt Springdale needs strict regulations and enforcement as well as owner investment in their properties. Mrs. Hart suggested collaboration with restaurants and area attractions (e.g., Recreation Center) to make our hotels more attractive. Mayor Webster brought up a recognition program, which Mrs. Hart had also suggested in December. Mr. Garrison asked if there are fees or fines associated with hotel inspection findings. Mr. Clayton promised to look into that, since the Hotel/Motel is a local, not a state, program.

**Pool and Spa Program** – Mr. Clayton reported that the Ohio Department of Health Audit performed in November 2015 found the Springdale Health Department’s Pool and Spa Program to be in substantial compliance. Mr. Clayton has been working on updating the Pool Program Overview (handout) which included inspection hours and costs of the program previous years and developing a cost methodology to assist with proposing fees for 2016 pool licenses. Mr. Clayton prepared comparisons of the City of Springdale’s fees with other municipalities in the vicinity for 2015 and proposed fees for 2016 and suggested keeping 2016 fees the same ($454) as 2015 based on his analysis even though it means running the program at a deficit. Dr. Ketring asked why the Springdale HD would operate at less than the cost of the program. Mr. Clayton discussed the intrinsic value in protecting public safety and health at the swimming pools/spas. He also stated the presence of swimming pools and spas provides a community development benefit to the City of Springdale. Mayor Webster asked if the Springdale HD could make the fee cover the cost of a certain number of visits, then charge fees if additional visits were required (e.g., re-inspections). Dr. Ketring and Scott Garrison both thought this idea had been brought up in previous years but that it wasn’t allowed. Mr. Clayton advised that he would consult with ODH on this issue. This method would not penalize the pools that are in compliance with higher fees; only those pools who were not in compliance and therefore require more inspections would pay the higher cost. This would promote the owners of the pools themselves to maintain higher standards and better police their own facilities. Since Mr. Clayton is going to investigate further, the first reading of the proposed Regulation R1-2016 was not held. This will be continued at the next Board of Health meeting in February.

**Public Health Nurse’s Report**

Mrs. Hicks gave an update on Ebola (handout). Human to human transmission monitoring ended December 28th, 2015 in Guinea, is scheduled to end January 14th, 2016 in Liberia, and Sierra Leone is now in a 90-day period of enhanced surveillance until February 5th, 2016. All three countries have established a system in which individuals can easily report suspected cases and/or deaths and get testing. Each country now has at least one rapid-response team that would be deployed upon detection of a confirmed Ebola case. Liberia and Sierra Leone have also implemented voluntary semen screening and counseling of male Ebola survivors to help them understand their risks and to take precautions to protect their close contacts.

**FLU** – Mrs. Hicks reported that influenza activity remained low in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky as well as throughout the United States. The most frequently identified influenza virus has been Influenza A. There have been no influenza-associated deaths in the
pediatric population. The SHD has given all of their flu vaccinations; local pharmacies are still providing the vaccinations.

**Board of Health Discussion**
Mrs. Hart asked if it was a law that people shower before getting into the pool. Mr. Clayton responded that it is; however, it is often difficult to monitor/enforce.

Dr. Ketring asked if there was a shredding program in the City of Springdale. There is a program, which is held once a year in August. This is publicized in the newsletter.

Mrs. Hart asked what was going on with the Riley’s food service operation. It is being rebranded as J. Austin’s Café.

Mrs. Jones thanked Mr. Clayton for the many initiatives he has undertaken. This was echoed by other Board Members as well.

The next meeting will be Thursday, February 11, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. The Board of Health adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Matthew Clayton, Health Commissioner