AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE DANITARY
DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE AND HUMAN EXCRETA IN WEAKLEY COUNTY

Authority for the adoption of county sanitary regulations is found under Section 53-301, 53-303, 39-2903, 39-2904 and 39-2905 of the Tennessee Code Annotated.

BE IT ORDAINED OR RESOLVED:

Section 1. That the following definitions shall apply in the interpretation of this ordinance.

Accessible Sewer - A public sanitary sewer located in a street of alley abutting on the property in question or otherwise within 200 feet of any boundary of said property measured along the shortest available right-of-way.

Health Officer - The person duly appointed to such position having jurisdiction, or any person or persons authorized to act as his agent.

Human Excreta - The bowel and kidney discharges of human beings.

Sewage - All water-carried human and household wastes from residences, buildings or industrial establishments.

Approved Septic Tank - A watertight covered receptacle of monolithic concrets, either precast or cast in place, constructed according to plans by the Health Officer. Such tanks shall have a capacity of not less than 750 gallons and in the case of homes with more than two bedrooms the capacity of the tank shall be in accordance with the recommendations of the Tennessee Department of Public Health as provided for in their 1958 bulletin entitled "Recommended Construction of Septic Tanks and Disposal Fields for Residential Uses." A minimum liquid depth of four feet should be provided with a minimum depth of air space above the liquid of one foot. Teh septic tank dimensions should be such that the length from inlet to outlet is at least twice but not more than three times the width. The liquid depth should not exceed five (5) feet. Teh discharge from the septic tank shall be disposed of in such a manner that it may not create a nuisance on he surface of the ground or polute the underground wate supply.

Disposal - The disposal field shall consist of not less than 300 lineal feet of trenches with a bottom sufrace of not less than 600 square feet and of a minimum depth of 24 inches and not to exceed 36 inches. The bottom of the trench and field lines shall be constructed with a slope of not less than 2 nor more than 6 inches per hundred feet with tile joint openings of not less than one fourth inch. Said trenches must contain not less than 6 inches of coarse washed gravel veneath the field tile for entire width of trenches, and said field tile must be surrounded with said filter material to minimun depth of two inches above top of field tile. All joints of field tile must be covered with tar paper to prevent sand and dirt from entering field tile. All disposal trenches are to be back filled with earth to the extent that after settlling the ground surface over the ditches shall be slightly higher than the adjacent ground surface.

The above specifications are the minimum in all cases. No plumber shall install a smaller field without first securing approval of Health Officer.

Sanitary Pit Privy - A privy having a fly-tight floor and seat over an excavation in earth, located and constructed in such a manner that flies and animals will be excluded, surface water may not enter pit, and danger of pllution of the surface of the ground or the underground water supply will be prevented.

Other Approved Method of Sewage Disposal - Any privy, chemical toilet, or other (other than a sanitary sewer, septic tank, or sanitary pit privy as described above) the type, location and construction of which have been approved by the Health Officer.

Water course - Any natural or artificial drain which conveys water either COntinuously or intermittenly.

Section 2. That every residence building, or place where human beings reside, assemble, or are employed within the COUNTY OF WEAKLEY shall be required to have a sanitary method for disposal of seqage and human excreta.

Section 3. That wherever as accessible sewer exists and water under pressure is available, flush closets shall be provided and that wastes from such closets shall be discharged through a connection to said sewer madee in compliance with the requirement of the official responsible for the public sewerage system. On any lot or premise provided with a connection to the sewer no other method of human excreta disposal shall be employed.

Section 4. That wherever flush closets are installed and their use is permitted by the health officer, and an accessible sewer does not exist, the wastes from such closets shall be discharged into an approved septic tank.

a. No septic tank or other water carried sewage disposal system except a connection to a public sewer shall be installed withour approval of the health officer or his duly appointed representative. The design, layout and construction of such systems shall be in accordance with specifications approved by the health officer and the installation shall be under the supervision of the Department of Health.

Section 5. That every person, firm or corporation who operates equipment for the purpose of removing digested sludge from septic tanks on private orpublic property must register with the health officer and furnish such records of work done within WEAKLEY COUNTY as may be deemed necessary by the health officer.

Section 6. That wherever a sanitary method of human excreta disposal is required under Section 2, above, and flush closets are not used, a sanitary pit privy or other approved method of disposal shall be provided.

Section 7. That it shall be the duty of the owner of any property upon which facilities for sanitary sewage or human excreta disposal are required by Section 2, above, or the agent or the owner to provide such facilities.

Section 8. That it shall be the duty of the occupant, tenant, lessee, or other person in charge to maintain the facilities for human excreta disposal in a clean and sanitary condition at all times, and no refuse or other material which may unduly fill up, clog or otherwise interfere with the operation of such facilities whall be deposited therein.

Section 9. That no seqge or human excreta shall be thrown out, deposited, buried, or otherwise disposed of , except by a sanitary method of disposal as specified in this ordinance.

Section 10. That no sewage or excrets ahall be discharged or deposited into any lake or water course in such quantity or manner as may materially affect the quality of the water except under conditions specified by the health officer and specifically authorized by the Tennessee Department of Public Health.

Section 11. That no sewage, effluent from a septic tank, sewage treatment plant, or discharges from any plumbing facility shall empty into any well, either abandoned or constructed for this purpose, cistern, sinkhole, crevice, ditch, or opening either natural or artificial in any formation which may permit the pollution of ground water.

Section 12. That it shall be the duty of the health officer to make an inspection of the methods of disposal of sewage and human excrets as often as is considered necessary to insure full compliance with the terms of this ordinance.. Written notification of any voilation of this ordinance shall be given by the health officer to the person or persons responsible under this ordinance for the correction of the condition, and correction shalll be made with 10 days after notification. If the sewage is being disposed of constitutes and immediate and serious menace to health such person shall at once take steps to remove the menace, and failure to remove such menace immediately shall be punishable as provided in Section 14 hereof; but such persons ahll be allowed the number of days herein provided within which to make permanent correction.

Section 12 B. PERMIT REQUIRED FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SEPTIC TANK OR PRIVEES, EXAMINATION: No septic tank or vault, privy, cistern, well, or cesspool shall hereafter be made or rebuilt for the purpose of excreta disposal in WEAKLEY COUNTY except in accordance with the regulations and persuant to issueance of a permit from the department of health, nor shall any erection or cover be made or put upon or over the same, until the same has been inspected by the health officer, or his representative and found to correspond to such permit and regulation.

Section 12 C. PERMIT TO BE SUCURED FROM HEALTH DIRECTOR OR HIS REPRESENTATIVE: Securing the permit is the direct responsibility of the contractor, plumber, or any person acting in the capacity of a plumber or any person directly responsible for the installation of the septic tank field. Be it further inacted that any person, organization, partnership, corporation or other entity violaing any of the provisions of the ordinance, upon conviction in any court of competent jurisdiction shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and shall be fined and punished in the manner prescribed by Section 53 - 303 of the Tennessee Code Annotated.

Section 13. That whenever carnivals, circuses, or other transient groups of persons come within the area of the COUNTY OF WEAKLEY, such groups of transients shall provide a samitary method for disposal of seqage and juman exctrets. Failure of a carnival, circus, or othe transient group to provide such sanitary method of disposal and to make all reasonable changes and corrections proposed by the health officer shalll constitute a violation of this ordinance. In these cases the violator shalll not be entitled to the notice of 10 days provided for in Section 12 hereof.

Section 14. That any person, firm, association. or corporation or the agent thereof, who shall fail, neglect or refuse to comply either the provisions of this ordinance shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished in the manner prescribed by Section 53 - 303 of the Tennessee Code Annotated.

Section 15. That all ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with this ordinance be and hereby repealed, and this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

Section 16. That should any part of parts of this ordinance be declared invalid for any reason, the remainder of said ordinance shall not be affected thereby.

Section 17. BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect on and after the first day of September, 1966, the public welfare requiring it.

Passed on the 14th day of June, 1966.

MEMBERS COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

/S/ Paul W. Wilson M.D.
Chairman
/S/ Nathan Porter M.D.
/S/ Biggs Danner
/S/ Cayce Pentecost, County Judge
/S/ B. L. Moore
/S/ R. W. Brandon, Jr. M.D.

Filed:
6-29-66
Ellis E. Featherstone
CCC