



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

MEIGS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

112 E. Memorial Drive, Suite A
Pomeroy, Ohio 45769
(740) 992-6626
Fax (740) 992-0836

Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Jan. 12, 2021

Board of Health (BOH) Vice President Edna Weber called the convention to order at 5:04PM.

This public meeting was offered in a conference call format in response to COVID 19 Pandemic and the State's Stay Safer Ohio Order.

In attendance in person at the Meigs County Health Dept. (MCHD): Weber; Administrator Courtney Midkiff; BOH Medical Member Wilma Mansfield, MD; Health Commissioner Marc Barr; BOH Member Eric Rock; BOH Member Pam Patterson; Director of Environmental Health Steve Swatzel.

In attendance via telephone: BOH President Roger Gaul, who joined at 5:16PM.

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Barr offered prayer.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 12/8/20 BOH Meeting Minutes as emailed. Rock made a motion to approve the document as emailed; Mansfield seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

New Business:

Midkiff requested a motion to approve the Dec. 2020 fiscal report as presented; payment of Dec. 2020 bills as presented via the expenditure spreadsheet; the Dec. 2020 daily deposit records as submitted to the County Auditor/Treasurer as presented; Dec. 2020 medical claim billing remuneration report; \$20 in Dec. 2020 donations; 2020 encumbrances. Patterson made a motion to approve the fiscal reports/daily deposits/expenditures/medical claim billing remuneration/donations/encumbrances as presented; Rock seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff asked for a motion to approve retroactively an MOU by and between the MCHD Maternal Child Health Program (MCHP) and Health Recovery Services (HRS). MCHP and HRS will partner to provide youth e-cigarette/vaping prevention to middle and high school students enrolled in the County's three educational districts during school years 2020-2021, 2021-2022, 2022-2023. The MOU was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Mansfield made a motion to approve retroactively the MOU as emailed; Weber seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Environmental Health:

The Dec. 2020 Nuisance Status and Animal Bite Reports were emailed to the Membership for review prior to the meeting. There were 12 nuisances in total = nine COVID 19 related investigations; one sewage investigation; one housing investigation involving pests and one other complaint reviewed. Random and complaint-based inspections conducted by the Ohio BWC between December 2020 through 1/11/21 were discussed. There were 37 in total some of which were retail establishments that the MCHD does not license/inspect. Warnings were issued by the State for violations of its social distancing, masking and COVID 19 signage orders.

There were five animal bites investigated in Dec. 2020 involving two dogs and three cats.

The resolution to approve the MCHD's application for the OEPA Litter Control Grant. If awarded, the monies would be used to fund the 2022 Meigs County Cleanup Day. The resolution was emailed to the Members prior to the meeting for review. Weber made a motion to approve the resolution as emailed; Mansfield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Swatzel announced the 2021 Meigs County Cleanup Day, which is scheduled for May 15th, will be paid for with 2019 grant dollars. The 2019 award would have been used for the 2020 Meigs Co. Cleanup Day, which was cancelled due to COVID 19. The OEPA approved the funding extension so that the funding could be used before 6/30/21.

The FY 2021 Agreement between the BOH of the Meigs Co. General Health District and the Gallia, Jackson, Meigs and Vinton Joint Solid Waste Management District (GJVMJSWMD) in the amount of \$14,000 effective 1/1/21-12/31/21 was signed by Midkiff and submitted prior to the meeting. The agreement was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Rock made a motion to approve retroactively the agreement as emailed; Mansfield seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. The health department funding, which has been decreased over the past few years and according to the proposed GJVMJSWMD budget, will end in 2023.

The MCHD applied for additional WPCLF funds from OEPA in the amount of \$150,000. The MCHD anticipates receipt of funds no later than June 2021.

Other New Business:

The in-person 2021 District Advisory Council (DAC) Meeting is scheduled for March 23rd at 6PM in the Rutland Bottle Gas Building, which is located at the Meigs Co. Fairgrounds. The building will allow for social distancing. Boxed meals will be purchased from Subway for attendees. Weber and Gaul's BOH Member terms expire in March 2021. Both indicated that they would accept another five-year term if elected by the DAC.

Midkiff said that the MCHD would like to purchase a four-bay carport in which to store the Blu Med Mobile Hospital (which is a regional resource maintained by the MCHD); the MCHD Vaccination Trailer; the new Ford F250 pickup and new mobile hospital (both of which were purchased with COVID 19 grant funds). Consequently, Meigs EMA Director Jamie Jones requested that the BOH donate the two carports currently in use by the MCHD to store trailers to his agency to shelter a County-owned vehicle and trailer. Weber made a motion to approve the donation of the two existing carports to Meigs EMA upon installation of the new four-bay carport; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff emailed the two quotes for four-bay carports obtained from Eagle Carports and Carport Central to Members prior to the meeting for review. The lowest bid was from Eagle Carports in the amount of \$30,487.81. Eagle Carports, which is based in North Carolina, has a dealer in Meigs County who will perform the work. After discussion, Patterson made a motion to accept the lowest bid from Eagle Carports; Mansfield seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Old Business:

Midkiff noted the completion of installation of lights around the parking lot by AEP. The replacement of cracked and uneven sidewalks is currently underway. Midkiff noted that the roof on the Meigs Multi-Purpose Health Center (in which the MCHD is situated) continues to leak during periods of heavy rain. The MCHD purchased two 32-inch flat screen TVs for use in the conference room, which is also used as an emergency operation center, with COVID 19 grant funds. Contractor Rick Walker was consulted about installing the TVs, if County Maintenance was unable to do so. The installation of a buzz in door (with keypad and camera) entry has been previously discussed and generated BOH Member interest for use at the MCHD's public entrance for staff convenience and safety. A quote was obtained from New Era Broadband Services, which is a Meigs County business. The quote equaled \$820 with optional camera storage having a monthly fee. After discussion during which Midkiff was asked to get clarification on the optional camera storage monthly fee, Rock made a motion to approve the quote, which was seconded by Mansfield. Motion carried unanimously.

There was significant discussion about the MCHD's response to COVID 19. Meigs County's current caseload (as many Ohio counties' caseloads) continues to increase from community spread of the virus, thus, Meigs County remains at RED on the State's Public Health Advisory System. The County experienced more cases and additional deaths in Dec. 2020. Testing continues to be a challenge locally. COVID 19 vaccination efforts and concerns were discussed at length. To date, clinics have been offered to those eligible in the State-determined Phase IA. Members were reminded that the MCHD opted not to charge an administration fee for the vaccine. Barr also provided an update on conversations with the Governor and the County's educational districts. Upon request, Barr will also begin providing a weekly update to BOH Members. Midkiff advised that Get Healthy Meigs! (GHM!) (which is a 501C3 that was initiated by the MCHD for accreditation purposes and which Midkiff presently Chairs) is going to contract with The Ohio State University on the NIH-funded RADxUP grant (initially offered to the MCHD and declined by the BOH) to identify reasons for and intervene to reduce disparities in COVID-19 education, testing, contact tracing, follow-up and treatment among minority, underserved, and vulnerable communities (MUV) in Meigs County. GHM! will sub-contract with the Athens-Meigs Educational Service Center to perform the scope of work. This will allow the more than \$100,000 grant award to remain local and assist the schools and the communities they serve.

Midkiff initiated a discussion about compensatory time accrual and overtime associated with COVID 19 for case investigation and contact tracing. Public Health Nurses (PHN) Sherry Hayman and Terri Hoschar have exceeded the 105 hours of maximum compensatory time approved by the BOH. Midkiff forwarded an email from the PHNs immediate supervisor, Leanne Cunningham, to the Members prior to the meeting for review. Barr, Midkiff and Cunningham decided and announced to the PHNs and contact tracers that the MCHD would no longer be conducting case investigation and contact tracing during evenings and on weekends to refocus its efforts on COVID vaccination efforts. Hayman has 170.21 hours of compensatory time accrued as of 1/8/21, which is 65.21 hours above the BOH approved maximum and Hoschar has 198 hours of compensatory time as of 1/8/21, which is 93 hours above the BOH approved maximum. Midkiff and Barr suggested paying Hayman and Hoschar for the hours that exceed the 105-maximum approved by

the BOH. This would be a \$1,687.63 payout for Hayman and \$2,135.78 for Hoschar. The payout would come from the General Fund (PHN line item) for both Hayman and Hoschar. Cunningham anticipates that the General Fund can be reimbursed with ODH COVID 19 grant funds with a budget revision for Hoschar's time. After discussion, Rock made a motion to approve the overtime payouts for Hayman and Hoschar. Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Midkiff assured the Members that future overtime accrual will not be necessitated for Hayman or Hoschar, but if so, will be limited.

Barr exited the meeting at 6:43PM for other work commitments.

Miscellaneous Business:

Upcoming events include: Jan. 21 - Get Healthy Meigs Meeting 10:30AM; Jan. 18 – closed for MLK, Jr. Day. The January Staff Meeting was cancelled because of an overwhelming workload associated with public interest in COVID 19 vaccinations.

Mansfield, Weber, Patterson, Rock, Midkiff and Swatzel viewed training entitled *Health Equity/Health in All Policies* from the 2019 OABH Resource DVD after Gaul disconnected from the call.

Adjournment:

The next BOH Meeting will take place on 2/9/21 at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the MCHD.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58PM with a motion by Rock.

Marc Barr, MS
Health Commissioner

(Administrator Courtney C. Midkiff, BSC transcribed the 1/12/21 meeting minutes.)

