



**Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

MEIGS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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

**Board of Health Meeting Minutes  
September 8, 2020**

Board of Health (BOH) Vice President Edna Weber called the convention to order at 5:02PM.

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 Member Eric Rock; BOH Member Pam Patterson.

In attendance via telephone: Health Commissioner Marc Barr; BOH Medical Member Wilma Mansfield, MD; Director of Environmental Health Steve Swatzel.

Absent was BOH President Roger Gaul.

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Midkiff offered prayer.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes:**

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 8/11/20 BOH Meeting Minutes as emailed. Rock made a motion to approve the document as emailed; Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

**New Business:**

Midkiff requested a motion to approve the Aug. 2020 fiscal report as presented; payment of Aug. 2020 bills as presented via the expenditure spreadsheet (including Then and Now Certificates); the Aug. 2020 daily deposit records as submitted to the County Auditor/Treasurer as presented; Aug. 2020 medical claim billing remuneration report. There was \$15 in Aug. donations. Rock made a motion to approve the fiscal reports/daily deposits/expenditures/medical claim billing remuneration/donations as presented; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff asked for a motion to approve retroactively the new Public Health Nurse (BSN) job description for COVID 19 response (including contact tracing) and mitigation efforts. The job description was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Patterson made a motion to approve retroactively the job description as emailed; Weber seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff solicited a motion to approve the full-time employment of Terri Hoschar, RN, BSN for COVID 19 response (including contact tracing) and mitigation efforts effective 10/05/20 – 06/30/21 at \$23 per hour. Ms. Hoschar has more than 30 years of nursing experience and currently is employed at *The Arbors at Pomeroy*. MCHD Director of Nursing Leanne Cunningham and Public Health Nurse Sherry Hayman have collaborated with Hoschar, in her current long-term care position, during the pandemic. Rock made a motion to approve Hoschar's employment; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve an MOU by and between the MCHD's Creating Healthy Communities (CHC) Program and the Golden Harvest Food Pantry effective 9/8/20 – 12/31/20. The MOU was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. CHC will reimburse Golden Harvest for volunteers' mileage to retrieve fresh produce for patrons up to \$690.30. Patterson made a motion to approve the MOU as emailed; Weber seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

### **Environmental Health:**

The Aug. 2020 Nuisance Status and Animal Bite Reports were emailed to the Membership for review prior to the meeting. There were 19 nuisances in total= eight COVID 19 related investigations; six solid waste investigations; two food service operation (FSO) investigations; one housing investigation; one mosquito investigation and one other complaint reviewed.

There were three animal bites investigated in Aug. 2020 all involving dogs.

COVID 19-related complaints received by the MCHD as of Aug. 25<sup>th</sup> were specifically discussed. Most involved employers/employees not wearing facial coverings. The State-issued orders include numerous exemptions. If employers determine that employees fall under an exemption, they must provide a written explanation to the MCHD to be in compliance. Locally, McClure's Family Restaurant (which the MCHD has received several complaints about the lack of facial coverings being worn by the FSO's employees) has applied exemptions to its employees, but it has not submitted its written explanation to the MCHD after multiple requests. Consequently, the MCHD likely will be issuing an order to McClure's Family Restaurant to encourage its compliance with State-issued orders. It was noted that municipalities in neighboring counties are enforcing State-issued orders with local mandates and assessing fees for violations, thus, are experiencing better public compliance. In Meigs County, local law enforcement and the County Prosecutor have expressed to the MCHD that enforcement of the State mask order is not a priority use of their already overextended resources. The MCHD is doing its best to follow State-issued orders/guidance; meanwhile, there is no legal means to revoke a FSO license for violation of the State mask order.

There was one complete sealed bid to replace a household sewage treatment system (HSTS) via the WPCLF Project for Gary Hysell of 37265 SR 124 in Middleport. The bid was received from Duncan & Daniel Enterprise in the amount of \$11,000. Rock made a motion to approve the bid; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Swatzel advised that he offers the opportunity to bid on WPCLF projects to 16 registered septic installers.

Swatzel reported that the MCHD is applying to the OEPA for an additional \$150,000 to continue the WPCLF HSTS Project in Meigs County. The MCHD has expended its FY 2019 award.

Swatzel announced that Mosquito Control Technician Elizabeth Teaford terminated her contract with the MCHD on Aug. 21<sup>st</sup> to resume her education at The Ohio State University. Swatzel commended Teaford for doing a good job executing her duties on behalf of the MCHD.

A nuisance hearing scheduled for today's meeting involving Angel Cunningham and Randall Husk of 54925 Hudson Rd. in Reedsville was postponed. Swatzel reported that Cunningham and Husk have initiated abatement efforts and can only work on cleaning up the property during the weekends. A hearing will be held during the Oct. BOH Meeting, if Cunningham and Husk fail to make significant progress toward or to complete the abatement.

It was noted that, even though the 2020 Meigs County Cleanup Day will not take place on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> because of COVID 19 concerns, the MCHD continues to accept scrap tires during business hours from Meigs residents via its Mosquito Control Project.

### **Other New Business:**

Midkiff shared results from the free pop-up COVID testing offered at the Meigs County Fairgrounds on Aug. 29<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with the Ohio Dept. of Health (ODH) and the Ohio National Guard. Eighty-three tests were administered only four of which were positive. Of the four positive cases, only one was a Meigs resident. Residents from six Ohio counties participated in testing. The following local/regional media outlets covered the event: The Daily Sentinel, WOUB and WOWK. The MCHD was represented with nine employees working at the test site in various capacities. Many other MCHD staffers assisted with preparation activities. Attendees expressed appreciation to the Meigs County Agricultural Society for use of the fairgrounds. This event provided an opportunity for MCHD staff to practice in preparation for mass vaccination of its constituency.

Midkiff advised that the MCHD's Senior Management and the Management Team decided to delay the revision of the MCHD's Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual until 2021 because of time constraints associated with COVID 19. Clemans, Nelson & Associates was notified about this decision.

The MCHD was awarded \$66,000 from ODH for the FY 21 (Oct. 1, 2020 – Sept. 30, 2021) Maternal and Child Health Program.

The MCHD was awarded \$154,892 from ODH for the FY 21 (Oct. 1, 2020 – Sept. 30, 2021) WIC Program.

### **Old Business:**

There was significant discussion about the MCHD's response to COVID 19. Community spread is increasing, thus, the number of positive and probable cases reported daily by the MCHD. All the deaths that have occurred to date in Meigs have been associated with the outbreak at Overbrook Center. Barr reported on his collaborative efforts with the Superintendents of the County's three educational districts. Specific topics Barr discussed were: State orders concerning case reporting; technical assistance provided to Southern Local staff by Barr and Dawn Keller; State orders concerning sports. Barr participates in weekly conference calls by and between Governor DeWine and Health Commissioners from across the State. Weber expressed appreciation to Barr for his work with local schools.

Midkiff advised that the MCHD received one bid via email to sell the MCHD's Beverage-Air 48 cubic foot stainless steel commercial refrigerator that was purchased in 2009. The bid is from Jack's Septic Service in the amount of \$500. Rock made a motion to accept the bid; Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

The MCHD's PHAB Site Visit Report was reviewed by the Accreditation Committee on 09-01-2020. The decision was Accreditation Committee Action Required (ACAR). Per PHAB, *not all health departments will receive immediate accreditation. Some health departments will have to do a little more work to complete their accreditation journey. This is part of a solid, credible accreditation process, which is wholly based on continuous quality improvement. Receiving an ACAR does not mean the health department was "Not Accredited." It just means that the health department needs to further develop a few areas and additional documentation before the final accreditation decision can be made. All information concerning the health department, the Site Visit Report, and the Committee's deliberations are confidential and are not to be shared outside of PHAB. PHAB will not release the names of health departments that are still in the accreditation process, including those that are developing and implementing an ACAR.* The MCHD has until Sept. 2021 to submit its ACAR.

The Board of County Commissioners agreed to pay for connection and testing of the annunciator for the CAT D125 generator, which serves the Meigs Multi-Purpose Health Center in which the MCHD is situated. The project is scheduled for Sept. 16<sup>th</sup>. The Commissioners also approved replacing motion lights mounted on the building with LED dusk to dawn lights to be mounted on the building. Midkiff is uncertain if this will be an effective solution because of the size of the parking lot and its proximity to the building. Midkiff provided the Commissioners with a quote from Kamdyl Concrete to replace the damaged sidewalk leading to the second-floor entrance of the Meigs Multi-Purpose Health Center, which presents fall hazards. The Commissioners are considering a quote previously obtained from Pat Mullins.

The MCHD will begin to offer influenza vaccine on Oct. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 10AM-1PM in conjunction with the Meigs County Farmers' Market on the Pomeroy Levy Parking Lot. Flu shots will be administered at the MCHD beginning Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> during business hours. The MCHD will privately purchase 100 doses via GSK and other doses will be obtained from VaxCare and ODH. More outreach clinics will be offered throughout the County, if time and resources allow.

#### **Miscellaneous Business:**

Upcoming events include: Sept. 9 Annual Workforce Development Day/Employee Recognition; Sept. 17 Get Healthy Meigs! via conference call 10:30AM; Oct. 3 Flu Shot Clinic in conjunction with Meigs Farmers Market 10AM-1PM; Oct. 12 Columbus Day – Closed.

Attendees deferred viewing training entitled *Health Equity/Health in All Policies* from the 2019 OABH Resource DVD.

Weber commended the MCHD staff for doing a "great job" on its accreditation journey and with its COVID 19 response. She asked Midkiff to relay the BOH's appreciation to the MCHD staff.

Midkiff reminded attendees that early voting for the Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> General Election begins on Oct. 6<sup>th</sup>. Any help BOH Members can provide to promote the MCHD's renewal levy in their respective communities is appreciated.

#### **Adjournment:**

The next BOH Meeting will take place on 10/13/20 at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the MCHD.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:07PM with a motion by Rock.

Marc Barr, MS  
Health Commissioner

(Administrator Courtney C. Midkiff, BSC transcribed the 09/08/20 meeting minutes.)