



Public Health
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MEIGS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Board of Health Meeting Minutes Oct. 13, 2020

Board of Health (BOH) President Roger Gaul called the convention to order at 5:01PM.

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): BOH Vice President Edna Weber; Administrator Courtney Midkiff; BOH Member Eric Rock; BOH Medical Member Wilma Mansfield, MD; Health Commissioner Marc Barr; Director of Environmental Health Steve Swatzel; Public Health Nurse Terri Hoschar.

In attendance via telephone: Gaul; BOH Member Pam Patterson.

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Midkiff offered prayer.

New Staff Member Introduction:

Midkiff introduced Hoschar to the Membership. She shared her educational and work experience. She noted that she left her last job because she was tasked with numerous additional responsibilities that necessitated a lot of uncompensated time. The Members welcomed Hoschar to the MCHD. Hoschar exited the meeting at 5:08PM.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 9/8/20 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 Sept. 2020 fiscal report as presented; payment of Sept. 2020 bills as presented via the expenditure spreadsheet (including Then and Now Certificates); the Sept. 2020 daily deposit records as submitted to the County Auditor/Treasurer as presented; Sept. 2020 medical claim billing remuneration report. There were no Sept. donations. Midkiff noted that the MCHD's second half tax collection equaled \$134,426.69, which is included in the Sept. Fiscal Report. Rock made a motion to approve the fiscal reports/daily deposits/expenditures/medical claim billing remuneration as presented; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve retroactively MOUs by and between the MCHD's Maternal and Child Health Program and Swisher and Lohse Pharmacy and Munchkin City Daycare (MCD). The MOUs were emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. The awards were first come, first served and based on availability of grant funds at the time of collaboration. MCD received less funding because it was the last business to sign on in FY 2020. Gaul made a motion to approve retroactively the MOUs as emailed; Mansfield seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff solicited a motion to approve the revised MCHD HIPAA Policy as emailed prior to the meeting for Member review. Weber made a motion to approve the revised policy effective 10/13/20; Mansfield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff asked for a motion to approve retroactively the 2020-2021 Influenza and Pneumonia Vaccine Fees effective 9/14/20. The fees were emailed to the Members prior to the meeting for review. Gaul made a motion to approve retroactively the fees as emailed; Rock seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff requested a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel compensation. Rock made a motion to enter into Executive Session at 5:15PM. The motion was approved with the following roll call vote: Gaul – Yes; Weber – Yes; Mansfield – Yes; Rock – Yes; Patterson – Yes. In attendance: Gaul, Weber, Mansfield, Rock, Patterson, Barr, Midkiff.

At 5:39PM, the meeting resumed in Regular Session with a motion by Mansfield that was seconded by Rock. Motion carried unanimously. In attendance: Gaul, Weber, Mansfield, Rock, Patterson, Barr, Midkiff and Swatzel.

Rock made a motion to increase Fiscal Officer (FO) Jessica Snoke's pay to \$22 per hour effective the date her Associate's Degree is conferred by the University of Rio Grande. Snoke anticipates her degree in Dec. 2020. The starting pay for a FO with an Associate's Degree on the current MCHD Salary Schedule is \$22. Snoke will not be eligible for an additional pay increase until 2022 even if the BOH approves 2% across the board raises for MCHD staff effective 1/1/21. Weber seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Environmental Health:

The Sept. 2020 Nuisance Status and Animal Bite Reports were emailed to the Membership for review prior to the meeting. There were 14 nuisances in total= six COVID 19 related investigations; two solid waste investigations; one food service operation (FSO) investigation; two bed bug investigations; two sewage investigations and one other complaint reviewed.

There were two animal bites investigated in Sept. 2020 both involving dogs.

A hearing for Jose Whitlatch (DBA Inkcredible) was conducted. Whitlatch allegedly has been tattooing without a license at his Middleport residence. A certified letter sent via the USPS was returned to the MCHD. It was taken by an MCHD staffer and posted on the door of Whitlatch's residence. Whitlatch has posted his work on Facebook. Whitlatch previously was referred to the County Prosecutor for legal action for tattooing without a license. He failed to appear in Court, thus, he has an outstanding warrant for a misdemeanor. Rock made a motion to refer Whitlatch to the County Prosecutor for legal action; Mansfield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

A hearing was scheduled for Michael Satterfield (DBA Southeast Refuse). However, Swatzel reported that Satterfield contacted the MCHD today indicating that he would register with and have his vehicles inspected by the MCHD. No action was taken by the BOH at this time.

A nuisance hearing scheduled for today's meeting involving Angel Cunningham and Randall Husk of 54925 Hudson Rd. in Reedsville was dismissed. Swatzel reported that, upon inspection of the property today, Cunningham and Husk have satisfactorily completed abatement efforts.

An anticipated hearing scheduled for Jim McClure (DBA McClure's Family Restaurant) for violation of State mask orders was not necessary. Swatzel advised that the MCHD received a written response from McClure as to why he exempted his kitchen staff and three other employees from wearing masks on the job. Three employees have medical exemptions (and are working distanced from other employees) and the kitchen staff qualify for safety and industry exemptions. The MCHD recommends that businesses publicly post State mask order exemption explanations.

Swatzel discussed the 2021 Environmental Health Fees. Swatzel, who conducted the State required cost methodologies, recommended that the MCHD retain its current fees. He cited financial constraints many businesses have faced in 2020 because of mandated COVID 19 shutdowns for his reasoning. Weber made a motion to retain the current MCHD Environmental Health Fees through 2021; Mansfield seconded the motion; Patterson abstained. Motion carried.

There was discussion about contracting with the Washington Co. Health Dept. (WCHD) for commercial plumbing inspections in Meigs County. In Ohio, local health departments can do commercial plumbing inspections. Presently, the MCHD relies on the State of Ohio for said services. WCHD, which employs a plumbing inspector, contacted the MCHD to offer its services via a contract. WCHD currently has contracts with Noble and Monroe Counties. Swatzel anticipates a timelier turn around and less travel for Meigs customers, if they work with WCHD; therefore, Swatzel's recommendation was for the BOH to approve contracting with WCHD for commercial plumbing permitting, inspections, consultation and plan reviews. Rock made a motion to approve the contract, which was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Mansfield seconded the motion. Gaul was not in favor of the contract. Motion carried. Swatzel said that the MCHD would have to notify the Ohio Department of Commerce, which would then release authority to WCHD for Meigs County commercial plumbing services.

Swatzel noted that 62 of 155 nuisance complaints received by the MCHD from Jan. – Sept. 30, 2020 have been COVID 19 related.

Swatzel told attendees that the MCHD has received applications for WPCLF assistance from Meigs residents to replace or repair household sewage treatment systems. However, Swatzel is awaiting receipt of funding before taking action.

Other New Business:

The MCHD was awarded \$100,000 from ODH for the FY 21 (1/1/21-12/31/21) Creating Healthy Communities Program.

Old Business:

There was significant discussion about the MCHD's response to COVID 19. There are eight active cases in Meigs County as of today. The outbreak at Overbrook Center finally is over. Midkiff discussed the COVID Care Resource Grant that the MCHD received from ODH in the amount of \$35,000. Meigs County received the funds because of its socio-economically challenged population. The funds are being used to provide cleaning/hygiene supplies to County residents via "blessing boxes." The MCHD will be working with food pantries, WIC and other social service agencies to disseminate the supplies throughout the County. Barr, who continues to participate on weekly conference calls with the Governor and other Health Commissioners throughout the State, reported that Ohio will be receiving 220,000 rapid tests from the Federal Government each week. Barr is uncertain how many tests will be allocated for Meigs. There likely will be pilot studies using the tests within schools to reduce the number of students quarantined for symptoms associated with COVID 19 that ultimately may not be virus related. Barr noted that case reporting associated with the schools is going well with school personnel coordinating with the MCHD's Public Information Officer Brody Davis to release unified messages as needed. The MCHD has consulted with the Meigs County Board of Elections, which reports having a plan to assist any quarantined residents with voting via curbside service, if needed. Barr expressed the importance of reminding the public of the many services unrelated to COVID offered by the MCHD when promoting the renewal levy. Barr also mentioned that precautions being taken for COVID likely will help prevent influenza cases this fall/winter. Finally, Midkiff said that the MCHD had been contacted by a private company about offering antibody tests. Midkiff has had discussion with MCHD Director of Nursing Leanne Cunningham and both Midkiff and Cunningham do not see a need for this service at this time. The Membership concurred.

Midkiff reported that installation of the annunciator box for the CAT generator that serves the Meigs Multi-Purpose Health Center (in which the MCHD is located) is underway. Maxey Electric installed wiring on Oct. 12th and will complete its portion of the project on Oct. 14th. Boyd CAT will make the connection on Oct. 23rd. Also, Midkiff relayed that the County Commissioners approved AEP's installation of lights around the parking lot. This project is estimated to be initiated in four-six weeks. Finally, replacement of cracked and uneven sidewalks has been added to local contractor Pat Mullins worklist by the County Commissioners. No project start date has been shared with the MCHD to date.

The MCHD offered influenza vaccine on Oct. 3rd from 10AM-1PM in conjunction with the Meigs County Farmers' Market on the Pomeroy Levy Parking Lot. Fifty-four doses were administered during the outreach clinic. This outreach was deemed more successful than the previous drive through clinics held at the Fairgrounds. As of this morning, the MCHD has administered 143 flu shots. The MCHD will provide additional outreach clinics at the Courthouse and Help Me Grow on Oct. 16th.

Midkiff noted that the MCHD renewal levy is worded incorrectly on the Nov. 3rd General Election ballot. The paperwork submitted to the Meigs County Board of Elections by the County Auditor/Board of County Commissioners erroneously stated that the renewal levy would commence in 2021 and first be collected in 2022. The current levy does not expire until 12/31/21. Midkiff stated that the County Auditor is consulting with the State since many Meigs Countians have already voted. Midkiff thanked Mansfield and Rock for displaying promotional banners on their properties.

Miscellaneous Business:

Upcoming events include: Staff Meeting Oct. 14th 8:15 – 10AM; General Election Nov. 3rd.

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

Adjournment:

The next BOH Meeting will take place on 11/10/20 at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the MCHD.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40PM with a motion by Rock.

Marc Barr, MS
Health Commissioner

(Administrator Courtney C. Midkiff, BSC transcribed the 10/13/20 meeting minutes.)