



Public Health
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MEIGS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Nov. 10, 2020

Board of Health (BOH) President Roger Gaul called the convention to order at 5:03PM.

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, who entered the meeting at 5:08PM; Administrator Courtney Midkiff; BOH Medical Member Wilma Mansfield, MD; Health Commissioner Marc Barr; Director of Environmental Health Steve Swatzel; Fiscal Officer Jessica Snoke.

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

Absent was BOH Member Eric Rock.

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Swatzel offered prayer.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 10/13/20 BOH Meeting Minutes as emailed. Mansfield made a motion to approve the document as emailed; Gaul seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

New Business:

Midkiff discussed the renewal policy with Principal for employee dental, vision, AD&D and group term life insurance coverages effective 12/1/20. The renewal policy was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Midkiff noted that there is a 11.1% increase in monthly premiums for group term life insurance for which the general fund or grants pay 100% per employee. The monthly premiums for the other coverages remain the same. Gaul made a motion to approve the renewal policy with Principal effective 12/1/20; Mansfield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

There was discussion about the proposed FY 2021 BOH Budget. Two versions were emailed to the Members prior to the meeting for review: one with a two percent salary increase and one without salary increases. Snoke and Midkiff addressed Member questions. The proposed FY 2021 BOH budget with two percent salary increases was approved via the following roll call vote: Weber – yes; Mansfield – yes; Patterson – yes; Gaul – no.

Midkiff requested a motion to approve the Oct. 2020 fiscal report as presented; payment of Oct. 2020 bills as presented via the expenditure spreadsheet; the Oct. 2020 daily deposit records as submitted to the County Auditor/Treasurer as presented; Oct. 2020 medical claim billing remuneration report; \$210 in Oct. 2020 donations. Mansfield made a motion to approve the fiscal reports/daily deposits/expenditures/medical claim billing remuneration/donations as presented; Gaul seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff asked for a motion to approve closing the MCHD from noon – 4PM on Dec. 9th for the Staff Christmas Celebration. Weber made a motion to approve the closure; Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff requested a motion to approve the Ethics Advisory Committee Policy, which was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review and consideration. Midkiff explained that Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) requires the MCHD to document the identification of issues with ethical considerations and a strategic deliberative process for consideration and resolution of ethical issues. The policies and procedures presented for approval set forth a transparent process that provides an opportunity for input from affected stakeholders and considers stakeholder interests. This policy, which would replace the MCHD Decision Policy approved by the BOH on June 9, 2020, was adapted from policies used by other local health departments for PHAB purposes. Gaul made a motion to approve the policy as presented; Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the FY 2021 Falls Prevention Contract by and between the MCHD and Washington County Health Dept. in the amount of \$750 from 1/1/21-9/30/21. The contract was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Gaul made a motion to approve the contract as emailed; Weber seconded the motion; Mansfield abstained (because she might be assisting with MCHD responsibilities outlined in the contract). Motion carried.

Midkiff solicited a motion to approve retroactively an addendum to the FY 2020-2021 Public Health Emergency Preparedness Epidemiologist Contract with Jackson County Health Dept. effective 11/9/20 for a one-time supplemental payment of \$2,000 (ODH grant funds) for additional epi services rendering during the COVID 19 pandemic during calendar year 2020. The addendum was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Mansfield made a motion to approve retroactively the addendum as emailed; Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Snoke exited the meeting at 5:28PM.

Environmental Health:

The Oct. 2020 Nuisance Status and Animal Bite Reports were emailed to the Membership for review prior to the meeting. There were 17 nuisances in total = 10 COVID 19 related investigations; three solid waste investigations; three sewage investigations and one other complaint reviewed.

There were five animal bites investigated in Oct. 2020 all involving dogs.

A hearing was conducted involving alleged open dumping violations by Meranda Dickens and August Laudermilt of 30286 Dyesville Rd. in Pomeroy. The MCHD investigated an open dump at the intersection of Harmon Rd. and Dyesville Rd. Swatzel circulated pictures taken at the location. MCHD staff located mail with Dickens and Laudermilt's names at the site. The MCHD issued a notice of violation via the USPS. A certified letter about this hearing was sent via certified USPS mail, which was returned to the

MCHD as undelivered. An MCHD staffer posted the certified letter on the door of the residence. Dickens and Laudermilt failed to contact the MCHD. A MCHD staffer visited Dickens and Laudermilt's residence on Nov. 9th and left a business card. To date, Dickens and Laudermilt have failed to contact the MCHD. Swatzel recommended that the BOH refer Dickens and Laudermilt to the County Prosecutor for further legal action. Gaul made a motion to approve the legal referral of Dickens and Laudermilt; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Swatzel presented a resolution that would allow the MCHD to apply for 2021 WPCLF monies via the OEPA with which to assist eligible Meigs County residents with repair or replacement of household sewage treatment systems. Swatzel advised that he would be applying for \$150,000. Weber made a motion to approve the resolution; Mansfield seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Other New Business:

In the MCHD's PHAB Site Visit Report, it was noted that a deeper analysis of data for assessment and planning processes was needed. In response, the MCHD investigated available training opportunities. The University of Rio Grande is offering Data Analytics (a three-credit hour course) from January 11 - May 6, 2021. The cost is \$709.48. Midkiff advised that Administrative Assistant/Accreditation Coordinator Michelle Willard was asked to take the course on behalf of the MCHD and she has agreed to do so. The course requires a 10-15 hour per week commitment and a certificate of completion is awarded at the end of the course. Willard will be allowed to engage in the course during worktime and will be granted flex/compensatory time for the 1.5 hours of interactive learning required per week during one evening. Midkiff stated that Snoke is also enrolled, but she is taking it as a personal choice and on her own time.

There was significant discussion about the MCHD's offer from The Ohio State University (OSU) to participate in the NIH-funded RADxUP - COVID 19 Initiative, which would fund two community health workers (CHWs) to increase testing for the virus in Ohio's most underserved, vulnerable populations including Meigs County's. The project abstract was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review as well as questions asked by Midkiff and MCHD Director of Nursing Leanne Cunningham and answers from OSU. Funding for CHWs is only for one year beginning 1/1/21. Midkiff and Barr shared advantages and disadvantages to accepting the funding at this time. The Members ultimately concurred that the MCHD should not participate.

Old Business:

There was significant discussion about the MCHD's response to COVID 19. Meigs County's current caseload (as many Ohio counties' caseloads) is increasing from community spread of the virus. Governor DeWine will address Ohioans on 11/11/20 at 5:30PM about the current situation and plans to curb additional cases during the upcoming winter months. The Governor has asked each county to convene a COVID Defense Team, which will be responsible for assessing COVID 19 spread in their communities, taking inventory of the assets in the community, and focusing on what steps are necessary to slow the spread of the coronavirus among their citizens. Meigs County's first meeting will be Nov. 23rd from 1-1:30PM via a conference call. Barr reported that he continues to meet virtually with Superintendents of the County's three educational districts. A consistent topic of discussion is outbreak prevention. Finally, the MCHD with assistance from employees of Meigs Co. Dept. of Jobs and Family Services assembled 400 COVID 19 Support and Prevention Blessing Baskets, which will or have been disseminated to eligible residents via nine different locations throughout the County. Funding was received from ODH to provide care resource coordination and support for low-income individuals and families living within the counties

who face social and economic instability related to COVID-19 testing and diagnosis, including isolation and quarantine. Midkiff stated that a presentation will be provided for the BOH and District Advisory Council about the project when all data is collected and analyzed.

Midkiff reported the CAT generator that serves the Meigs Multi-Purpose Health Center (in which the MCHD is located) necessitates a fuel filter base or it isn't going to function. County Commissioner Jimmy Will authorized the repair. Midkiff relayed that the AEP's installation of lights around the parking lot has yet to be completed even though a dusk to dawn light was installed by the Board of Elections before the Nov. 3rd General Election. 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.

Midkiff noted that the MCHD renewal levy was approved by County voters on Nov. 3rd. The levy failed only in Salem Township. Midkiff reminded attendees that the ballot was worded incorrectly. 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 Mary Byer-Hill is consulting with the State and has not received an official response as of today. However, Byer-Hill stated previously via email that "What I believe will happen is that, if your new levy passes, it will take effect and your current levy will be shortened by a year. There will be no lapse in monies." Midkiff announced that she and Barr paid for a thank you ad, which appeared in the Nov. 7th Pomeroy Sentinel, on behalf of the MCHD. Public funds cannot be used to support levy efforts and no donations were solicited for levy promotion.

Miscellaneous Business:

Upcoming events include: Nov. 11: Veterans Day; Staff Meeting – Nov. 18 at 8:15AM; Thanksgiving Holiday Closure – Nov. 26; Closed – Nov. 27.

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 12/8/20 at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the MCHD.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:14PM with a motion by Mansfield.

Marc Barr, MS
Health Commissioner

(Administrator Courtney C. Midkiff, BSC transcribed the 11/10/20 meeting minutes.)

