



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
Feb. 8, 2022**

Board of Health (BOH) President Roger Gaul called the convention to order at 5:04PM.

In attendance: Gaul; BOH Vice President Edna Weber; Administrator Courtney Midkiff; Health Commissioner Marc Barr; Director of Environmental Health Steve Swatzel; BOH Medical Member Wilma Mansfield; BOH Member Eric Rock. BOH Member Pam Patterson joined via conference call.

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Rock offered prayer.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 1/11/22 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 Jan. 2022 fiscal report as presented; payment of Jan. 2022 bills as presented via the expenditure spreadsheet (including Then and Now Certificates); the Jan. 2022 daily deposit records as submitted to the County Auditor/Treasurer; the Jan. 2022 billing remuneration report; establishment of a new fund and appropriations as follows for the CN 22 grant: personnel - \$3,928.12; other direct costs - \$13,075.88 and contracts - \$57,996. There were no donations in Jan. 2022. Gaul made a motion to approve the fiscal report/daily deposits/expenditures/billing remuneration report/new fund establishment/appropriations as presented; Rock seconded the motion; Weber abstained because there was an expenditure to her husband's business: Quality Print Shop. Motion carried.

Midkiff asked for a motion to approve retroactively the full-time employment of Rebecca Zuspan as the Creating Healthy Communities Program Director effective 8AM on 2/7/22 at \$21.20 per hour. Zuspan does necessitate medical, dental and vision insurance for which grant funds have been appropriated. Gaul made a motion to approve retroactively Zuspan's employment; Mansfield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve retroactively a contract by and between the Meigs County Health Dept. (MCHD) and Ohio University in the amount of \$56,250 effective 2/1/22-6/30/23 via the ODH CN 22 grant. The contract was emailed to the Membership prior to the meeting for review. Gaul made a motion to approve retroactively the contract as emailed; Rock seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Environmental Health:

The Jan. Nuisance Status and Animal Bite Reports were emailed to the Membership for review prior to the meeting. There were seven nuisances in total = two food service operation inspections; two solid waste inspections; one sewage inspection and two other investigations. There were four animal bites received in Jan. 2022 all involving dogs; however, only three were investigated because one bite occurred in Mason County, WV.

Swatzel explained that the MCHD currently is accepting bids for the abatement of five targeted illegal open dumps along Snowball Hill Rd. near Syracuse in Sutton Township. Funds via the Mosquito Control Grant will be used to pay for the abatement. The Township Trustees requested the MCHD's assistance; meanwhile, the MCHD has been monitoring the sites with cameras. Only one complete bid was received from Cowboys Unlimited in the amount of \$6,700. This vendor has successfully abated an open dump in the past on behalf of the MCHD. The abatement must be completed by 4/30/22. Rock made a motion to accept the bid as presented; Mansfield seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

There were no WPCLF Projects out for bid this month for household sewage treatment system replacement or repair per Swatzel.

Swatzel read a resolution allowing the MCHD to enter into the next WPCLF loan fund grant cycle in the amount of \$150,000. A motion to approve the resolution was requested. Gaul made a motion to approve the resolution; Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

ODH recently conducted its three-year survey on the MCHD's campground and public pool inspection programs. The MCHD likely will be placed on provisional status because of inspection frequency despite the fact that COVID delayed or otherwise hindered facility accessibility. This has been common across the State. Meanwhile, OEPA is working on completing its annual survey of the MCHD's solid waste program per Swatzel.

Swatzel noted that OEPA received, accepted and is considering the MCHD's applications for funding for the 2022 Mosquito Control Grant as well as for the 2023 Meigs County Cleanup Day.

Rock inquired about the status of legal referrals made by the MCHD to the County Prosecutor. Swatzel said he was told by the County Prosecutor that there was miscommunication within his office which has hindered his response. Work has supposedly started on the referrals. Rock suggested Swatzel request an update by March 1st.

Other New Business:

Midkiff reminded attendees that the annual District Advisory Council Meeting is scheduled for March 29th at 6PM at the Rutland Bottle Gas Building on the Meigs Co. Fairgrounds. Members were asked to RSVP to Midkiff by the March 8th BOH Meeting.

Midkiff advised that the County Auditor/Treasurer have mailed bills for the first half 2021 property tax assessments. The Board of Health is listed to receive \$0 in the breakdown on the bills. When asked, the County Auditor commented that the breakdown never prints correctly. Barr commented that, with public health coming under public scrutiny during the Pandemic, he did not want any level of deception in this matter on the part of the MCHD.

Old Business:

Barr provided a COVID-19 status update. The Mask to Stay option available for use by the schools was explained. ODH has terminated contract tracing efforts except in incidences of large outbreaks, especially in long-term care facilities. Currently, universal masking is required by Meigs Local and Carleton School/Board of DD. Mask wearing is optional within Southern Local and recommended by Eastern Local. Hospitalizations in Zone 2 (in which Meigs County is included) have significantly declined recently. Presently, there are 223 active cases in the County (of which 41 are pediatric); three hospitalizations and one death reported within the last week. Barr reminded attendees that the number of active cases could be skewed by people not reporting positive home test results to the MCHD. Finally, it looks as if the MCHD will be able to order additional home test kits to disseminate via the Meigs County District Public Libraries in the near future.

There was discussion about building issues including space usage on the first floor, which has been inhabited by Meigs County Juvenile and Probate Court following a structural failure and subsequent flooding at the Meigs County Courthouse. There is space available in which to conduct in-person MCHD staff meetings beginning in March.

Midkiff recommended that the MCHD begin assessing a fee from any MCHD employee issued work keys who lose or otherwise misplace those keys. There have been employees unable to return keys upon resignation and the cost of locksmith services is expensive. This likely will be included in the MCHD's revised Employee Policy and Procedure Manual.

Miscellaneous Business:

Midkiff informed the Membership that former BOH Member Gene Jeffers is now residing at an assisted living facility in Albany, OH. She circulated a card for the Members to sign for and be mailed to Mr. Jeffers.

Midkiff reminded attendees that the MCHD's ACAR is scheduled to be reviewed by the Public Health Accreditation Board on March 9th. A decision of accredited or not accredited will be made at that time.

There was discussion about preferred ways to meet the State requirement that BOH Members receive two hours of continuing education per year.

An upcoming event and closure include the Feb. 9th virtual Staff Meeting at 8:15AM and Presidents' Day Holiday closure on Feb. 21st.

Adjournment:

The next BOH Meeting will take place on 3/8/22 at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the MCHD.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 PM with a motion by Gaul.

Marc Barr, MS
Health Commissioner

(Administrator Courtney C. Midkiff, BSC transcribed the 2/8/22 meeting minutes.)

