



Public Health
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MEIGS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

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**Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Feb. 13, 2024**

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

In attendance: Gaul; Administrator Courtney Midkiff; Director of Environmental Health Steve Swatzel; Health Commissioner Marc Barr; BOH Medical Member Wilma Mansfield, MD; BOH Member Pam Patterson; BOH Vice President Edna Weber. Absent was BOH Member Eric Rock.

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Mansfield offered prayer.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 1/23/24 BOH Meeting Minutes as emailed prior to the meeting for Member review. Mansfield made a motion to approve the document as emailed; Gaul seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

New Business:

Midkiff requested a motion to approve the Jan. 2024 BOH Fiscal Report; payment of BOH monthly bills as presented via spreadsheet including a Then and Now Certificate; the Jan. 2024 daily deposits to the Auditor's Office; Jan. 2024 billing remuneration report; EFT deposit correction in the amount of \$10,035.40 from T066T01 (WIC FY 23) to T055T01 (WIC FY 24); transfer request in the amount of \$18.01 from S000S26 (General Fund Transfers) to T074T01 (former Together on Diabetes Grant) to \$0 balance. There were no Jan. 2024 donations. Gaul made a motion to approve the fiscal reports and items as emailed or presented; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff discussed the 2024 Severance Fund Worksheet, which was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. After discussion, Weber made a motion to fund the Severance Fund by 10% in 2024; Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Environmental Health:

In Jan. 2024, there were four nuisance complaints involving three food service operation inspections and one other investigation: tick identification. There were three animal bites investigated in Jan. 2024 involving dogs.

Midkiff read a 2024 resolution, which was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review, authorizing the Meigs County BOH to apply for, accept, and enter a water pollution control loan fund (WPCLF) agreement on behalf of the Meigs County Health Department (MCHD) for the repair and replacement of household sewage treatment systems (HSTS). Gaul made a motion to approve the resolution as read and emailed; Mansfield seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

There were two complete bids for one WPCLF project including: HSTS replacement at 35446 Loop Road Rutland for John & Leveda Yost (85%); HSTS repair at 35402 Loop Road Rutland for Ricky & Deborah Yost (85%); HSTS repair at 33703 State Route 833 Pomeroy (85%) for Lenora Leifheit. Dais Septic Services bid = \$12,812 and Duncan & Daniels Enterprises bid = \$13,109. Gaul made a motion to approve the lowest bid from Dais Septic Services; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Swatzel announced that the Meigs County Cleanup Day is scheduled for May 11th from 9AM-2PM at the Meigs Co. Fairgrounds.

Swatzel relayed that the 2024 Rabies Vaccination Clinic to be held at the MCHD in conjunction with the Meigs Veterinary Clinic on June 1st from 1-2PM.

Other New Business:

Midkiff and Barr discussed the proposal and scope of work social return on investment analysis from Ohio University's (OU) Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Service. The document was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. The work outlined in the itemized proposal in the amount of \$25,000 would be used for accreditation purposes, promotion of MCHD services and future program planning. Barr contacted Richard Hodges of OU's Ohio Alliance for Population Health to see if it could help the MCHD with this project perhaps at a lesser cost. Hodges replied via email "Unfortunately, we feel the project is underbudgeted and, since the project has various steps that cannot be parsed out, we have a hard time seeing where we will be able to reduce costs." Meanwhile, the MCHD awaits a response from The Ohio State University, but does not anticipate the scope of work to be comparable to OU's. Members expressed concern about the cost associated with OU's proposal. It was decided to table the matter until the regular March 12th BOH Meeting to allow more time for consideration.

Old Business:

Barr provided the Meigs County Infectious Disease Update. Barr noted that there was a significant increase in Jan. 2024 of reported COVID 19 cases with 138 as compared to 74 in Nov. 2023 and 87 in Dec. 2023. Two Meigs residents were hospitalized with influenza in Jan. 2024. Barr reminded attendees that the monthly infectious disease reports are available at www.meigs-health.com.

Midkiff and Barr sought approval for the MCHD to begin providing free Fentanyl test strips (FTS) to the public. The MCHD can receive free FTS from ODH's Violence and Injury Prevention Program. Per an email shared with Members from MCHD Dir. of Nursing Leanne Cunningham, FTS distribution is standard with Project DAWN kits. No additional policies or protocols are required because FTS distribution is part of Project DAWN; however, the MCHD would provide recipients with written educational resources. After discussion, Gaul made a motion to approve the MCHD's distribution of FTS via its established Project DAWN Program; Weber seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff provided a brief building update. 1. The CAT generator transfer switch repair is tentatively rescheduled for Feb. 19th: Presidents' Day Holiday. The repair was unable to be completed on Jan. 15th because of freezing temperatures and required electricity disconnection that would have impacted The Maples (low income, elderly, and disabled housing facility). 2. Midkiff reported that she, Swatzel and Leanne Cunningham would be representing the MCHD at the regular meeting of the Board of Meigs County Commissioners on Feb. 15th primarily to discuss the July-Dec. 2023 invoice submitted for reimbursement for contract custodial services. 3. Maxey Electric relocated a circuit and installed a dedicated 20-amp receptable in the MCHD storage room for vaccine refrigeration equipment on Feb. 6th. While Tony Maxey was on site, Midkiff inquired about getting electricity mainly for lighting purposes to the MCHD carport (external storage area). AEP was contacted as per Maxey's suggestion.

Midkiff advised that she contacted the MCHD's liability insurance carrier: Public Entities Pool of Ohio (PEP) to see if Contract Medical Dir. Douglas Hunter would have to obtain a personal medical malpractice insurance policy or if he would be covered by PEP after his contract/insurance coverage ends with OhioHealth in mid-April for retirement purposes. PEP's Wendy French advised that Dr. Hunter would be covered under the MCHD's PEP medical malpractice coverage, but his current contract (which ends 6/30/24) will need modified to say coverage will be effective only when he is performing his contractual duties on behalf of the MCHD. Also, Dr. Hunter has agreed to remain as the MCHD Contract Medical Dir. through FY 25 (7/1/24-6/30/25).

Miscellaneous Business:

Upcoming events/closures include the Staff Meeting on Feb. 14th from 8:15-10AM; Presidents' Day Holiday Closure on Feb. 19; OSU Mobile Lung Screening on March 12th from noon – 6PM; 2024 District Advisory Council Meeting on March 26th at 6PM at Rutland Bottle Gas Building on the Meigs Co. Fairgrounds.

Midkiff said that the MCHD purchased a mobile popcorn machine to use during outreach events with credit card points.

Midkiff inquired about Members' interest in joining the Ohio Association of Boards of Health. The annual fee is \$150 and will give the MCHD/BOH access to the following resources: continuing education (CE); local board resources; national resources; Ohio resources. The Membership concurred it would be worth the fee for the BOH Member CE, which is a state requirement.

Adjournment:

The next BOH Meeting will take place on 3/12/24 at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the MCHD.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:54 PM with a motion by Gaul.

Marc Barr, MS
Health Commissioner

(Administrator Courtney C. Midkiff, BSC transcribed the 2/13/24 meeting minutes.)

