
**Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Feb. 18, 2025**

Board of Health (BOH) President Roger Gaul called the convention to order at 5:00PM.

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

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Weber offered prayer.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 1/14/25 BOH Meeting Minutes as emailed prior to the meeting for Member review. Rock 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. BOH Fiscal Report; payment of BOH monthly bills as presented via spreadsheet including Then and Now Certificates; the Jan. 2025 daily deposits to the Auditor's Office; Jan. billing remuneration report; a transfer of \$4,200.00 from S000S26 (General Fund Transfer) to G000G02 (Food Service Transfer). There were no donations in Jan. Rock made the motion to approve the fiscal items; Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff asked for a motion to approve the Meigs County Health Department's (MCHD) revised IT Policy as emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Weber made a motion to approve the revised policy as emailed; Rock seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff solicited a motion to approve the part-time employment of Stacy Paul as the WIC Breastfeeding Peer effective 8AM on 2/25/25. Paul will work 12 hours per week for \$13.00 per hour. Rock made a motion to approve Paul's part-time employment; Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

There was no Executive Session conducted to discuss personnel matters: employee retention as indicated on the agenda.

There was discussion about the need for placing a one-mill, five-year tax levy on the Nov. 2025 General Election ballot. The current tax levy, which was shortened by one year because of an error in the working on the ballot, will end 12/31/25. Midkiff asked the County Auditor in writing to certify to the BOH the total current tax valuation of the County and the dollar amount of revenue that would be generated by both a renewal and a replacement levy so that the BOH could make a decision as to which levy to pursue. After reviewing the worksheets provided by the County Auditor for both a renewal and a replacement levy and after discussion in which the current state of the economy was considered, it was

decided to submit a resolution to the Board of County Commissioners to place a one-mill, five-year renewal tax levy on the Nov. 2025 General Election ballot. Rock made a motion to submit a resolution requesting approval of a renewal levy; Weber seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Environmental Health:

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve a resolution regarding the authority to suspend, or initiate action to revoke Retail Food Establishment/Food Service Operation (RFE/FSO) licenses issued by the Board in cases of “clear and present danger to the public health” and/or “immediate danger to the public health” as specified in the Ohio Revised Code (ORC) 3717.29 and 3717.49. It also resolved that the Meigs County BOH authorizes the Meigs County Health Commissioner and/or the Board employed Environmental Health Specialists/Environmental Health Specialists in Training, on the Board’s behalf, authority to initiate RFE/FSO license suspension/revocation proceedings by written order, to embargo foods, and institute “cease use” orders as specified in ORC 3715.551, Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) 901:3-4-15, OAC 901:3-4-12, OAC 3701-21-27, and OAC 3701-21-28. The resolution was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Weber made a motion to approve the resolution as emailed; Gaul seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff requested a motion to approve the 2025-2026 OEPA WPCLF Resolution as emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Rock made a motion to approve the resolution as emailed; Gaul seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Gaul exited the meeting at 5:10PM due to personal illness.

In Jan. 2025, there were no nuisance complaints. There were three animal bites investigated in Jan. 2025 involving two dogs and one cat.

Swatzel discussed the MCHD’s efforts to comply with OEPA’s Solid Waste requirements pertaining to the shuttered Karrten CD&D Landfill and the Meigs County Landfill. These efforts include monthly inspections and issuances of notice of violations (NOV) to owners Wes Karr and Chris Tenoglia and the Meigs County Commissioners, respectively. Leachate containment continues to be an issue at the Karrten facility with overflow being observed during the past several inspections. The owners state their intent to construct a wetland to contain the leachate, but noted the expensive associated with continuous pumping until construction (under the direction of a local engineer) can be completed when the weather improves. Karr and Tenoglia have not provided OEPA with a written response to its NOV’s per Swatzel. Meanwhile, Swatzel has been working with John Bentz of the Meigs County Engineer’s Office on potential solutions to remedy the Meigs County Landfill’s issues. Swatzel said the MCHD will continue to comply with OEPA’s directives concerning both facilities while attempting to schedule a meeting with all involved stakeholders.

The following hearing was not conducted as indicated on the agenda - *to propose suspension or revoking the food service licenses for failing to follow the agreed upon action plan to correct repeating violations within the facility at 1. Summerfields Restaurant 46435 SR248 Chester, Laurie Hannon, license holder/owner - Did not clean the fan covers in one of the walk-in coolers, and failed to have a trained level one PIC (person-in-charge) for the first shift of the day. All documents about proper date marking*

were not reviewed and signed by all staff. 2. Gloeckner's Cafe (Sonnys) 110 E. Main Street Pomeroy, Charles Gloeckner, license holder/owner - Did not repair the leaks to the drain under the three-compartment sink. According to Swatzel, Hannon submitted documentation of satisfactory abatement of repeated violations prior to today's meeting. Meanwhile, Gloeckner, who usually performs repairs at his food service operation, recently required surgery. As a result, Swatzel granted him until the March 11th BOH Meeting to repair the leaks.

Swatzel advised that the Village of Pomeroy is expanding public sewerage through Minersville and almost to the Village of Syracuse. This will require property owners to grant the Village easements. There are two resistant property owners that Swatzel was asked to make contact. Swatzel said that both residents claimed the Village communicated poorly with them about the situation. Swatzel educated the residents while notifying them that connection to available public sewer is required by law and that the MCHD is charged with enforcing that law. The hookup expenses will be covered via funding secured by the Village if the residents willing comply or else they will incur costs to do so. The additional cost of public sewerage will be \$52 per month.

Other New Business:

Midkiff told attendees about the MCHD's requirement to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Rehabilitation Act of 1973. By April 2026, state and local governments must provide qualified individuals with disabilities equal access to their programs, services, or activities. To help meet these requirements, government websites should have accessible features for people with disabilities. The best practices for ADA website compliance are WCAG 2.1 AA conformance (or 2.2) and posting an accessibility statement (with contact information for support). Midkiff contacted BG Hamrick of Local Impact, which presently provides the MCHD with digital marketing services. This is his emailed response: *We are prepared for this. There are 2 options. #1 Rebuild the website with the fully functional ADA requirements. This can take months and it's very expensive. It can be \$10k or more. (not a good option) #2 We implemented an AI technology that does this for existing websites. It's \$200 set up and \$200/mo. We code your website and the AI does the rest on a monthly update and any new pages or changes are automatically compliant. (So far, the ADA has accepted this option). Here is a site to show what we've done: <https://wvarf.org>. We can literally spin this up in a couple of hours.* No action was taken because it was decided to wait and see if the recent Trump Administration's DEI reversals would have any impact on this legislation.

Midkiff reported that the MCHD has \$25.27 or 2,527 credit card reward points as of 1/24/25. This reporting is required as per the Auditor of State Bulletin 2018-003. Midkiff has been reporting use of credit card reward points on the annual electronic credit card use log submitted to the BOH for approval in Dec.

Midkiff told Members that the IRS increased its mileage rate to .70 per mile effective 1/1/25. The MCHD currently reimburses staff at .58 per mile. There was no action taken to increase the MCHD's mileage rate.

Midkiff announced that ODH is conducting a WIC Management Evaluation. ODH will be on site at the MCHD on Feb. 25th.

Midkiff relayed that ODH provided the MCHD with its 2025 State Subsidy in the amount of \$13,996.12. That amount allows for .63 for the provision of health services for each County resident (per the 2020 US Census).

Old Business:

Midkiff said that the MCHD has received only one complete employment application from an LPN for its available public health nurse position. The position has been advertised since early Jan with minimal interest expressed. Barr, Midkiff and Director of Nursing Leanne Cunningham will conduct an interview with the applicant on Feb. 26th.

Midkiff reported that OhioHealth anticipates its Wellness on Wheels Program will initiate Women's Health/OB-GYN services at the MCHD in early March. A late Feb. delivery of its mobile unit is expected. Primary care services will be introduced later on a date to be determined.

Infectious Disease Update:

Barr discussed the Jan. 2025 Meigs County Infectious Disease Report compiled by Regional Epidemiologist Nathan Christian. It is posted at www.meigs-health.com. There were the following new cases: (4) Chlamydia, (6) flu hospitalizations and (34) reported COVID.

Building Update:

Midkiff noted that Wright Co Electric has wired the carport and is awaiting connection by AEP. Then lights will be installed. Meanwhile, an employee of the County Prosecutor told MCHD Clerical Specialist Kayden DeVore that their office would be moving into space on the second floor of the Meigs Multi-Purpose Health Center formerly occupied by Hopewell Health Centers. There has been no formal communication with the MCHD by the County Commissioners or County Prosecutor James Stanley with MCHD Senior Management about the relocation to date.

Miscellaneous Business:

An upcoming event is the Annual District Advisory Council Meeting on March 25th beginning at 6PM in the Meigs High School Cafeteria.

The next BOH Meeting will take place on 3/11/25 at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the MCHD.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:21PM with a motion by Rock.

Marc Barr, MS
Health Commissioner



Meigs County Health Department
112 E. Memorial Dr., Suite A
Pomeroy, Ohio 45769
P: (740) 992-6626 F: (740) 992-0836
www.meigs-health.com



(Midkiff transcribed the 2/18/25 BOH Meeting Minutes.)