
Board of Health Meeting Minutes May 13, 2025

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

In attendance: Rock; Administrator Courtney Midkiff; Health Commissioner Marc Barr; Director of Environmental Health Steve Swatzel; BOH Vice President Edna Weber; BOH Medical Member Wilma Mansfield, MD; BOH Member Pam Patterson; BOH Member Roger Gaul. Guests were Wes Karr and Chris Tenoglia of Karrten and Devin Delgado and Aaron Shear of OEPA.

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Midkiff offered prayer.

Environmental Health:

A hearing to assess BOH approval for further extension of post closure care of the Karrten C&DD Landfill was conducted. The BOH granted owners Tenoglia and Karr a post closure extension of one year in May 2024, which expired May 8th. Tenoglia provided attendees with a brief history of the facility as well as he and Karr's ownership efforts pre and post closure. Tenoglia noted that they continue to work with the OEPA and the Meigs County Health Dept. (MCHD) to get an ultimate solution to contain the leaking leachate, which is OEPA approval of construction of a wetland. Tenoglia and Karr have secured the services of The Buckley Group. Tenoglia said that, presently, OEPA is requesting five additional responses affiliated with the wetland's planning. Shear reviewed OEPA's history with the Karrten C&DD Landfill. He noted that Tenoglia and Karr need two permits from OEPA: a NPDS and PTI and, in the interim prior to approval, they need to stop the illegal discharge of the leachate for which Karrten continues to receive NOVs from both the OEPA and MCHD. Shear advised OEPA has successfully facilitated the closure of 60 C&DD facilities around the State and usually would have escalated further legal action against other facilities in violation of the law by now. Shear also noted that there is not a guarantee OEPA will issue the aforementioned permits. Meanwhile, Karrten and the MCHD concur that long-term, continuous pumping of the leachate is not a feasible solution. Karrten periodically has been hauling leachate from the landfill and disposing of it into Pomeroy's sanitary sewage treatment facility under an agreement with a former Mayor. It was noted that pumping needs to occur on a more consistent basis to which Tenoglia and Karr agreed to ensure until a decision on the wetland has been made. OEPA stated a permit from the Village of Pomeroy is necessitated and the MCHD needs to receive documentation of said leachate pumping and disposal activity. After discussion, Rock made a motion to further extend Karrten's post closure care until 12/31/25 with the requirement of an update in three months from the owners as well as continual pumping and disposal of 3,500 gallons of leachate weekly with documentation provided to the MCHD. Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Tenoglia and Karr exited the meeting at 5:45PM after thanking the BOH for its time.

Prior to Delgado and Shear's exit at 5:49PM, Swatzel discussed the status of the long shuttered Meigs County Landfill located on Howell Hill Rd in Pomeroy, which also is leaking leachate because of needed repairs to the existing wetland. The Board of Meigs County Commissioners is the facility owners and

continue to receive monthly NOVs from both the OEPA and MCHD. Assistant County Engineer John Bentz and County Commissioner Zach Manuel recently met with representatives from the OEPA and MCHD. Bentz currently is working on a plan, but the County is in search of funding to facilitate the repairs. It is uncertain at this time who will perform the necessary repairs. Meanwhile, OEPA concurred that it was a productive site visit.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 4/8/25 BOH Meeting Minutes as emailed prior to the meeting for Member review. 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 March BOH Fiscal Report; payment of BOH monthly bills as presented via spreadsheet; the April 2025 daily deposits to the Auditor's Office; April 2025 donations; April billing remuneration report; to increase the revenue in S000S30 (Cleanup Day) from \$12,000 to \$14,360; to increase appropriation in S000S30 (Cleanup Day) from \$16,000 to \$17,950; to increase appropriation in S000S56 (Mosquito Control) from \$20,000 to \$20,896; to increase revenue in S000S44 (Mosquito Control) from \$20,000 to \$20,896; to appropriate \$10,937.70 into T055T14 (FY WIC Advance); advance \$10,937.70 from T055T14 (FY 24 WIC Advance) back to S000S31 (General Fund advances); to convert \$1,062.30 of the \$12,000 advance from S000S31 to T055 into a transfer. Rock made a motion to approve the fiscal items as presented; Mansfield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff asked for a motion to approve closure of the MCHD on Sept. 10th for its annual Workforce Development/Employee Recognition Day and to approve paying for the cost of catering via Subway (at \$8 per boxed lunch). Weber made a motion to approve the closure and catering expenditure. Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff solicited a motion to approve retroactively payment of the CORSA annual premium in the amount of \$3,484. There was a \$127 increase from 2024. Rock made a motion to approve retroactively the payment as presented; Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Environmental Health Continued:

In April 2025, there were three nuisance complaints: one other inspection involving tick identification, one solid waste investigation and one sewage inspection. There were six animal bites investigated in April 2025 involving five dogs and one cat.

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve retroactively the OEPA 2025-2026 Mosquito Control Grant Agreement as emailed prior to the meeting for Member review. Mansfield made a motion to approve retroactively the agreement as emailed; Rock seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff requested a motion to approve retroactively the Manufactured Home Parks Inspection Agreement for FY 2026-2027 as emailed prior to the meeting for Member review. Mansfield made a motion to approve retroactively the agreement as emailed; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Swatzel provided a general update on the 2025 Meigs County Cleanup Day, which was held on May 10th. There were 11 40-yard dumpsters filled with solid waste and scrap metal brought by Meigs County residents. Approximately 900 scrap tires were deposited for disposal by County residents and the Meigs County Highway Dept. Swatzel expressed appreciation for those who worked to make the event a success including more than 50 kids and several staff from Meigs County Juvenile Court; employees from the MCHD, Meigs County Highway Dept. and Meigs County Soil and Water District as well as several miscellaneous community volunteers. Swatzel was commended for his coordination efforts.

Swatzel advised that the MCHD has contracted with Meigs County native Hannah Circle for services via the Mosquito Control Grant. Midkiff asked for a motion to approve the contract by and between Circle and the MCHD eff. 5/12/25 – 9/1/25 in the amount of \$5,780. Patterson made a motion to approve the contract; Weber seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Swatzel reported that the MCHD is very close to making a decision about employing a REHSIT. Two candidates were interviewed virtually with one being interviewed in person by Swatzel and Midkiff on May 12th. The candidate receiving the second interview was referred by Athens City-County Health Dept. Administrator Jack Pepper.

There were three complete bids received for three household sewage system replacements via the WPCLF Project at 38493 SR684 Pomeroy for Francis Alkire; 37651 Leading Creek Road Middleport for Dennis Bryan; 37582 SR 143 Rutland for Eric White as follows: Jarod Hill & Sons - \$34,083; Dais Septic Services - \$28,483; E&J Hilltop Acres, LLC - \$42,433. Rock made a motion to accept the lowest bid from Dais Septic Services; Mansfield seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

There was one complete bid for a WPCLF Project soil evaluation at 34960 Sorden Road Long Bottom for Johnny Payne from Good Ground, LLC in the amount of \$450. Gaul made a motion to accept the bid; Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Other New Business:

Midkiff relayed that the MCHD received its 2024 1st Half Real Estate Tax Settlement in the amount of \$275,009.47, which was more than \$16,000 less than the same collection in 2023.

There was discussion about discontinuing the MOU for a Back-up Medical Director when the current Back-up Medical Director Morgan Gordon, DO becomes the contract Medical Director effective 7/1/25. Dr. Gordon has agreed to be available to the MCHD via phone 24/7/365.

There was discussion about using \$20,000 of the \$50,000 accreditation support allotment via the ODH Public Workforce 23 Grant to contract with Moxley Public Health (MPH) for the next round of State and PHAB required community health assessment (CHA). The 2023-2026 Meigs County CHA was completed internally, but with other work for PHAB reaccreditation underway, contracting for this work would lighten the workload of MCHD staffers. The MCHD is receiving a discounted rate from MPH because it is currently performing a Community Health Needs Assessment (an IRS requirement) for Holzer Health System, thus, data sharing can occur. After discussion, the BOH concurred that this would be a good use of grant-funded accreditation support dollars. A contract will be sought from MPH for review and approval.

There was discussion about Senior Management's interpretation of Section 5.4A (Travel and Expense Reimbursement) of the MCHD's Employee Policy and Procedure Manual. Members concurred that employees attending work-related events after hours or on weekends should not be reimbursed for travel between their homes and worksite (which would be the location of the outreach event or other work-related activity) if the location was situated in closer proximity to their home than the MCHD.

Midkiff announced that she met State Representative Kevin Ritter of the 94th District at Meigs County's observance of National Day of Prayer on May 1st. Ritter offered to visit the MCHD to learn more about public health. Midkiff offered him several dates/times including staff meetings and supervisor meetings throughout the summer via email. Ritter selected Aug. 25th (a supervisor meeting) to visit the MCHD between 8:30-10AM. BOH Members are invited to attend to meet Ritter.

Old Business:

Midkiff shared that WIC Director Sherry Eagle reached out to AT&T again and was able to get a discounted rate for current monthly program cellular service. The total monthly price is less than \$80.

Midkiff reminded attendees that the MCHD signed a contract with Ohio University (OU) in 2024 for the Voinovich School of Leadership and Public Affairs to conduct a Social Return on Investment (SROI). The MCHD initially planned to use local general funds to cover the \$25,000 expense due June 30, 2025. Meanwhile, in 2025, the MCHD was granted additional federal funds by ODH via the Public Health Workforce 23 Grant to support our PHAB re-accreditation efforts including the SROI, which was approved in writing by ODH. The MCHD was told later by OU that it could not use these federal funds for a contract it had signed with them in 2024, which indicated it would be using local general funds. The MCHD has since been advised by OU that it can terminate the existing contract, pay for work completed April 2024-March 2025 with local general funds (approximately \$8,300) and sign a new contract with them and use these federal funds for a significant portion (approximately \$16,700) of the project.

A copy of the completed MCHD's renewal tax levy paperwork has been received from the Board of County Commissioners. It has been reviewed by Barr and emailed to the Membership for examination for accuracy.

Infectious Disease Update:

Barr reviewed the April 2025 Meigs County Infectious Disease Report as compiled by Regional Epidemiologist Nathan Christian. It is available at www.meigs-health.com. In April, there were 12 reported COVID 19 cases, one Hepatitis C case and one Strep A case.

Building Update:

The MCHD is awaiting AEP to make necessary electrical connections so that WrightCo Electric can complete the lighting project in the MCHD carport. AEP advised it still needs to get an easement signed by the property owners: the Board of Meigs County Commissioners.

Miscellaneous Business:

The new employee introduction of Public Health Nurse Vinda Burnem is scheduled for the June 10th meeting. Burnem, who initiated employment March 17th, would have been at today's meeting, but Senior Management opted to postpone her appearance due to the Karrten hearing.

Upcoming events include a Staff Meeting on May 14th from 8:15-10AM; a Get Healthy Meigs! Meeting on May 15th from 10:30AM-noon at MCJFS; the Memorial Day Holiday Closure on May 26; a Rabies Vaccination Clinic on June 7th from 1-2PM at the MCHD.

The next BOH Meeting will take place on 06/10/25 at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the MCHD.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:26PM with a motion by Rock.

Marc Barr, MS
Health Commissioner

(Midkiff transcribed the 5/13/25 BOH Meeting Minutes.)



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