
**Board of Health Meeting Minutes
Feb. 10, 2026**

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

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

Attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Mansfield offered prayer.

2023-2026 Strategic Plan Update Presentation:

Barr presented a PowerPoint (approximately 30 minutes in length) compiled by Meigs Co. Health Dept.'s (MCHD) Accreditation Coordinator Michelle Willard featuring updates on the status of goals outlined in the current MCHD Strategic Plan. Barr and Midkiff fielded questions from the Membership with significant discussion focusing on Succession Planning and Harm Reduction activities. Members expressed interest in having Juli Simpson, who coordinates the MCHD's Overdose and Suicide Fatality Review Board, speak during an upcoming BOH meeting.

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 1/13/26 BOH Meeting Minutes as emailed prior to the meeting for Member review. Mansfield noted a typo. Rock made a motion to approve the document as amended; Mansfield seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

New Business:

Midkiff requested a motion to approve the payment of BOH monthly bills as presented via spreadsheet including Then and Now Certificates; the Jan. 2026 daily deposits to the Auditor's Office; Jan. billing remuneration report; MCHD Jan. 2026 Farmers Bank & Savings Co Checking Statement. There were no Jan. 2026 donations. Rock made a motion to approve the fiscal items as presented; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Midkiff noted that the Jan. financial statements were not available from the County Auditor, which are needed to compile the Jan. BOH Fiscal Report; therefore, the report will be presented during the March BOH Meeting.

Midkiff solicited a motion to approve retroactively a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)/Agreement of Mutual Assistance with the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Dept. effective 1/21/26 as emailed. Gaul made a motion to approve retroactively the MOU as emailed; Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve retroactively a custodial contract by and between the MCHD and Daylon Jenkins effective 2/2/26 for 15 hours per week at \$12 per hour. The contract was emailed to Members prior to the meeting for review. Rock made a motion to approve retroactively the contract as emailed; Weber seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Midkiff asked for a motion to approve retroactively the custodial contract termination initiated by Maria Lemler effective 1/31/26. Gaul made a motion to approve retroactively the contract termination; Mansfield seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Midkiff beseeched a motion to approve the 2026-2029 Meigs County Community Health Assessment (CHA) as emailed. The report, which was generated by Moxley Public Health, was emailed to stakeholders who serve on Get Healthy Meigs! for feedback. No feedback was provided. Gaul made a motion to approve the CHA as emailed; Patterson seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The document will be posted for public review at www.meigs-health.com.

Midkiff requested a motion to approve the Holzer Health Subaward Agreement for Maternal Health Outreach Consortium effective 8/1/25 – 7/31/26 in the amount of \$25,000 as emailed. Mansfield voiced concern about the following wording: *Conduct a minimum of six (6) home visits per month after the program pilot* after Midkiff indicated that the MCHD preferred to conduct visits either at the MCHD or another mutually agreed upon location. Midkiff and Barr noted that visit concerns (mainly due to employee safety) previously had been addressed with Holzer when the contract was being drafted. Holzer opted to retain the term “home” visit. Rock made a motion to approve the contract asking Midkiff and Barr to follow up on Mansfield’s concern; Patterson seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Environmental Health:

In Jan. 2026, there were five nuisance complaints resulting in one sewage investigation, one solid waste investigation, two food service inspections and one housing (sanitary conditions) investigation. There were no animal bites in Jan. 2026.

Swatzel reported that the MCHD revoked the Middleport Speedway’s retail food establishment license on Jan. 30th because of conditions resulting in clear and present danger to the public. On Jan. 29th, MCHD personnel conducted a standard inspection and discovered evidence of rodent infestation. Photographs were shared as evidence. The store already received an Administrative Hearing conducted by Swatzel with the store manager on Nov. 30th as a result of unsanitary conditions. These hearings are held when there are critical or repeated violations at a licensed facility. On Jan. 30th, the District Manager was consulted and agreed to shutter operations to begin immediate abatement efforts. An exterminator has been on site daily and Speedway staff has been working to declutter and clean. Speedway management and the exterminator have routine conference calls. Swatzel noted that the exterminator still has been catching mice as of Feb. 8th. The District Manager is supposed to contact the MCHD on Feb. 11th after communicating with the exterminator.

Soil evaluation bids were received for WPCLF household sewage treatment replacement projects for Kelly Watson at 37890 Dye Road in Rutland (100% funded) and Josephine Ryder at 35099 Wolf Pen Road in Pomeroy (85% funded.) Swatzel contacted the following soil scientists by email for estimates on January 16, 2026. Bids were accepted by email until January 23, 2026. Bid statuses are as follows:

1. \$900, Robert Wiley dba Good Ground, LLC 3050 Glen Finnan Dr Albany
2. No Response, Kevin Lewis Albany Ohio
3. \$1,000, Carlos Cole 113 Mountaineer Lane Ripley WV. 25271
4. \$1,250, Michael Thompson, A Horizon LLC Dillon vale, Ohio
5. No Response, Rick Griffin dba Griffin Soil Investigations
6. \$1,400, Kyle Baldwin
7. No Response, ABC Soil Ohio
8. No Response, dba Neo Soil Testing

Midkiff asked for a motion to accept the lowest bid submitted by Robert Wiley (Good Ground, LLC) effective 1/23/26. Mansfield made a motion to accept the lowest bid; Rock seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion. Swatzel advised that the State of Ohio recently changed its requirements for soil scientists which will make five of the above contractors ineligible to perform work because they won't meet the new requirements. This likely will cause a shortage resulting in delays of installation of new systems.

Gaul exited the meeting at 5:57PM for personal reasons.

Other New Business:

There was no new business to discuss.

Old Business:

Happy Ears Audiology's initial visit to the MCHD was on Jan. 14th. Six patients were screening (of which two were children). A follow-up appointment with one patient was conducted on Jan. 28th. Company representative Hayden Flinner shared patient feedback including that they likely would not have been screened if the service was not offered locally. The next visit has yet to be determined.

Midkiff relayed that she and Barr recently had a virtual meeting with Dr. Tammy Duangthip, Associate Professor and Chair, Division of Dental Public Health at The Ohio State University (OSU) and other members of her team about bringing the new dental coach to Meigs County. OSU is discussing the information shared about the need in Meigs County and considering providing services for residents starting with children aged five or older and then later adults. Midkiff said more information will be forthcoming when OSU reaches out.

Midkiff announced that the MCHD is now receiving ACH payments from Vital Chek for disposition permits and certified records ordered via the Ohio Vital Records System.

The part-time WIC Clerk position remains vacant. The MCHD continues to accept applications and has received numerous incomplete applications. To date, there is one candidate who has submitted all the required elements. An interview will be scheduled in the near future.

Infectious Disease Update:

The annual 2025 Meigs County Infectious Disease Report as compiled by Regional Epidemiologist Nathan Christian can be reviewed at www.meigs-health.com. The MCHD received an email from Christian stating: *After some consideration, and review of my own methods for 2025, and conversation with some of you, I have decided to delay my monthly reports by one month. Upon finalizing some 2025 data for you all, I have come across too many inaccuracies in the numbers, to no fault of anyone. With the way ODH goes and changes case classifications sometimes months later, and sometimes ODRS not cooperating with me, I believe this change will help us all be more accurate and faithful to what we report out to our boards of health and the public at large. It becomes very hard to go back and pull cases for 12 different months for 8 different counties, as ODRS slows down the more times you run a report. Additionally, it causes me to redundantly run reports several times, and I want to make sure I am making good use of time and not just wait for ODRS to spin its wheels all day long. I hope you all understand. This comes from just wanting to be more efficient and accurate for you guys. I originally had a goal to be very timely with these, but I just don't see the value in being quick, and also wrong. So, starting at the end of February is when you will receive January 2026 numbers!*

Building Update:

Midkiff and Barr shared the following updates: MCHD was forced to close on Feb. 9th from 9AM-4PM because of a lack of heat (and water associated with the HVAC failure and sub-zero temperatures). The boiler presently is operating on one older pump with the County ordering two new ones. The MCHD paid \$980 to Reliant Power Management for CAT generator repairs. The invoice was forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners who opted not to cover the expense even though the generator serves a County Commissioner owned building. Judge Scott Powell and Prosecutor James Stanley agreed to share the cost since having a generator benefits their offices too. The Board concurred the Judge and Prosecutor should be invoiced for their share of the expense. Meanwhile, Midkiff has been going to the Pomeroy Post Office on a daily basis to get the MCHD's mail because the postal worker indicates she cannot access the on-site mailbox due to snow removal efforts. Finally, the roof began leaking significantly after thawing from recent Winter Storm Fern.

Miscellaneous Business:

Upcoming events and closures include a Staff Meeting on Feb. 11th from 8:15-10AM; a holiday closure on Feb. 16th: Presidents Day; a Get Healthy Meigs! Meeting on March 19th from 10:30AM-noon at MCJFS; the annual DAC Meeting on March 24th at 6PM at Rutland Bottle Gas Building (Fairgrounds).

Barr discussed the availability of online educational videos via Kent State for the State-requirement for BOH Members to have two hours of continuing education (CE) each year. CE also can be obtained by Members attending trainings/presentations/meetings offered by the MCHD.

The next BOH Meeting will take place on 3/10/26 at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the MCHD.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:36PM with a motion by Mansfield.



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